

# HIST 2111: United States History To 1877 (Fall 2019)

Tuesday, Thursday, 8:00am-9:15am  
Social Sciences Building 2021

## Contact Information

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Office Hours: TR 9:30am-10:45m  
Meetings at other times may be available by appointment

## Description

This course explores major themes in the social, cultural, political, and economic history of the peoples of North America to 1877. Topics include the intersections of cultures in colonial America, the origin and development of the American republic, the evolution of democratic ideas and institutions, western expansion, slavery, sectional conflict, and emancipation and its aftermath. There is no prerequisite for this course.

## Objectives

HIST 2111 satisfies one of Kennesaw State University's general education program requirements. It addresses the "U.S. Perspectives" general education learning outcome. The learning outcome states: Students identify the historical, political, social, or institutional developments of the United States. For more information about KSU's General Education program requirements and associated learning outcomes, please visit the [course catalog](#).

The instructor has additional objectives for this course:

1. Students will be able to describe and discuss history as an academic field of study
2. Students will be able to describe the general narrative of U.S. history from pre-European contact to Reconstruction
3. Students will be able to identify the historical, political, social, or institutional developments of the United States
4. Students will be able to distinguish recurring themes in U.S. history
5. Students will be able to describe particular historical events within a broader historical context
6. Students will be able to identify the role of the past in the events of the present

# Materials

Title: Thinking Through the Past, Volume 1  
Author: John Hollitz  
Publisher: Cengage  
Edition: 5th  
ISBN: 9781285427430

Older editions may occasionally suffice, but certain assignments may refer to sources only found in the most recent edition. Any additional readings will be made available on D2L. Students who want to have access to a survey textbook for reference purposes can access the OpenStax U.S. history textbook, which is available for free on [their website](#).

# Evaluation

## Criteria

A = 90-100  
B = 80-89.999  
C = 70-79.999  
D = 60-69.999  
F = 59.999 and below

## Breakdown

Test 1 = 15%  
Test 2 = 15%  
Test 3 = 15%  
Paper 1 = 15%  
Paper 2 = 20%  
Exercises = 10%  
Quizzes = 9%  
Checklist = 1%

## Description

The three tests will be non-cumulative, closed-book, and closed-notes tests. The format of the tests will be similar, with each containing multiple types of questions. All questions will relate to material from the lectures or the readings, depending on the section of the test where they appear. The two papers will cover a variety of historical skills. The first paper will be shorter and provide students an opportunity to familiarize themselves with historical writing. The second paper will be longer and allow students to apply and perfect the skills they learned with the earlier paper. The quizzes will align with most days when readings are due (as listed on the schedule further down). Students are expected to read any assigned readings prior to the day it is listed, both in preparation for a quiz and for the day's discussion. The lowest two quiz grades

will be dropped. The exercises will be done on non-introduction and non-test days, and will typically involve open-ended questions. These are usually graded pass-fail, with fails being fairly rare. The checklist covers some of the most important parts of the syllabus, and is due by the deadline listed in the schedule.

The checklist and both papers must be satisfactorily completed in order to be eligible to pass the course. For the papers this means, for example, that a document that is blank or does not fulfill the requirements will not qualify as completing that paper. For the checklist this means that all sections on the list must be checked. The checklist is provided in place of grade rounding, so no additional rounding will be done. There will not be opportunities for extra credit, except perhaps for a bonus that may be included on a test. Students can expect paper and test grades within two weeks of their due dates, provided they were not submitted late.

To do any calculations with your grades, two pieces of information are needed: any grades received, and what percentage of the final grade the assignments are worth. The grades are listed in the Grades tab on D2L, and the percentages are listed above. A quick internet search turned up [this calculator](#), but many more are available online.

## **Course Policies**

### **Attendance**

There is an attendance requirement for this course, and attendance is calculated using the exercise scores. Students must attend at least 70% of non-introduction and non-test days (i.e. all days when we have exercises). Failing to meet this attendance requirement will result in failing the course. For the purpose of this course, attending a class is defined as coming to class and receiving an exercise score greater than zero (or reading the required material and submitting the exercise by the deadline, in the case of an online make-up class). This means that losing an exercise score due to academic dishonesty or classroom behavior (addressed further down) results in an absence. For this semester, 70% attendance means that the number of allowed skips is 8. Students are responsible for keeping track of their skips and ensuring they do not exceed the allowed number.

Students are solely responsible for managing their enrollment status in the class; nonattendance does not constitute a withdrawal. Students who fail the course due to failing to meet the 70% attendance requirement will not be automatically withdrawn from the course.

### **Assignments**

All students must take tests by the time and day noted in the syllabus, and must do exercises on the day they are given, except in cases of university-approved absences. In such cases, a student may take a make-up test or receive credit for a missed exercise. Students who miss an assignment with a non-excused absence are not eligible for a make-up. Students who miss an exercise due to arriving late or leaving early are not eligible to complete the exercises they missed. All students must take quizzes on the day they are given. The lowest two quiz grades are dropped in place of administering make-up quizzes, so no make-up quizzes will be

given. The checklist must be completed by the deadline. Checklists completed after the deadline will not receive points.

The instructor must have written documentation, such as a doctor's note or court order, in order to schedule a make-up test or excuse an exercise. It is the responsibility of the student to contact the instructor, within a week of the missed assignment, to provide the necessary documentation for the absence and (in the case of a missed test) arrange for a make-up. Make-up tests are typically given at the end of the semester during the departmental make-up day. At the discretion of the instructor, make-up tests may either be the same or different from the ones given to the rest of the class. The last possible day to turn in documentation is the last day of class at 11:59pm.

The first paper is predetermined, but there are two options for the second paper, which have different topics and due dates. Each student must choose one of the two options for the second paper, and may not turn in submissions for both. Papers are due in the D2L dropbox at 11:59pm on the day they are due. A physical copy is not required. Late papers are assessed a 5% grade penalty, and an additional 5% grade penalty will be added every 12 hours until the paper is submitted. The final deadline for late papers is the last day of class at 11:59pm. Any student who has not submitted both papers by this time will be unable to submit a paper, and therefore will not be eligible to pass the class. Written feedback on a student's first paper will be provided, if requested when the paper is submitted, but is not available on the second paper.

## **Academic Honesty**

Cheating and plagiarism may result in a failing grade for the course. Activities that constitute cheating and/or plagiarism include (but are not limited to) copying or plagiarizing from another student's work, or allowing another student to copy or plagiarize from you; giving or receiving aid for an assignment; writing an assignment for another student, or asking another student to write for you; obtaining a copy of an assignment given earlier, or sharing a copy of an assignment with other sections; using electronic or other aids during a test, quiz, or exercise; attempting to deceive or bypass the Respondus system; or any other means of deception. Due to common misunderstandings about plagiarism, it is recommended that students review [this website](#) to see some of the actions that constitute plagiarism.

The KSU Code of Conduct is discussed further down.

## **Behavior**

In order to show respect to one's fellow classmates, students should follow a few basic rules concerning class behavior:

- Students must only use note-taking technologies (laptops, tablets, etc.) for note-taking purposes. Using these technologies to browse the internet, watch videos, play games, do homework, or communicate is not allowed. Technologies unrelated to note-taking (cell phones, calculators, etc.) must be out of sight and silenced.

- Students must focus their attention on the class and participate in any discussions. This means that activities that distract other students or take away from the learning experience (talking during lectures, knitting, sleeping, etc.) are not allowed.
- Students must not arrive late or leave early. If there is a university-approved reason for a student to arrive late or leave early on a particular day, the student must inform the instructor in advance.

Students who disregard one or more of these policies during a class may have that day's exercise grade changed to a zero, if applicable, and may be asked to leave the lecture. Students who continually fail to abide by these policies will be reported to the appropriate authorities.

## **Communication**

The instructor will be available during the set office hours, and will attempt to provide advanced notice if office hours must temporarily change or be cancelled. Office hours end with the last day of class, meaning no office hours will be held during finals week. The best and quickest way to communicate with the instructor is through email. During normal school operating hours, the instructor will try to respond to emails by the end of the business day. However, in cases of higher-than-normal email volumes or other complicating circumstances, email responses may be delayed. In addition, emails relating to test content must arrive at least 24 hours before the test begins in order to receive an answer.

The University provides all KSU students with an official email account with the address "students.kennesaw.edu." As a result of federal laws protecting educational information and other data, this is the sole email account you should use to communicate with your instructor or other University officials. The instructor will not respond to messages sent through D2L or from other email addresses, except possibly to inform the student to use an official email account.

## **Technology**

Students will be recorded during exams using the Respondus Lockdown Browser and Webcam Monitor system in D2L. These videos will be stored for a period of one year and may be submitted to the Department of Student Conduct and Academic Integrity as evidence in suspected cases of cheating. The Respondus System only allows access to student webcams while the exam is in progress. KSU does not have access to student webcams at any other point. Students are responsible for obtaining a computer equipped with internet access, Respondus Lockdown Browser, a webcam, and a microphone (these last two can be external or built-in). Students must also possess basic computer skills including the ability to navigate the internet using a browser, access D2L, and use KSU email. Instructions for using Respondus will be posted on D2L. Lecture slides will be uploaded to D2L as PowerPoint files. The images on the slides are open access, and links to image origins are included in the slide metadata.

This class uses D2L as its course management software and Respondus as its quiz and test proctoring software. These are the D2L [privacy policy](#) and [accessibility policy](#), and these are the Respondus [privacy policy](#) and [accessibility policy](#). For issues with technical difficulties, please contact the Student Help Desk at 470.578.3555 or [studenthelpdesk@kennesaw.edu](mailto:studenthelpdesk@kennesaw.edu).

## **Alterations**

Time and thought has been put into the construction of this syllabus, but unexpected events can occur that require altering the syllabus. Although all efforts will be taken to avoid these situations, the instructor reserves the right to change portions of the syllabus. However, if major changes are made, the instructor will attempt to give as much advance warning as possible.

## **Institutional Policies**

### **Federal, BOR, & KSU Policies**

[Federal, BOR, & KSU Policies](#)  
[KSU Student Resources for Syllabus](#)

### **Accommodations**

Students with qualifying disabilities under the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) and/or Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act who require “reasonable accommodation(s)” to complete the course may request those from Office of Student Disability Services. Students requiring such accommodations are required to work with the University’s Office of Student Disability Services rather than engaging in this discussion with individual faculty members or academic departments. If, after reviewing the course syllabus, a student anticipates or should have anticipated a need for accommodation, he or she must submit documentation requesting an accommodation and permitting time for a determination prior to submitting assignments or taking course quizzes or exams. Students may not request retroactive accommodation for needs that were or should have been foreseeable. Students should contact the office as soon as possible in the term for which they are seeking accommodations. Student Disability Services is located in the Carmichael Student Center in Suite 267 on the Kennesaw campus or Building A in Suite 160G on the Marietta campus. Please visit the [Student Disabilities Services website](#) for more information, or call the office at 470-578-2666 (Kennesaw campus) or 470-578-9111 (Marietta campus).

### **Code of Conduct**

Every KSU student is responsible for upholding the provisions of the [Student Code of Conduct](#), as published in the Undergraduate and Graduate Catalogs. Section 5c of the Student Code of Conduct addresses the university’s policy on academic honesty, including provisions regarding plagiarism and cheating, unauthorized access to university materials, misrepresentation/falsification of university records or academic work, malicious removal, retention, or destruction of library materials, malicious/intentional misuse of computer facilities and/or services, and misuse of student identification cards. Incidents of alleged academic misconduct will be handled through the established procedures of the Department of Student Conduct and Academic Integrity (SCAI), which includes either an “informal” resolution by a faculty member, resulting in a grade adjustment, or a formal hearing procedure, which may subject a student to the Code of Conduct’s minimum one semester suspension requirement.

## Schedule

Daily Topics and Due Dates		
Date	Class Topic	Assignments Due
August 20	Introduction	
August 22	Before 1492	
August 27	Spanish, French, & Dutch	Chapter 1 Quiz
August 29	Chesapeake Colonies	
September 3	New England Colonies	Chapter 2 Quiz
September 5	Middle & Southern Colonies	Chapter 3 Quiz
September 10	Slavery Origins	Checklist
September 12	Great Awakening	Paper 1
September 17	Self-Rule Experiences	
September 19	American Revolution	Chapter 4 Quiz
September 24	(Online Test due by 11:59pm)	Test 1
September 26	Freedom & Equality	
October 1	Articles of Confederation	
October 3	Constitution	Chapter 5 Quiz
October 8	Jeffersonian Era	Chapter 6 Quiz
October 10	War of 1812	Paper 2 Option
October 15	Market Revolution	
October 17	Prosperity Limited	Chapter 7 Quiz
October 22	Jacksonian Era	Chapter 9 Quiz
October 24	(Online Test due by 11:59pm)	Test 2
October 29	Old South	
October 31	Antebellum Slavery	Chapter 10 Quiz
November 5	Abolitionism	
November 7	Age of Reform	Chapter 11 Quiz
November 12	Westward Expansion	Chapter 8 Quiz
November 14	Sectional Crisis	Paper 2 Option
November 19	Secession	
November 21	Civil War	Chapter 12 Quiz
December 3	Emancipation	
December 5	Reconstruction	Chapter 13 Quiz
December 10	(Online Test due by 11:59pm)	Test 3

