

HISTORY OF GEORGIA

History 5474 Spring 2012

Dr. Keith S. Bohannon, Department of History, University of West Georgia

This course meets on Mondays, Wednesdays, and Fridays from 9-9:50 am in Pafford, Room 206

Office Hours: 10-11, 2-4:30, Monday & Wednesday; Friday, 10-11 & by appointment

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History 5474 examines four centuries of Georgia history, from the initial contact between the Spanish and native peoples in the sixteenth century to the emergence, persistence, and ultimate collapse of a plantation-oriented colonial society in the nineteenth and twentieth centuries. We pay particular attention to the state's dramatic transformation in the decades since World War II brought on by urbanization, industrialization, and the Civil Rights Movement.

This course is designed to achieve several learning outcomes. Students will be responsible for demonstrating an understanding of Georgia history through in-class tests, response papers, discussions, and book reviews. We will also use primary documents, essays and books written by historians, short films, and regular discussions to analyze the historical foundations of contemporary society within the state. Students will be encouraged to develop their own independent opinions about central issues in the state's history.

The research paper requires graduate students to analyze secondary and primary sources dealing with a significant topic in Georgia history. This assignment is designed to introduce graduate students to the different approaches and interpretations that scholars have taken in examining Georgia and Southern history and to do original research into primary sources.

Requirements

Mid-term- 10%

Final Exam- 25%

Response Papers (in class)- 25%

Book Reviews- 15%

Research Paper- 25%

No extra credit is offered in this course.

Mid-term and final exam- The mid-term and final exam cover material from the lectures and assigned readings.

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

Book Reviews- Students write typed, double-spaced (12-pt font), critical essays that are three to five pages in length on O'Donovan, Greene, and Carter. Students will also write two additional book reviews on titles of their choice that the instructor finds acceptable.

Research Paper- This paper will analyze primary and secondary sources on a topic in Georgia history. This paper must be at least eighteen, double-spaced, typed (12 point font) pages in length and include either footnotes or endnotes. Points will be deducted for grammatical errors and improper usage of footnotes or endnotes. Students will need to set up individual meetings with me at some point during the first three weeks of class to decide on a topic and begin bibliographical research. On January 27, students will turn in an annotated bibliography of sources they will use in the paper, as well as a thesis statement. Students will have the option of turning in early drafts of the research paper before the final due date.

Your paper, as well as the book reviews, must adhere to the Chicago Manual of Style for citations, style and grammar. Please consult the History Department's Writing Guide. http://www.westga.edu/dsw/index_10083.php

Makeup Exams and Late Assignments- All assignments must be turned in during class on the dates given below. One letter grade will be deducted per day (including weekends) for all assignments turned in after class time on the assigned due date. **Students turning in assignments late must submit both a paper and an electronic (email attachment sent from your UWG student account) copy.**

Makeup assignments are given only under emergency circumstances. Students needing to take 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 if the student completed the assignment.

Cheating- 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 probably an F in the course.

Writing Center- Students who need assistance with writing are encouraged to see the instructor during his office hours and/or go to the Writing Center on the UWG campus. The website for the Center is: <http://www.westga.edu/~writing/>

Reading Assignments- The books must be read prior to the dates given in the course schedule. There is no textbook in this course. Students wishing to utilize a textbook should consult Kenneth Coleman, ed., [A History of Georgia](#).

There are also a number of online reserve readings that are accessed through the UWG Library website. Directions for gaining access to these readings will be handed out during the first week of class.

Carter, Jimmy, [Turning Point](#)

Cobb, James C., [Georgia Odyssey A Short History of the State](#)

Greene, Melissa Fay, [Praying for Sheetrock](#)

O'Donovan, Susan E., [Becoming Free in the Cotton South](#)

Scott, Thomas A., ed., [Cornerstones of Georgia History](#)

Schedule of Class meetings and assignments

Week One- January 9-13 Introduction; Precolonial Georgia; European explorations & settlement **Scott, Chapters 1-2**

Week Two- January 16-20 Georgia as a Royal Province **Scott, Chapters 3-4** **No class on Jan. 16 (MLKJ Holiday)**

Week Three- January 23-27 Georgia in the Revolution and the Early Republic **Jim Cobb, [Georgia Odyssey](#), due Friday, Jan. 27**

Week Four- January 30-Feb 3 The Expanding frontier and the removal of the Creeks and Cherokees **Scott, Chapter 5 & Online reserve reading: Longstreet, [Georgia Scenes](#) Annotated bibliography and thesis statement due Friday, February 3**

Week Five- February 6-10 Antebellum Georgia **Scott, Chapter 6 & Online reserve reading: Chapter 2 of Reidy, [From Slavery to Agrarian Capitalism in the Cotton Plantation South](#)**

Week Six- February 13-17 Secession and the Civil War **Scott, Chapter 7 BOOK REVIEW due Friday, February 17**

Week Seven- February 20-24 The Civil War **Book review of O'Donovan, [Becoming Free in the Cotton South](#), due on Wednesday, February 22 No class on Friday, February 24**

Week Eight-February 27-March 2 Early Reconstruction **Scott, Chapter 9**

Week Nine- March 5-9 Redemption and Bourbonism **Midterm on Friday, March 9**

Week Ten- March 12-16 The New South and Populism **Scott, Chapters 10-11 BOOK REVIEW due on Friday, March 16**

March 19-23 Spring Break

Week Eleven- March 26-30 Progressivism Scott, Chapters 12-13

Week Twelve- April 2-6 The 1920s and the New Deal Book review of Carter, Turning Point, due Friday, April 6

Week Thirteen- April 9-13 World War II and the 1950s Scott, Chapters 14, 15 & 16 RESEARCH PAPER DUE FRIDAY, APRIL 13

Week Fourteen- April 16-20 The Civil Rights Movement Book review of Greene, Praying for Sheetrock, due Wednesday, April 18 Last day of class is Friday, April 20

Final Exam is Monday, April 23, 8-10:30 am