

HIST 5485: French America (Graduate Syllabus)

Dr. Charles Lipp Office: TLC 3217 E-Mail clipp@westga.edu Phone: 678-839-6039	Class Hours: TR 11:00-12:15 Classroom: Pafford 206 Office Hours: MW 10-12/TTh 2:30-4 &appt.
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Course Objectives:

This course explores a crucial yet understudied aspect of American history: the French experience in North America and the Caribbean. Over the course of the 17th and 18th centuries, the French developed particular models of cultural interaction between Europeans and Native Americans that continue to shape the peoples of North America today. In addition, by the end of the 1700s, the French controlled the most profitable colony on the planet. In short, the French experience mattered. For students more familiar with Colonial American history, this class offers a comparative perspective with which to place the history of the future United States in its contemporary context. This class also provides a means of exploring Atlantic history—the story of the interactions of the peoples from the continents that border the Atlantic Ocean, Europe, Africa, and the Americas. Beyond examining the course of events and their broader implications, students will explore pivotal contemporary and historiographical debates through reading a variety of primary and secondary works and writing several related papers.

By the end of the term, students should be able to demonstrate mastery of the basic narrative of events as well as the ability to analyze historically primary and secondary sources and integrate those analyses into well-argued oral and written interpretations.

Required Texts:Books – Primary:

1. Allan Greer, ed., *The Jesuit Relations: Natives and Missionaries in Seventeenth-Century North America* (Bedford/St. Martins, 2000); ISBN 978-0312167073.
2. Alexander O. Exquemelin, *Buccaneers of America* (Dover Books, 2000); ISBN 0-486-40966X.
3. Pierre L. Iberville, Richebourg McWilliams, ed., *Iberville's Gulf Journals* (University of Alabama Press, 1991); ISBN 0-8173-0539-4.
4. Christopher Moore, *Louisbourg Portraits: Five Dramatic, True Tales of People Who Lived in an Eighteenth-Century Garrison Town* (McClelland & Stewart); ISBN 978-0771060915.
5. Emily Clark, ed., *Voices From An Early American Convent: Marie Madeleine Hachard and the New Orleans Ursulines, 1727-1760* (LSU Press, 2009); ISBN 978-0807134467.
6. Laurent Dubois and John D. Garrigus, *Slave Revolution in the Caribbean, 1789-1804: A Brief History With Documents* (Bedford/St. Martins, 2006); ISBN 978-0312415013.

Books – Secondary:

1. Peter N. Moogk, *La Nouvelle France: The Making of French Canada – A Cultural History* (Michigan State Press, 2000); ISBN 978-0870135286
2. Richard White, *The Middle Ground: Indians, Empires, and Republics in the Great Lakes Region, 1650-1815* (Cambridge University Press, 1991); ISBN 978-0521424608
3. Philip P. Boucher, *France and the American Tropics to 1700: Tropics of Discontent* (Johns Hopkins University Press, 2007); ISBN 978-0801887260

4. James Pritchard, *In Search of Empire: The French in the Americas, 1670-1730* (Cambridge University Press, 2007); ISBN 978-0521711111
5. Shannon Lee Dawdy, *Building the Devil's Empire: French Colonial New Orleans* (University of Chicago Press, 2009); ISBN 978-0226138428
6. Laurent Dubois, *Avengers of the New World: The Story of the Haitian Revolution* (Belknap Press, 2005); ISBN 978-0674018266

Grading and Policies:

Your final grade will be factored as follows:

Two 12-15 page Papers based on primary and secondary sources	30% each
Participation	40%

For the schedule of lectures, discussions, and assignments, see below.

Detailed information regarding the two papers will be provided during the semester.

I will read over ONE draft only of each paper before the submission date.

Participation is central to this class and, therefore, comprises forty percent of your final grade. For each discussion meeting, I expect you to have read the assigned works closely and to be ready to debate the strengths and weaknesses of their broad arguments and approaches within the larger historiographical context. In short, if you are not engaged in discussions, you will put your chances of passing this class in danger.

I also expect you to attend the lectures as detailed below in the lecture schedule. However, you must be courteous of your undergraduate colleagues in the class. Unlike you, they do not have an opportunity to meet outside of class hours (office hours excepted) to discuss the material. Thus, I expect you to hold your comments and questions during those lectures until afterward.

If you plan on taking a laptop to class, please remember it is to be used to take notes only. Discovery of any violations of this policy will result in a general ban of computers. In addition, the recording of lectures is not permitted.

Moreover, you are to abide by the standards of conduct outlined in the UWG catalogue. Academic dishonesty, especially plagiarism, will not be tolerated and will result in a failing grade for the class. Turning in the same paper in multiple classes counts as plagiarism. Furthermore, you are to treat your colleagues and me with the utmost respect at all times. If such issues arise, they will be reported to relevant authorities and further actions may be taken. I cannot imagine problems occurring, but policies need to be stated, regardless.

Finally, I reserve the right to modify this syllabus during the semester if circumstances warrant. You will be informed at all times of any changes. If changes are substantial, I will issue a revised syllabus.

Lecture Schedule:

Week:	Tuesday:	Thursday:
01		01/07: Class Introduction

02	01/12: France in the 16 th Century	01/14: Early Modern Catholicism, I
03	01/19: Early Modern Catholicism, II	01/21: France and European Discovery
04	01/26:	01/28: Origins of New France, I
05	02/02: Origins of New France, II	02/04: Jesuits and Native Americans in New France
06	02/09:	02/11: The 17 th Century French Caribbean, I
07	02/16: The 17 th Century French Caribbean, II	02/18:
08	02/23: French Transformations, I: Absolutism and the Rivalry with Great Britain	02/25:
09	03/02: Transformations of French America: Crown Rule in North America	03/04: Transformations of French America: Colonial Warfare
10	03/09: Exploring the Mississippi	03/11:
11	03/16: Transformations of French America: Sugar, Plantations, and Slavery	03/18: French Transformations, II: The Enlightenment and the Consumer Revolution
12	03/23: <u>No Class: Spring Break</u>	03/25: <u>No Class: Spring Break</u>

13	03/30: Life in 18 th Century French America I	04/01:
14	04/06: Life in 18 th Century French America II	04/08:
15	04/13: French Transformations, III: War and Revolution	04/15: Revolution in Saint Domingue
16	04/20: Napoleon, Louverture, and Haiti	04/22:
17	04/27: Legacies	

Discussion Schedule:

We will arrange an exact time to meet outside of class that fits everyone’s schedule; however, the discussions will fall in the weeks marked below:

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| 01. Moogk – <i>La Nouvelle France</i> | Week 02 |
| 02. White – <i>The Middle Ground</i> | Week 03 |
| 03. Greer, ed. – <i>Jesuit Relations</i> | Week 04 |
| 04. Boucher – <i>France and the American Tropics to 1700</i> | Week 05 |
| 05. Exquemelin – <i>Buccaneers of America</i> | Week 06 |
| 06. Pritchard – <i>In Search of Empire</i> | Week 08 |
| 07. Iberville – <i>Iberville’s Gulf Journals</i> | Week 10 |
| 08. Moore – <i>Louisbourg Portraits</i> | Week 13 |
| 09. Dawdy – <i>Building the Devil’s Empire</i> | Week 14 |
| 10. Clark, ed. – <i>Voices From an Early American Convent</i> | Week 15 |
| 11. Dubois – <i>Avengers of the New World</i> | Week 16 |
| 12. Dubois and Garrigus – <i>Slave Revolution in the Caribbean</i> | Week 17 |

Assignment Schedule:

First Paper	Friday, March 5 (by 5PM in my office)
Second Paper	Friday, May 7 (by 5 PM in my office)