SYLLABUS
HISTORY 2112/002 - United States History II
CRN 20586
Southern Polytechnic State University
Spring Semester 2013
T Th 1:00 - 2:15 J-109

Instructor: Professor Mark D. Vickrey       Office: J-314
Phone/Voice Mail: (678) 915-7325       Office Hours: M W F: 11:00-12:00
[SIS office: (678) 915-7442]             T Th: 2:30-3:30
E-mail: mvickrey@spsu.edu              other times by appointment
Web Site: http://fac-web.spsu.edu/sis/vickrey

TEXTS:

Required:

ISBN: 978-0-393-91265-4
Kenneth Coleman. Georgia History in Outline. ISBN: 978-0820304670
Other brief readings and maps will be handed out during the semester.

Recommended:

● A daily newspaper, a weekly newsmagazine, and a magazine of commentary and analysis.
● A dictionary: If you don't already have one, a good dictionary is an excellent investment (The American
  Heritage College Edition is a good choice). Look up words and terms you aren't familiar with as you read.

COURSE DESCRIPTION AND OBJECTIVES:

Through readings, lectures, class discussions, audio-visual materials, and other presentations we will survey
the history of the United States from the 1870s to the present. Our goal will be to make it as close to the
present as possible. Due to the nature of the course (a "survey"), the time constraints of the semester, and the
amount of material available on the United States since the 1870s, we will not be able to cover every
interesting person, event, or trend. Our general objective will be to develop a broad understanding of how
American society, politics, and both foreign and domestic policies evolved during this time by looking at
selected people, events, ideas, and trends.

Outcomes:

Upon completion of the course, students will be able to:

1. Identify historical issues in and cite knowledge of the American past.
2. Reach informed conclusions about historical sources and develop multiple explanations for historical events.
3. Describe the ways in which the past affects current events.
4. Identify the cultural values of the U.S. and the role of minority views in reshaping those values.
Additional specific objectives include developing an understanding of, and familiarity with:

1) major developments in American politics and society; 2) the evolution of civil rights in theory and practice from the late 19th century through the late 20th century; 3) America's emergence as a world power; 4) U.S. diplomacy in peace, war, and cold war; 5) the importance of the constitution in the American political and social system; 6) the geography of the United States, neighboring regions, and areas of the globe of interest to the United States between 1898 and the present; and, 7) technological developments and their effects on the United States.

Further objectives will be to strengthen critical thinking and writing skills and develop an awareness of how past events influence the present (and future).

COURSE STRUCTURE:

Course materials will be divided into three units; each unit will conclude with an examination. An on-line module on the U.S. Constitution and Georgia History and Constitution must be completed during the semester. The final exam will be an examination of third unit materials only - it is not comprehensive.

ASSIGNMENTS:

Three examinations worth 100 points each (300 points total). Exams will be made up of some combination of multiple choice, fill-in-the-blanks, matching, short answer, identification questions, and/or essays. Exact formats will be announced prior to each exam.

Three quizzes. The quizzes will be made up of some combination of fill-in-the-blank, true-false, multiple choice, and/or short answer questions. and a map test. The quizzes will be worth 15 points each (45 points total).

Three map exercises and exams. Blank maps will be handed out each unit along with lists of items that need to be located on the maps. Students will locate the items on their copies of the maps and then learn the maps. Map exams will feature blank maps with certain items identified (or questions asked about the items) and will be worth 15 points each (45 points total).

Georgia History and U. S. Constitution Module. Georgia state law requires that all students earning a Bachelor's degree at a state supported institution must demonstrate a proficiency in Georgia history, Georgia's constitution, the history of the United States, and the U.S. constitution. This on-line (Georgia View D2L) module can be completed at any time during the semester, at your own pace, but must be completed by Thursday, April 25 (the last day of class for HIST 1112/001). You may take the on-line tests as many times as you need to in order to pass the module. This module is not something that can be completed quickly, so please do not wait to get started. The module is a Pass/Fail grade structure, and will not affect your course grade as long as you have completed it. Failure to complete this U.S./Georgia module will result in an I on the course.

1. Failure to take Exam I will result in the instructor withdrawing the student from the course.
2. Failure to take Exam II or Exam III (Final) will result in an F on the course.
3. Failure to pass the Georgia History and U. S. Constitution Module on Georgia VIEW D2L will result in an I on this course (regardless of grades earned on Quizzes, Map Exams, and Exams). A grade will be given only after completion of this module.

COURSE POLICIES:

1. Grading scale for individual assignments:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Quizzes and Map Exams:</th>
<th>Exams:</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>13.5 - 15 A</td>
<td>90-100 A</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>12-13 B</td>
<td>80-89.5 B</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10.5-11.5 C</td>
<td>70-79.5 C</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9-10 D</td>
<td>60-69.5 D</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Below 9 F</td>
<td>Below 60 F</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Course Grade Calculations:

notes:  
a. Grades will not be curved. 
b. No extra credit assignments. 
c. All unit examinations must be taken (see statement above). 
d. The Georgia History and U.S. Constitution Module must be passed by the last day the class meets, or the course grade will be I, regardless of points earned on quizzes, map exams, and exams (see statements above). 
e. Final averages will be based on the number of points earned divided by 390 (total points possible on exams, quizzes, and map exams). Averages will not be rounded up (e.g. for a B, your average must be 80 or above - 79.9, for example, is a C). 

The total point/grade breakdown for the semester is:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Grade</th>
<th>Points</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>A</td>
<td>351 – 390</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>B</td>
<td>312 – 350.99</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>C</td>
<td>273 - 311.99</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>D</td>
<td>234 – 272.99</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>F</td>
<td>Below 234</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

2. a. Attendance Policy. Attendance is expected and strongly encouraged. You are responsible for all materials presented in class.

2. b. Attendance is required on the day quizzes, map exams, and exams are given. Leaving class after taking a quiz or map exam will result in the loss of 5 points on that quiz or map exam. There are no exceptions to this policy (unless you have already made arrangements with Prof. Vickrey to take the quiz or map exam at another time – see policy number 6 below).

3. Make every effort to get to class on time. Exams, map exams, and quizzes will be given at the beginning of class and will be timed. If you are late you will not be given extra time, nor will you be able to take the exam or quiz at another time. A grade penalty will be imposed for being late for the final exam (the Unit III exam): 10 points will be subtracted from the exam grade for being 15 or more minutes late.

4. If you must leave class before its scheduled completion (2:15), tell Prof. Vickrey before class begins.
5. Preparation: **Students are EXPECTED to read the Tindall and Shi textbook, and all instructor provided reading assignments.** All readings need to be completed before their topic is discussed in class. Readings are listed on the unit schedule sheets. Prof. Vickrey's presentations will not provide a summary of the assigned readings. Inadequate preparation will both make it difficult for you to follow the presentations and will compromise class discussions. Reading materials will be tested on exams and quizzes.

6. Absence from an Exam, Map Exam, or Quiz: Permission to take one of the exams or quizzes after its assigned date can be given **only** if Prof. Vickrey is contacted **prior** to the exam or quiz and gives his permission for a make-up, or in cases of a **documented** medical, family, or job **emergency**. Absence from Exam I will result in the student being withdrawn from the class. Absence from Exam II or Exam III (Final) or any quiz without permission will result in a 0 on that exercise, and, if the exercise missed is an exam, an F on the course (see "Assignments" above). Students are responsible for scheduling a make-up as soon as possible following the excused absence. **If a student fails to attend class on the day a make-up is given, a 15 point penalty will be assessed on the make-up exam, or a 10 point penalty on the quiz or map exam.**

7. **Emergency Information and Plan:**

   a. Should SPSU be forced to temporarily close due to a flu epidemic or other emergency, this class will be conducted by e-mail communication between the instructor and students. The planned class materials will be delivered to students each scheduled day of class. Questions about the materials can be directed to the instructor via the e-mail address above. Professor Vickrey will also provide his cell phone number in his first communication following the school's closing.

   b. All students should learn and/or program this phone number into their cell phones:

   (678)915-5555   University Police emergency (web-based)

8. **The SPSU Honor Code, Academic Dishonesty, and Disruptive Behavior:**

   Southern Polytechnic State University established an honor code during the 2010-2011 academic year. This code is binding on all students and faculty. Faculty members expect that all students will both respect and behave according to the spirit of the honor code. Cheating, plagiarism, and other forms of academic misconduct can never be tolerated and can have very serious consequences for the person guilty of the misconduct (including dismissal from the university). All students should become familiar with the honor code and the policies and procedures that accompany it. ([http://fac-web.spsu.edu/aa/honorcode](http://fac-web.spsu.edu/aa/honorcode)).

   **A. Academic Dishonesty:** Cheating and plagiarism will not be tolerated. Cheating and/or plagiarism will result in a F on the course. Plagiarism, a type of cheating, is defined as the presentation of the words, ideas, or work of another person as one’s own work. Within the framework of this course presenting memorized passages from the text, outside readings, passages from the test itself, or other materials on an examination as one's own work constitutes plagiarism. Plagiarism is a serious academic offense and will not be tolerated in any form. Do your own work and writing, using your own words.

   Students should be familiar with Southern Polytechnic’s policies on academic dishonesty, disciplinary procedures, and appeals process.

   *The instructor reserves the right to assign seats, or move a student or students from one seat to another,*
B. Disruptive Behavior: Students may not engage in any behavior that disrupts the professor's conduct of class or their fellow students. The following are specific rules for this class (violations are disruptive):

1.) Cellular and satellite phones, iPads, tablets, and other similar electronic devices are **PROHIBITED**. If you must carry one of these devices due to work or family circumstances either turn it off or select a silent option. Phones may **not** be answered in the classroom. Keep your cell phones and other devices out of hand, out of sight, and off your desk or lap during class. *If Prof. Vickrey speaks to you about this issue (including asking you to put the device away during conduct of the class) once, it will be considered a warning; the second time you are spoken to your final grade in the course will be dropped by one letter grade. If a student is asked to put a cell phone or similar device away for a **third** time, the final grade in the course will be dropped by a second letter grade. Any additional violation of this policy will result in removal from the class and the grade of F for the course.*

2.) **No** laptop computers.

3.) **No** sleeping in class. Anyone sleeping will receive one verbal warning, then will be asked to leave class.

4.) **No** headphones. iPods, like cell phones, are **PROHIBITED**.

5.) **No** working on homework, projects, and other assignments for this or other classes in class. Any student doing such work will be asked to stop.

When you are in class you should be paying attention to class materials.

*Aside from the specific policies for 1, repetition of 2-5 following a discussion with the instructor can lead to a student's (or students') removal from the course or the grade of F for the course, or both.*

Be sure you are familiar with these course policies and keep a copy of this syllabus with your class materials.

**TIPS FOR DOING WELL IN THIS COURSE:**

1. **Attend class.**

2. **Pay attention in class and ask questions.** See Professor Vickrey if you have a question about the material or need clarification on something presented in class or in the assigned readings.

3. **Read all assigned materials.**

4. Read over your notes shortly after class each day. If you have any questions about the materials contained in your notes, look through your reading assignments and/or see Professor Vickrey.

5. **Think about the materials.** How do the readings fit together with the presentations? What insights do the readings provide? How do ideologies contribute to actions?

6. Keep up with the general chronology of events we discuss. *Although you do not need to remember specific dates, you do need to develop a sense of chronological sequence and have a general idea of when something took place* (e.g. the Progressive Era took place in the early 20th century). *One of the best ways to keep American history materials organized is by remembering which events took place during which presidential terms (e.g. the war in Vietnam rapidly escalated early in Lyndon Johnson's presidency, the Great Depression began when Herbert Hoover was president, etc.)*

**Important note on Communication:** Professor Vickrey has a hearing impairment. When speaking to him or answering questions in class, please speak clearly and loudly (but do not shout!) while facing him. Those measures should enable Professor Vickrey to hear you. It is also difficult for him to hear when more than one person is speaking at once — please speak when you are recognized. If you are asked to repeat something,
Professor Vickrey is not picking on you, he simply didn't understand what you said. Please forgive any inconvenience this may cause during the semester.

**IMPORTANT DATES:**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Day</th>
<th>Event</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>January 22</td>
<td>T</td>
<td>Quiz 1 - Syllabus Acknowledgement sheet must be returned to Prof. Vickrey</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>January 31</td>
<td>Th</td>
<td>Map Exam I</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>February 12</td>
<td>T</td>
<td><strong>Exam I</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>February 26</td>
<td>T</td>
<td><em>Last day to withdraw with grade of W</em></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>February 28</td>
<td>Th</td>
<td>Quiz 2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>March 5</td>
<td>T</td>
<td>}</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>March 7</td>
<td>Th</td>
<td>}</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>March 19</td>
<td>T</td>
<td>Map Exam II</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>March 26</td>
<td>T</td>
<td><strong>Exam II</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>April 11</td>
<td>T</td>
<td>Quiz 3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>April 23</td>
<td>T</td>
<td>Map Exam III</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>April 25</td>
<td>Th</td>
<td><em>Last day of class!!! Georgia History and U.S. Constitution Module must be completed (passed) by the end of the day!</em></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

TBA        | TBA | **Final Exam** (Exam III)                |

-----------------------------------------------

**Important:** Proceed to the Syllabus Acknowledgement sheet and follow the instructions!