Instructor: Keri (Margaret) Adams, M.A.
Office Location: Office 012B, Center for Public History, Ingram Library (ground floor)
Office Hours: M 9:00-12:00 & 1:30-4:00, W 9:00-10:00, TR 2:00-3:00, and by appointment
Office Phone: (678) 839-5275
Email: madams@westga.edu (preferred)

Course Objectives
This class will explore the major themes and issues in American history from early settlement through the end of the American Civil War. Class discussions and assignments will emphasize the political, social, economic, and cultural dimensions of United States history; causal relationships and patterns of change and continuity over time; and the significance of ethnicity, gender, race, and class in historical events.

Learning Outcomes
To identify and evaluate the political, social, economic, and cultural developments in U.S. history up to 1865; discuss the experiences of diverse groups and cultures that compose American society; analyze, synthesize, and interpret primary and secondary sources both orally and in writing; and develop skills in critical thinking, writing, and organization.

Required Text


The UWG Campus Bookstore will carry a limited number of the required texts. Please explore purchasing the books online or renting an online version.

* I will teach this course from the 8th edition of the required text. You may choose to purchase an earlier edition (published before 2014). If a student chooses to use a previous edition of the required text for this course -- it is that student’s responsibility to discover and read “missing” resources and materials not found in earlier editions on their own. Purchasing an earlier edition of the required text is not an acceptable, or tolerable, excuse for missing any assignments or preparing for class.

† Douglass’ narrative is easily found online or purchased inexpensively online. Purchasing an earlier or different edition of the required text is not an acceptable, or tolerable, excuse for missing any assignments or preparing for class.
Assignments & Grading
Grades may only be discussed in-person and not electronically (as in email or CourseDen) per University of West Georgia policy.

Attendance is worth 10% of the final grade.
Attendance is taken at the beginning of each class every Tuesday and every Thursday; however, I will only count a total of 10 randomly selected dates towards the attendance grade.

- Students not present at the time of roll call will be counted absent; and
- No excuses will be accepted for any absences accept in extreme circumstances that will be assessed individually at the discretion of the instructor.

In-class participation and discussion is worth a total of 10% of the final grade.
Daily participation is required in this course. I will not record a daily grade for class participation, but rather update this grade periodically throughout the semester.

- Attending class is not the same as participating in class discussions and activities;
- Students are expected to speak in class and participate in open discussion;
- Students that attend every class, but do not participate during class discussions, disrupt class or lecture, sleep, and/or actively use their cell phones, etc. should not expect to receive the full 10% towards their final grade;
- If a student is not present when a graded in-class assignment is given, then that student will not be able to make-up that assignment or quiz. No excuses accepted; and
- Please review the “Class Conduct” section (below).

CourseDen homework is worth a total of 10% of the final grade.
There will be 5 to 10 homework assignments posted in the “Discussions” section of the CourseDen page. Due dates will be posted in your CourseDen calendar – it is the student’s responsibility to check CourseDen for due dates.

- Topics are open, or unlocked, for a total of 10 days;
- At minimum, each student will post their answer(s) in a separate thread and respond/comment to another student’s original thread for a total of 100 points per week;
- There will not be any opportunities to make-up missed homework assignments; and
- If a student does not have access to CourseDen or cannot access portions of this class’s CourseDen page, please email online@westga.edu.

“Exhibit” assignment is worth a total of 15% of the final grade.
Students will sign up for presentation topics that are divided by America’s History chapters and submit a detailed topic proposal that is due on Thursday, September 8th. A detailed description of the assignment will be provided separately.

- Students will submit a clear and detailed proposal of their exhibit project, which includes both a PowerPoint presentation and accompanying essay;
- Students will research an approved topic or subject and curate a mini “exhibit;”
- Please review the “Honor Expectations & Academic Honesty” section (below) for details; and
- Detailed instructions will be posted on CourseDen and discussed in class.
**Historical Analysis assignment is worth 10% of the final grade.**
Students will read the assigned text *Narrative of the Life of Frederick Douglass*, and submit a reflective and analytical (historical) paper about the narrative. Details will be provided in class and posted on CourseDen. This assignment is due on October 29th.

**In-class assignments and pop-quizzes are worth a total of 10% of the final grade.**
There will be up to five (5) in-class writing assignments and/or pop quizzes over the course of the semester. This total includes the Syllabus Quiz, which is due on September 3rd.

- If a student is absent, or leaves class early, that student will miss the opportunity to earn credit for any in-class assignment or pop-quiz and will receive an automatic zero for the missed assignment or quiz;
- Assignments may include, but are not limited to, reading quiz, content quiz, combination reading and content quiz, primary source interpretation, reflection paper, creating study guides, and answering questions from the book; and
- There will be opportunities for a single grade replacement (not extra credit) via extracurricular activities, details to come.

**Tests are worth a total of 35% of the final grade.**
There will be three (3) scheduled exams. First exam is 8%; the second (midterm) exam is 12%; and the third (final) exam is worth 15% of the final grade.

- There will be no make-up exams given except under extreme circumstances, which will be assessed individually at the discretion of the instructor;
- Students who leave class early forfeit the completion of any exam and may not return to class. This includes going to the water fountain, using the restroom, etc.;
- The instructor will not provide the students with study guides for any tests; and
- **Students will need one large blue book for each exam – three (3) total.**

**NOTE:** NO CELL PHONES, BLUETOOTH WATCHES OR EARPHONES, TABLETS, HEADPHONES, NOTES, BOOKS, ETC. MAY BE USED DURING EXAMS OR ANY IN-CLASS ASSIGNMENTS. If the instructor suspects that a students is cheating – *in any way* – that student’s exam or assignment will be taken up on the spot and that student will need to leave class immediately. *Students who use any unapproved items or materials during test time will receive an automatic zero on that assignment or test.* Additionally, further action may be taken with the Department of History and other departments on campus. Please review the “Honor Expectations & Academic Honesty” section (below) and the UWG’s *Student Handbook* for more details.

**Honor Expectations & Academic Honesty**
Plagiarism means using the ideas or writings of another as one’s own. Students are expected to submit written work that is their *original work* – both in class and online. Plagiarism is an ethical violation, as well as a violation of trust between faculty and student. *If it has been determined that a student has plagiarized or cheated, that work will not be graded and the student will receive an automatic failing grade for the course, be reported to the proper university authorities, and face possible ejection from the course and/or the university.* For more information about the academic honesty, please refer to the “Honor Code” in the UWG *Connection and Student Handbook* at this website [http://www.westga.edu/handbook/](http://www.westga.edu/handbook/).
Please reference the Chicago Manual of Style (online or book) and the most recent edition of Kate Turabian’s A Manual for Writers to learn how to properly cite any source and format any paper for this course.

- Chicago Manual of Style Quick Guide
- Purdue University’s Chicago Style Resource Guide
- Turabian Quick Guide

Accessibility Services
Students with a documented disability may work with UWG Accessibility Services to receive essential services specific to their disability. All entitlements to accommodations are based on documentation and USG Board of Regents standards. If a student needs course adaptations or accommodations because of a disability or chronic illness, or if he/she needs to make special arrangements in case the building must be evacuated, the student should notify his/her instructor in writing and provide a copy of his/her Student Accommodations Report (SAR), which is available only from Accessibility Services. Faculty cannot offer accommodations without timely receipt of the SAR; further, no retroactive accommodations will be given. For more information, please contact Accessibility Services at counseling@westga.edu or (678) 839-6428. Please visit their website for more information: www.westga.edu/counseling/4486.php.

***Please refer to the following link for more information about student resources, accountability, and expectations: Common Language for Course Syllabi.***

Class Conduct, Rules, & Expectations

- Turn off your cell phone’s ringer and do not use your cell during class time;
- Laptops are not permitted once class begins;
- Headphones, earbuds, etc. are not permitted during class;
- Arrive to class on time and do not leave early;
- Please respect everyone’s time (and tuition) by refraining from disruptive and disrespectful behavior(s);
- Do not wait until the end of the semester to inquire about your overall grade;
- Never be afraid or embarrassed to ask any question or ask for clarification; and
- Check you UWG email and CourseDen on regularly for updates.

[See Tentative Class Schedule on page 5]

Due Dates
September 3rd – Syllabus Quiz (online submission)
September 8th – Research Topic Proposal (in-class submission)
September 15th – Test No.1, Chapters 1-4 (multiple choice, fill-in, short answer prompts; in-class)
October 8th – Midterm (Test No.2), Chapter 5-8 (multiple choice, fill-in, short answer prompts; in-class)
October 29th – Historical Analysis & Reflection of Douglass’ Narrative (online submission)
November 17th – Final Exam (Test No.3), Chapters 9-14 (multiple choice, fill-in, short answer; in-class)
November 19th – Final Exam (Test No.3), Chapters 9-14 (short answer and long essay; in-class)
December 10th – Exhibit Presentation & Methodology Paper (online submission, PP in-class)

Note, the list above does not include upcoming homework due dates or any unscheduled in-class assignments.
Tentative Class Schedule
The instructor reserves the right to modify the course syllabus during the semester, including, but not limited to, assignment due dates, quiz and test dates, and any assigned readings.

August 25 – Class introduction; review of syllabus; & take-home syllabus quiz
August 27 – Interpreting the Past: Being a Historian

September 1 – America’s History, Part I Introduction-Chapter 1, pg. 2-39
September 3 – America’s History, Chapter 2, pg. 40-75

September 8 – America’s History, Part 2 Introduction and Chapter 3, pg. 76-113
September 10 – America’s History, Chapter 4, pg. 114-149

September 15 – Test No.1, Chapters 1-4
September 17 – America’s History, Chapter 5, pg. 150-181

September 22 & 24 – America's History, Chapter 6, pg. 186-213
September 29 & October 1 – America’s History, Chapter 7, pg. 214-247

October 6 – America’s History, Chapter 8, pg. 249-279
October 8 – Midterm (Test No.2), Chapters 5-8

October 13 – America’s History, Part 4 Introduction and Chapter 9, pg. 280-313
October 15 – America’s History, Chapter 10, pg. 314-343

October 20 & 22 – America’s History, Chapter 11, pg. 344-375

October 27 & 29 – America’s History, Chapter 12, pg. 376-405

November 3 & 5 – America’s History, Part 5 Introduction and Chapter 13, pg. 406-443

November 10 & 12 – America’s History, Chapter 14, pg. 444-477

November 17 – Final Exam (Test No.3), Chapters 9-14 – multiple choice, fill-in, short answer only
November 19 – Final Exam (Test No.3), Chapters 9-14 – short answer, long essay only

November 24 & 26 – Thanksgiving Break, no class

December 1 – Student Presentations, Chapters 9-14
December 3 – Student Presentations, Chapters 9-14

December 8 – Reading Day, no class
December 10 – Student Presentations (DO NOT ARRIVE LATE)
8:00-10:30am for Section 04 class
11:00am-1:30pm for Section 05 class