U.S. History I (to 1865)
Spring 2015
HIST 2111 (08), TR 9:30-10:50am, Pafford 204
HIST 2111 (07), TR 12:30-1:50pm, Pafford 102

Instructor: Keri (Margaret) Adams
Office Location: Center for Public History (lower level of Ingram Library in Special Collections)
Office Hours: M 9:00-12:00 & 1:00-4:00, W 9:00-10:00, TR 11:00-11:30, or by appointment
Office Phone: (678) 839-5275
Email: madams@westga.edu (preferred)

Course Objectives
This class will explore the major themes and issues in American history from early settlement through the end of the American Civil War. Class discussions and assignments will emphasize the political, social, economic, and cultural dimensions of United States history; causal relationships and patterns of change and continuity over time; and the significance of ethnicity, gender, race, and class in historical events.

Learning Outcomes
To identify and evaluate the political, social, economic, and cultural developments in U.S. history up to 1865; discuss the experiences of diverse groups and cultures that compose American society; analyze, synthesize, and interpret primary and secondary sources both orally and in writing; and develop skills in critical thinking, writing, and organization.

Required Text

The UWG Campus Bookstore will carry a limited number of the required text. Please explore purchasing or renting the book online or an online version. We will begin class discussions from the required text during the first week – it is each student’s responsibility to have the required text and prepare for each class.

Please note, I will teach this course from the 8th edition of the required text. You may choose to purchase an earlier edition (published before 2014), but understand that new, updated, reinterpreted/rewritten narratives, primary sources, maps, etc. that are in the 8th edition may not be included in earlier editions. If a student chooses to use a previous edition of the required text for this course - it is that student’s responsibility to discover and read “missing” resources and materials not found in earlier editions on their own. It is suggested that students using an earlier edition consult the 8th edition belonging to a classmate. Purchasing an earlier edition of the required text is not an acceptable, or tolerable, excuse for missing any assignments or preparing for class.
Assignments & Grading
Grades can only be discussed in-person and not electronically (as in email or CourseDen). Students must make appointments with the instructor to discuss any grade.

Attendance is worth 10% of the final grade.
Attendance is taken at the beginning of each class every Tuesday and every Thursday. Students are responsible for attending all classes.

- If a student is not present when role is taken that student will be counted absent for that day (0 of 100 total attendance points earned for that day).
- If a student arrives within 15 minutes of class start time after roll has been called, then that student will receive a half-credit for attendance that day (50 of 100 total attendance points earned for that day).
- Leaving class early results in ½ credit for that day (50 of 100 total attendance points earned for that day).
- Students may miss up to two (2) absences without penalty. If a student exceeds more than 2 (meaning 3 or more) total absences regardless of reason, 1% will be deducted from the student’s final grade for each absence thereafter. For example, 5 total absences results in 3 points deducted from the final grade.
- No excuses will be accepted for tardiness, leaving early, or any absences. It is strongly suggested that each student reserves their two (2) penalty-free absences for just-in-case circumstances.

In-class participation and online discussion participation are worth a total of 10% of the final grade.
Daily participation is required in this course and recorded daily.

- Students are expected to speak in class and participate in open discussion. If students do not participate during class, then those students must participate in student discussion online in CourseDen in the “Class Discussion” discussion forum.
- Attending class is not the same as participating in class discussions and activities, and students should both actively speak and discuss in class and/or online.
- Students that attend every class, but do not participate during class discussions, disrupt class, or do not participate in the weekly “Class Discussion” forum on CourseDen should not expect to receive the full 10% towards their final grade.
- Students receive 25 points for each discussion posting in the online discussion forum; therefore, a total of four (4) discussion postings is required to receive the full credit (100 points per day). An acceptable post includes, but is not limited to, asking or answering a question about the reading, continuing in-class discussion topics, follow-up research or questions, etc. Note: “Good luck on the test, everyone!” and similar postings do not earn credit and are not acceptable postings that forum.
- If a student is not present when a graded in-class assignment is given, then that student will not be able to make-up that assignment or quiz. No excuses accepted.
- Please review the “Class Conduct” section (below) for more details about what behavior/actions results in daily participation point deduction.
Research paper outline is worth a total of 5% of the final grade.
In preparation for the research paper (see below), students will submit a detailed outline of their planned paper. The assignment is due on Tuesday, February 3rd.

- Students will submit a clear and detailed outline of their research paper, which includes a thesis statement and the structure of the argument with potential primary and secondary sources.
- Topics may include anything that is discussed in class (and from the required text) from c.1450 through 1865, ending at the Civil War.
- Students will be expected to use the required text as a secondary source and a resource for primary sources and select primary sources and secondary information from to-be-named online sources, as well as, sources available on CourseDen provided by the instructor.
- Feedback will be provided for each student. Students may be asked to re-write or edit their topic, thesis statement, or outline for resubmission.
- Please review the “Honor Expectations & Academic Honesty” section (below) for details about plagiarism and original ideas/writings.
- Detailed instructions will be posted on CourseDen and discussed in class.

Research paper is worth a total of 10% of the final grade.
Students will compose an academic research paper that conforms to standard scholarship. The assignment is due on Thursday, April 2nd.

- Papers will not exceed six (6) pages of written text (this page total does not include a title page, images, or works cited page).
- All students are expected to use the Chicago Manual of Style and the most recent edition of Kate Turabian’s A Manual for Writers to format and cite their papers. APA and MLA are not accepted. (We will review this in class).
- Students may seek assistance with the UWG Writing Center www.westga.edu/writing/. You must make an appointment in advance: (678) 839-6513 or writing@westga.edu.
- Please review the “Honor Expectations & Academic Honesty” section (below) for details.
- Detailed instructions will be posted on CourseDen and discussed in class.

Weekly CourseDen homework is worth a total of 10% of the final grade.
There will be weekly homework assignments posted in the “Discussions” section of the CourseDen page for this course.

- Topics are open, or unlocked, for a minimum of one week (7 days) and will be automatically locked at the start of each class the following week.
- At minimum, each student will post their answer(s) in a separate post and respond/comment to another student’s original posting for a total of 100 points per week (50 points for an original answer and 50 points for one response/follow-up comment).
- There will not be any opportunities to make-up missed homework assignments. Ever.
- If a student does not have access to CourseDen or cannot access portions of this class’s CourseDen page, please email online@westga.edu.
**In-class assignments and pop-quizzes are worth a total of 15% of the final grade.**

There will be up to five (5) in-class writing assignments and/or pop quizzes over the course of the semester. This total includes the Syllabus Quiz, which is due on Tuesday, January 13th.

- If a student is absent, or leaves class early, that student has missed the opportunity to earn credit for any in-class assignment or pop quiz and will receive an automatic zero for the missed assignment or quiz.
- Please note: Not all in-class writing assignments (or group activities) count towards this portion of the grade. It will be made clear when an assignment will be graded for this portion of the final grade.
- Assignments may include, but are not limited to, reading quiz, content quiz, combination reading and content quiz, primary source interpretation, reflection paper, creating study guides, and answering questions from the book.

**The midterm exam is worth 20% of the final grade and the final exam is worth 20% of the final grade (totaling 40%).**

There will be two exams – a midterm and a final exam. The midterm will be given on Thursday, February 26th and the final will be given on Thursday, April 23rd.

- There will be no make-up exams given except under extreme circumstances, which will be assessed individually and at the discretion of the instructor.
- Students who leave class early forfeit the completion of any exam and will receive ½ credit for attendance by leaving any exam early for any reason. *This means you need grab some tissues, get some water, and use the bathroom BEFORE the exam begins.*
- The instructor will not provide the students with study guides for any tests. Students should study for each test by attending each class, participating in class and online, reviewing hand-written or typed notes from class, and reading and re-reading each assigned chapter. Study groups are highly recommended.
- Printed exams will not be returned to the students.
- **Students will need one large blue book for each exam – two (2) total.**

**NOTE:** NO CELL PHONES, BLUETOOTH WATCHES OR EARPHONES, TABLETS, HEADPHONES, NOTES, BOOKS, ETC. MAY BE USED DURING EXAMS OR ANY IN-CLASS ASSIGNMENTS. If the instructor suspects that a students is cheating – in any way – that student’s exam or assignment will be taken up on the spot and that student will need to leave class immediately. **Students who use any unapproved items or materials during test time will receive an automatic zero on that test.** Additionally, further action may be taken with the Department of History and other departments on campus. Cheating is a serious academic offense and will be handled as such.

Students, such as foreign exchange students and others, may use an electronic translation pen or an electronic translator or dictionary so long as that device does not connect to the internet or store user-inputted information. All devices must be approved no less than two (2) days before any test. No paper (or hard copy) translators or dictionaries may used during any exams or graded in-class assignments.

Please review the “Honor Expectations & Academic Honesty” section (below) for more details.
Honor Expectations & Academic Honesty
Students are expected to submit written work that is their original work – both in class and online. Plagiarism is an ethical violation and a violation of trust between faculty and student. Plagiarism means using the ideas or writings of another as one’s own. Plagiarism is not acceptable and will be punished according to University of West Georgia’s protocol. You may not copy words directly from another writer or use the ideas of another writer without referencing (citing) that writer and source with a full citation (in a footnote or endnote). Please reference the Chicago Manual of Style or the most recent edition of Kate Turabian’s A Manual for Writers to properly cite any source for this course. If it has been determined that a student has plagiarized or cheated, that work will not be graded and the student will receive an automatic failing grade for the course, be reported to the proper university authorities, and face possible ejection from the course and/or the university. For more information about the academic honesty, please refer to the “Honor Code” in the UWG Connection and Student Handbook, http://www.westga.edu/handbook/59.php.

Accessibility Services
Per the Accessibility Services website, “Students with a documented disability may work with the Office of Accessibility Services to receive essential services specific to their disability. Disabilities may be temporary or permanent and are categorized into three areas; physical, psychological and learning disorders.” The instructor cannot accommodate special requests or any issues (like habitual absences) that arise from a psychological or physical disability without receiving an official Student Accommodations Report (via email) from Accessibility Services. If you are a student that requires essential resources to assist you in this course, you must to contact the Office of Accessibility Services at counseling@westga.edu or (678) 839-6428. Please visit their website for more information: www.westga.edu/counseling/4486.php.

Class Conduct & Rules

- **Turn off your cell phones during class time.** A minimum of 25 points will be deducted from daily participation grade for habitual cell phone use for each instance.
- **Students may use laptops and tablets in class, but only to take notes.** A minimum of 25 points will be deducted from daily participation grade for each instance.
- **Headphones, earbuds, etc. are not permitted during class.**
- **Do not speak while the instructor is speaking, such as, lecture and roll call.**
- **Arrive to class on time and do not leave early – every Tuesday and every Thursday.**
- **Please respect everyone’s time (and tuition) by refraining from disruptive behavior(s).** A minimum of 50 points will be deducted from daily participation grade in the instance that a student is disrupting class.
- **Respect the instructor and each another.** At a minimum, vulgar and offensive behavior may result in ejection from the class period and zero participation grade for an occurrence.
- **Do not wait until the end of the semester to inquire about your overall grade.** Do your best from the beginning and talk to the instructor about issues as soon as possible.
- **Never be afraid or embarrassed to ask a question(s) or ask for clarification.**
Tentative Class Schedule

The instructor reserves the right to modify the course syllabus during the semester, including, but not limited to, assignment due dates, quiz and test dates, and any readings.

January 6 – Class introduction; review of syllabus; & take-home syllabus quiz
January 8 – Interpreting the past & America’s History, Part I Introduction–Chapter 1, pg. 2-39

January 13 & 15 – America’s History, Chapter 2, pg. 40-75
Due – Syllabus Quiz, January 13

January 20 & 22 – America’s History, Part 2 Introduction and Chapter 3, pg. 76-113

January 27 & 29 – America’s History, Chapter 4, pg. 114-149

February 3 & 5 – America’s History, Chapter 5, pg. 150-181
Due – Research Paper Outline, February 3

February 10 & 12 – America’s History, Chapter 6, pg. 186-213

February 17 & 19 – America’s History, Chapter 7, pg. 214-247

February 24 – America’s History, Chapter 8, pg. 249-279
February 26 – Midterm Exam

March 3 & 5 – America’s History, Part 4 Introduction and Chapter 9, pg. 280-313

March 10 & 12 – America’s History, Chapter 10, pg. 314-343

March 17 & 19 – No class (Spring Break)

March 24 & 26 – America’s History, Chapter 11, pg. 344-375

March 31 & April 2 – America’s History, Chapter 12, pg. 376-405
Due – Research Paper, April 2

April 7 & 9 – America’s History, Part 5 Introduction and Chapter 13, pg. 406-443

April 14 – America’s History, Chapter 14, pg. 444-477
April 16 – No Class (subject to change)

April 21 – No class (exam week)
April 23 – Final Exam, 8:00-10:30am (for the Section 08 class, TR 9:30-10:50am)
Final Exam, 11:00am-1:30pm (for the Section 07 class, TR 12:30-1:50pm)