Instructor: Dr. Matthew Hild
Office: TLC 3202 (Office hours: Monday & Wednesday, 12:30-3:25, 4:55-5:25 or by appointment)
Office telephone: (678) 839-6043
E-mail address (best means of contact outside of office hours): mhild@westga.edu (Send e-mails directly to this address; do not use D2L to send e-mails.)

Required books:

Course description:
This course will utilize lectures, reading assignments, and occasionally films to examine the social, political, and economic history of the United States since 1865. Topics will include Reconstruction, American industrialization, two world wars, the Great Depression and the New Deal, the civil rights movement, and the Cold War.

Exams and grading:
--There will be three multiple choice exams in this course, including a non-comprehensive final exam. Each of these exams will constitute one fourth (25%) of the course grade. **Students must purchase a long-form (100 question) green and white Scantron sheet at the UWG bookstore or at the concession stand on the first floor of the TLC building and bring that form to class on the date of each of these exams along with a # 2 pencil.** Makeup exams will only be given to students who provide documentation verifying a valid excuse (such as illness, a car accident, court summons, or death in the family). Makeup exams will be written rather than multiple choice.

--There will also be a written exam covering Georgia Odyssey which will constitute the remaining quarter (25%) of the course grade. This exam (unlike the multiple choice exams) will be open book. Students who miss this exam but present written documentation of a valid excuse will be allowed to write a book review of three double-spaced pages on Georgia Odyssey as a “makeup.”

--During a class period shortly before each multiple choice exam, a documentary film will be shown pertaining to some topic(s) in United States history relevant to the era being covered by that exam. Any student who writes an acceptable paper of about 600 words (typed and double-spaced) summarizing that film in his or her own words will receive up to five bonus points on that exam. The paper must be turned in (in typed and printed form, not electronically) no later than the class period in which that exam is given. These papers will not be accepted via e-mail or late. Also, there are no
“makeups” for these extra credit opportunities even if a student misses a class period during which a film is shown; nor will the instructor loan students the DVD or videotape of a film for any reason. These three papers are the only opportunity for extra credit in the course.

--Each student’s course grade will be determined according to the following scale, with no exceptions: A= 89.50 or above; B=79.50-89.49; C=69.50-79.49; D=59.50-69.49; F=less than 59.50.

Classroom etiquette:
All participants in this class (students and instructor alike) will be expected to refrain from rude or disruptive behavior in class, to keep their cell phones turned off in class, and to stay awake in class. Students will also of course be required to abide by the University of West Georgia Honor Code, which can be found in the UWG Connection and Student Handbook.

Schedule of topics, reading assignments, and exam dates:

Week 1 (Jan. 7 & 9) Topic: Reconstruction  
Reading assignment: America, chapter 17; Georgia Odyssey, pp. 1-31

Week 2 (Jan. 14 & 16) Topics: Big Business and Labor, 1877-1900; The New South and the New West  
Reading assignment: America, chaps. 18-19; Georgia Odyssey, pp. 31-36

Week 3 (Jan. 23) Topics: Urbanization and Immigration; Gilded Age Politics and the Populist Revolt  
Reading assignment: America, chaps. 20-21; Georgia Odyssey, pp. 36-46

Week 4 (Jan. 28 & 30) Topics: The Spanish-American War and the Birth of American Imperialism; the Progressive Movement  
Reading assignment: America, chaps. 22-23; Georgia Odyssey, pp. 46-53

Week 5 (Feb. 4 & 6)  
No reading assignment  
First multiple choice exam, Wednesday, Feb. 6

Week 6 (Feb. 11 & 13) Topics: World War I; the Roaring Twenties  
Reading assignment: America, chaps. 24-25

Week 7 (Feb. 18 & 20) Topics: The Great Depression and the New Deal  
Reading assignment: America, chaps. 26-27; Georgia Odyssey, pp. 53-58

Week 8 (Feb. 25 & 27) Topic: World War II  
Reading assignment: America, chap. 28 Georgia Odyssey, pp. 58-68
Week 9 (March 4 & 6)
No reading assignment

**Second multiple choice exam, Wednesday, March 6 (covers material from weeks six through eight)**

Week 10 (March 11 & 13) Topics: The Cold War and the Baby Boom
Reading assignment: *America*, chap. 29 plus pp. 974-992; finish reading *Georgia Odyssey* before April 10

Week 11 (March 18-22) SPRING BREAK

Week 12 (March 25 & 27) Topics: Cuba, Camelot, and Civil Rights
Reading assignment: *America*, pp. 992-1040

Week 13 (April 1 & 3) Topics: The Vietnam War, Watergate, and the Downfall of Two Presidents
Reading assignment: *America*, pp. 1040-1083

Reading assignment: *America*, pp. 1083-1118

**Written exam on *Georgia Odyssey*, Wednesday, April 10**

Week 15 (April 15 & 17) Topics: The End of the Cold War and America at the End of the Twentieth Century
Reading assignment: *America*, pp. 1118-1152

**Final exam: Wednesday, April 24, 2:00 PM (covers material from weeks ten through fifteen)**