

HISTORY OF GEORGIA
(History 4474-01 for Undergraduate Students)

Instructor: Cita Cook

Fall Semester 2007

Office: 3210 TLC (678-839-6037)

email: ccook@westga.edu

Website: <http://www.westga.edu/~ccook>

Office Hours: Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday 2:00-5:00

Other times, by appointment

Class Meetings: Monday, 5:30-8:00, 204 Pafford

LEARNING OUTCOMES

Students will learn basic developments in the history of Georgia, from precolonial times to the late twentieth century. In their essays, exams, and other assignments, they will demonstrate the ability to identify the most significant developments in Georgia history and to analyze the impact of different environmental, economic, political, social, and cultural forces, as well as how different individuals and groups affected the history, what problems they faced, how they tried to overcome those problems, and how this varied for people in different circumstances.

TEXTBOOKS

Kenneth Coleman, ed., A History of Georgia, Second Edition, University of Georgia Press

Thomas A. Scott, ed., Cornerstones of Georgia History: Documents That Formed the State,
University of Georgia Press

Theda Perdue and Michael D. Green, The Cherokee Removal: A Brief History with Documents,
Bedford Books, Second Edition

Melissa Fay Greene, Praying for Sheetrock, any edition

There will also be occasional handouts of other readings, some for all students and some only for graduate students. It is highly recommended that you find any fairly recent U. S. History textbook as all students should be familiar with the most significant developments in the nation that set the context for what is covered in this class.

COURSE REQUIREMENTS

I. Class Attendance, Participation, and Short Assignments - 10% of the semester grade

A. Class Attendance: The typical class will involve a combination of lecture, discussion, and occasional videotapes. Some of the information and ideas of the course will be presented or explained only in class, so you should take some notes during the lectures. You are expected to arrive on time and to stay for the whole class. Inappropriate behavior, including any use of cell phones, ipods, etc. during class, can damage your participation grade. Regular attendance is required, but you may have one unexcused absence. If you have to miss a class, you are responsible for discussing with me whether it should be excused and for arranging to get any handouts, to find out what was covered in class, and to make up any missed assignments. In most cases, you can find new assignments on the class website, but the extra reading handouts will not be available on-line. You should average at least six hours of study a week for the class (two hours for every hour in class). If you are doing this and still feel confused or overwhelmed, it is a good idea to make an appointment to meet with me or to discuss your concerns by telephone. Too often instructors find out too late about problems that could have been solved fairly easily with earlier notification.

B. Weekly Reading and Comment Sheets: Each assignment will include a list of study questions and identifications to indicate what you should be learning from the reading and what you need to study for the tests. **YOU DO NOT HAVE TO ANSWER THE STUDY QUESTIONS IN WRITING** and I do not have time to correct attempts to do so. If you are not sure of the answer to any of the questions (after I have covered relevant aspects in lectures), please ask about them in class and/or in your weekly comments. The assignment sheets will include a list of the basic developments in American history that you need to know to understand the reading. If they are unfamiliar to you, refer to any basic text in American history and only then, if necessary, ask about them.

The class discussions will be conducted on the assumption that everyone has read all of the reading assigned for that day. Ask any questions or say what you had trouble understanding, but always be prepared to present some kind of reaction to the reading.

Everyone is required to hand in a Comment Sheet each week, indicating briefly in your own words any thoughts you have about the material covered in the reading and in class, and/or any questions you have about the reading or the class. Think of these as an informal journal you are sharing with me, not as a time to list specific information. I am more interested in your own reactions to the material, positive and/or negative. Teachers may add thoughts on how you might teach any of the material we have covered that week. Although the comment sheets will not be graded, **THE CREDIT YOU RECEIVE FOR PARTICIPATION WILL DEPEND ON WHETHER OR NOT YOUR COMMENTS SHEETS SHOW THAT YOU HAVE DONE THE READING**. They will be handed back so you can receive feedback from me and use them for review.

C. Short Assignments: There may be a few graded homework assignments of 1-2 pages.

II. Open Book In Class Essay - 10% of the semester grade

On September 17, you will answer in the last hour of class an essay question using any books or notes that you wish. This is to give you a chance to gain feedback on the kinds of essay questions that will be asked on the (closed book) exams.

III. Essays - 30% of the semester grade

Two 4-7 page essays (typed or printed, unless you have special permission to handwrite it) will be assigned on the books by Perdue and Green (due October 8) and Greene (due December 3). You will receive a handout with specific directions at least two weeks before each essay is due.

Every spring the History Department awards the Elizabeth L. Parker Prize for the best paper on the history of Georgia, with an award of \$100. Students who wish to submit a paper for this award may choose to substitute for the essay on Greene's book a research paper of 10-30 pages based on an approved list of at least four primary and four secondary sources, one of which must be a journal article. Students earning an A or B on this paper will also receive some extra credit toward the semester grade. Anyone wishing to do such a paper should make an appointment within the first two weeks of the semester to discuss a possible topic and to be given more specifics of the requirements set by the contest.

IV. Exams - 50% of the semester grade

There will be a midterm (on October 15) and a final examination (on December 10)

based on both the reading and the class lectures. Each test will require you to answer six out of ten identifications (for a total of forty points) and one out of two essay questions (for sixty points). The essay on the final exam will include some choice between covering information from the whole semester or just the second half of the semester. The exams will not require any specific information that was not covered in the study questions, but you may have to think about the information in a new way. If I give you permission to miss a test because of a validated excuse, you are responsible for arranging a time to make it up.

V. Extra Credit Points

You can receive up to three extra credit points for your final semester grade by writing reports on activities that teach you more about the history of Georgia, such as movies, lectures, or museum exhibits I have approved, but only if you have observed them this semester. Each report will usually earn one point for your semester grade. There will be a special sheet listing some recommended extra credit activities and explaining what needs to be done to gain the credit. I reserve the right to determine if any report is or is not worthy of extra credit.

VI. Academic Honesty

All work handed in at the State University of West Georgia should reflect only the work of an individual student. This does not mean that students should not study together, only that they need to work alone when doing the final version of an assignment. Any use of the ideas, information, or words of anyone else, including paraphrasing of the words and ideas, without crediting them is plagiarism and is a crime. A direct quote of the words (even only a few words) of someone else must be in quotation marks as well as have a note of its source. Any clear evidence of plagiarism or any other kind of cheating on a test or any other graded assignment will result in a permanent zero for that assignment (after consultation with the student). See the section on the Honor Code in the Catalog or Uncatalog.

SCHEDULE FOR GEORGIA HISTORY

This schedule is tentative, but no due date will be earlier than the ones included here. Pay attention to the weekly assignment sheets and class announcements for any changes, as well as for the details of what you are expected to read.

August 20 - Introduction

1. August 27 - Precolonial Georgia; European Explorations and Early Settlements

NO SCHOOL ON LABOR DAY HOLIDAY, MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 3

2. September 10 - Colony of Georgia (1733-1750)

3. September 17 - Georgia in the American Revolution and the Early Republic (1750-1800)

IN CLASS OPEN BOOK ESSAY

4. September 24 - Removal of Creeks and Cherokees (1800-1840)

5. October 1 - Antebellum Georgia and Secession (1820-1861)

6. October 8 - Civil War (1861-1865)

ESSAY DUE ON PERDUE AND GREEN'S BOOK

October 15 - MIDTERM EXAM

7. October 22 - Reconstruction and Redemption (1865-1879)

8. October 29 - The New South (1880-1900)

9. November 5 - Populism

10. November 12- Progressivism

11. November 19 - The Twenties, Thirties, and World War II

12. November 26 - Post-World War II and the Civil Rights Movement

13. December 3 - Modern Georgia

ESSAY DUE ON GREENE'S BOOK

December 10 - FINAL EXAM