Jacksonian America
History 4454  Spring 2013

Dr. Keith Bohannon, Department of History, University of West Georgia
This course meets Monday, Wednesday, and Friday from 9-9:52 a.m. in Room 206, Pafford
Office Hours- Monday and Wednesday, 10-11, 1:30-4:00; Friday, 10-11 and by appointment
Office- Technology Learning Center, Room 3247  Phone- 678-839-6045
Email- kohanno@westga.edu

History 4454 examines the major themes and subjects in United States history between 1815 and 1848. As the course title suggests, particular attention will be paid to economic, social, and political developments that took place during the presidential administrations of Andrew Jackson. Jackson’s treatment of Native Americans, his struggle against the Bank of the United States, and his handling of such issues as the tariff and internal improvements all had important repercussions on the development of the United States.

This course is designed to achieve several learning outcomes. Students will be responsible for demonstrating an understanding of Jacksonian America through response papers, tests, regular discussions, and book reviews. We will use primary documents, secondary sources, and short films to analyze significant topics in nineteenth-century U. S. History. Students will be encouraged to develop their own independent opinions about the central issues of this time period and recognize that historical subjects are often matters of controversy among scholars.

Course Requirements
Midterm- 25%
Final Exam- 25%
Response Papers (in class)- 25%
Book Reviews- 25%
There will be no extra credit offered in this course.

Midterm and Final Exam- The midterm and final exam will cover material from the assigned readings and lectures.

Response Papers- There will be several analytical papers written in class throughout the semester in response to weekly assigned readings.

Book Reviews- Students will turn in typed (12 point font), critical essays that are 3-5 pages in length on three of the assigned books (Silbey, Watson, and Johnson). All papers must utilize proper endnote or footnote citations in accordance with Kate Turabian’s Manual for Writers of Term Papers . . . (based on the Chicago Manual). If a paper does not follow this format for footnotes or endnotes, it will be returned without a grade and the student given one chance to make revisions. The Turabian style is explained at http://www.libs.uga.edu/ref/turabian.html

Students needing assistance with writing are encouraged to turn in early drafts of papers and/or take them to the UWG Writing Center:  http://www.westga.edu/~writing

Late policy and makeup assignments- All assignments must be turned in during class on the day they are due or they will be considered late. One letter grade will be deducted per day for all assignments turned in late.

Makeup assignments will be given only under emergency circumstances. Students taking a makeup assignment must have a written excuse explaining their absence from class.

Attendance- Regular attendance is critical to earning a passing grade in this course. Attendance will be taken on a daily basis and will be considered at the end of the semester in assigning course grades. If a student misses class, it is his/her responsibility to find out what was missed.

Students who need to leave during class must provide an excuse to the instructor before the class begins. Anyone who leaves during class without providing an excuse will be marked absent and will receive a grade of zero on any assignment given that day, even in the student completed the assignment.

Cheating- I expect every student to read and comply with the University of West Georgia policies on Academic Honor and Academic Dishonesty, found in the student handbook. Cheating in any form (including plagiarism- presenting someone else’s words as your own without properly citing them) will not be tolerated. Students caught cheating will receive an F on the assignment and possibly F in the course.

Assigned texts  (Note: Students purchasing the books from the campus bookstore are encouraged to do so early in the semester.)

Cain, William E., ed. William Lloyd Garrison and the Fight Against Slavery
Johnson, Paul E. A Shopkeeper’s Millennium
Silbey, Joel, Storm over Texas
Tocqueville, Alexis de, *Democracy in America*

Wallace, Anthony, *The Long Bitter Trail*

Watson, Harry L., *Liberty and Power*

**NOTE:** All readings that are not listed above have been placed online. Directions on gaining access to the online readings will be handed out during the first week of class. Please contact me if you have any problems with the online readings. Unless otherwise stated, the weekly reading assignments are due on Fridays.

**Schedule of Class Meetings and Assignments**

**Week 1** Jan. 7-11  
Background to Jacksonian America

**Week 2** Jan. 14-18  
Politics of Jacksonian America  
Altina Waller, “Peggy Eaton and Andrew Jackson: A Presidential Scandal”

**Week 3** Jan. 21-25  
Politics of Jacksonian America  
Mary P. Ryan, “Antebellum Politics as Raucous Democracy” and Glenn Altschuler and Stuart Blumin, “Antebellum Politics as Political Manipulation”  
No class on Monday, Jan. 21 (MLKJ holiday)

**Week 4** Jan. 28-Feb. 1  
Politics of Jacksonian America  
Andrew Jackson’s “Veto of the Bank Bill” and “Farewell Address,” Henry Clay’s “On the American System,” and “Henry Clay, Ideologue of the Center” from Daniel W. Howe, *Political Culture of the American Whigs*  
Note: The last page of Andrew Jackson, “Veto of the Bank Bill” is at the beginning of the Docutek document entitled Henry Clay, “On the American System”

**Week 5** Feb 4-Feb. 8  
Growth of the Old South & Slavery  
BOOK REVIEW of Watson, *Liberty and Power* due Feb. 8

**Week 6** Feb. 11-15  
Proslavery Ideology  

**Week 7** Feb. 18-22  
Second Great Awakening & Reform  
BOOK REVIEW of Johnson, *Shopkeeper’s Millennium* due Friday, Feb. 22

**Week 8** Feb. 25-Mch 1  
Rise of Abolitionism  
Cain, *William Lloyd Garrison*, due Friday, March 1

**Week 9** March 4-8  
The Market Revolution  
NOTE: MIDTERM on Friday, March 8

**Week 10** March 11-15  
The Market Revolution contd.  

**March 18-22** Spring Break

**Week 11** March 25-29  
Immigration/Foreign observers of Jacksonian American  
Tocqueville, *Democracy in America*, due Friday, March 29

**Week 12** April 1-5  
Indian Removal  
Wallace, *Long, Bitter Trail* due on Fri, April 5

**Week 13** April 8-12  
Manifest Destiny  
BOOK REVIEW of Silbey, *Storm over Texas*, due April 12

**Week 14** April 15-19  
The Mexican War and the End of an Age  
“Was the Mexican War an Exercise in American Imperialism?” in *Taking Sides*, 254-277; Polk’s War Message to Congress and Henry Clay 1847 Speech about the Mexican War, in *For the Record*, 435-438, 446-453.  
NOTE: Polk’s War Message and the Henry Clay 1847 Speech are in the same Docutek Course Reserve Document entitled “Polk’s War Message to Congress”  
Last day of class is Friday, April 19

**FINAL EXAM** is Monday, April 22, 8-10:30 A.M. in Pafford, Room 206