

HISTORY OF GEORGIA
History 5474 Spring 2008

Dr. Keith S. Bohannon, Department of History

This course meets on Mondays, Wednesdays, and Fridays from 1-1:50 in Pafford, Room 204

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

Office: Technology Learning Center, Room 3247 678-839-6045

Email: Kbohanno@westga.edu

History 5474 will examine 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 will 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 will require 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.

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 will cover material from the lectures and assigned readings.

Response Papers- There will be papers written in class throughout the semester that respond to the weekly assigned readings. One of them will cover the book by Hunter-Gault. The others will not be announced beforehand.

Book Reviews- Students will be required to write typed, double-spaced, critical essays that are four to five pages in length on O'Donovan, Becoming Free in the Cotton South; Bartley, Creation of Modern Georgia; and Pratt, We Shall Not Be Moved. They will also be required to turn in a fourth review on a book of their choice.

Historiography Paper- This paper will analyze primary and secondary on a specific topic in Georgia history. A guide to Georgia history resources in the library and on the internet will be given out in class. This paper must be at least twenty, double-spaced, typed 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. At the end of the ninth week of class, students will turn in an annotated bibliography of sources they will use in the paper. Students will have the option of turning in early drafts of the research paper before the final due date.

Class discussion- Each graduate student must lead one discussion of weekly reading assignments during the semester. You will need to let me know by the end of the second week of class which week you want to lead discussion. You must compose a list of questions that you intend to ask the class and submit them to me at least three days prior to the discussion. (Failure to lead a discussion will result in ten points being taken off your course grade.)

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 for all assignments turned in late.

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. A copy of Coleman has been placed on reserve in the library.

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

Bartley, Numan V., Creation of Modern Georgia

Hunter-Gault, Charlayne, In My Place

Kennett, Lee, Marching Through Georgia

Schultz, Mark, The Rural Face of White Supremacy: Beyond Jim Crow

Scott, Thomas A., ed., Cornerstones of Georgia History

Schedule of Class meetings and assignments

Week One- January 7-11 Introduction; Precolonial Georgia; European explorations & settlement **Scott, Chapters 1-2**

Week Two- January 14-18 Georgia as a Royal Province **Scott, Chapters 3-4**

Week Three- January 21-25 No class on Monday, Jan. 21 Georgia in the Revolution and the Early Republic **Online reserve reading: Chapters 6 & 7 of Hall, Land and Allegiance in Revolutionary Georgia** **Deadline for deciding on research paper topic is January 25**

Week Four- January 28-February 1 The Expanding frontier and the removal of the Creeks and Cherokees **Online reserve reading: Longstreet, Georgia Scenes**

Week Five- February 4-8 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 11-15 Secession and the Civil War **Scott, Chapter 7**

Week Seven- February 18-22 The Civil War **Book review of O'Donovan, Becoming Free in the Cotton South, due on February 22**

Week Eight-February 25-29 Early Reconstruction **Scott, Chapter 9; Bartley, Chapter 3**

Week Nine- March 3-7 Redemption and Bourbonism **Bartley, Chapter 4** Midterm on Friday, March 7 **Annotated bibliography due March 7**

Week Ten- March 10-14 The New South and Populism **No class on Friday, March 14** **Scott, Chapters 10-11** **Book review due March 14**

March 17-21 Spring Break

Week Eleven- March 24-28 Progressivism **Scott, Chapters 12-13; Bartley, Chapter 7**

Week Twelve- March 31-April 4 The 1920s and the New Deal **Response Paper over Lumpkin, Making of a Southerner**

Week Thirteen- April 7-11 World War II and the 1950s **Scott, Chapters 14 & 15**

Week Fourteen- April 14-18 The Civil Rights Movement **Book Review of Pratt, We Shall Not Be Moved, due Friday, April 18**

Week Fifteen- April 21-25 Modern Georgia **Scott, Chapter 17** **Research Paper due Friday, April 25**

Week Sixteen- April 28-May 2 **Last day of class is Wednesday, April 30** **Book review of Bartley due Monday, April 28**

Final Exam is Friday, May 2 from 11-1