

**US HISTORY II (Since 1865)**  
**HIST 2112 Fall 2016**  
**MW 11-12:15 TLC 1303**  
**DR. STEPHANIE M. CHALIFOUX**

Office: TLC 3202

Office Hours: Mon: 1:30-5pm

Tues: 1-4pm

Wed: 1:30-4pm

Phone: 678-839-6043

Email: [schalifo@westga.edu](mailto:schalifo@westga.edu)

**COURSE DESCRIPTION:**

This course surveys the history of the United States from the end of the Civil War to the present. We will explore economic, political, social, and cultural developments in America. The content reflects the instructor's interests and perceptions of the most important issues and forces that have shaped American society. This course will consist of lectures, readings, and in-class discussions, assignments, or activities.

**COURSE LEARNING OUTCOMES:**

1. Demonstrate content knowledge of history.
2. Analyze primary and secondary sources for their historical content and interpretations.
3. Demonstrate writing skills that reflect persuasive historical arguments based on evidence and proper citation.

**COURSE REQUIREMENTS:**

**Lectures:** The lectures will provide an overarching framework of US History since 1865 in order to understand events, ideas, and course themes. However, this course is not just about lecture. You will need to be a participant in your education, which will include reading, discussing, taking assessments, and attending class. The grade you earn in this course depends on the time and effort you make to facilitate your learning.

**Readings:** To make the most of this class, students must read the assigned materials and be prepared to engage in dialogue based on what they have read and demonstrate they have read the material through various assessments. These assessments may be a brief quiz, a short writing assignment, a discussion, a homework assignment, or in class-group work. The readings are not busy work, rather they are designed to enhance your knowledge by pushing you to look a bit deeper into the events and issues we will cover in class. Each week's assigned readings appear in the **Schedule of Lectures and Assignments** and must be completed by the beginning of class.

**Daily/weekly reading assignments:** Uploaded to CourseDen under the folder "Course Readings" and listed by due date.

**Books: There are 2 required books for this course**

1. Erik Larson, *The Devil in the White City: Murder, Magic, and Madness at the Fair That Changed America*
2. Melton McLaurin, *Separate Pasts: Growing Up White in the Segregated South*

**ATTENDANCE:** There is no attendance policy for this course. However, student attendance strongly correlates with your final grade. Students who attend class tend to pass the class. Students who do not attend class, typically earn a poor grade. Your midterm and your final exam are based on the content delivered in lecture and on the powerpoints, neither of which are posted on CourseDen.

**ASSIGNMENTS:** There will be readings, quizzes, two papers, one in-class essay, a midterm exam, and a final exam in this course.

**Quizzes and Various Assessments:** I will assess your understanding and completion of each required reading. These assessments will take various forms.

**Plagiarism Quiz:** You are required to take and pass a plagiarism quiz. Your papers will not be graded unless you pass this quiz in advance. **NO EXCEPTIONS.**

**Paper One:** You are required to submit a 750-word paper (typed, double-spaced, and in 12-point font with standard margins) on Erik Larson's *The Devil in the White City*. The paper instructions will be posted on CourseDen. Your paper must be submitted on CourseDen through the dropbox tab marked "Paper One" before class begins on **September 7<sup>th</sup>**. The prompt and instructions for your paper will be posted on CourseDen. **Your paper will not be graded unless you pass the Plagiarism quiz.**

**Paper Two:** You are required to submit a 750-word paper (typed, double-spaced, and in 12-point font with standard margins) on Melton McLaurin's, *Separate Pasts*. The paper instructions will be posted on CourseDen. Your paper must be submitted on CourseDen through the dropbox tab marked "Paper Two" before class begins on **October 26<sup>th</sup>**. The prompt for your paper will be posted on CourseDen. **Your paper will not be graded unless you pass the Plagiarism quiz.**

**EXAMS:** You must submit **3 exam booklets** (available at the bookstore) by **September 12<sup>th</sup>**.

**Midterm Exam:** The midterm exam will consist of multiple-choice questions and triads. Exam books will not be accepted the day of the exam. The midterm exam will be on **October 3<sup>rd</sup>**.

**Final Exam:** The exam will consist of multiple-choice questions, triads, and one essay question requiring students to draw conclusions from the material in both the readings and the lectures. The final exam will be on **Monday December 5th, 11am-1pm.**

#### **MAKE-UP POLICY:**

Make-ups are given only with the permission of the instructor and only in the face of extreme, extenuating circumstances (death in the family, serious illness, car accident, injury).

**Documentation is required.** Feeling under the weather, roommate issues, traffic congestion, or breakups with your partner are not valid excuses for missing an assignment, an exam, or a paper. In the case of an emergency on exam day, you must contact the instructor at the soonest possible time. Students who are involved in extracurricular activities that will occasionally require them to miss class *must provide their travel schedule well in advance of the expected absence. They must also arrange to make up any missed assignments before they leave.*

**Make-up reading quizzes/assessments:** If approved, I will assign you an alternate assessment due within 48 hours of the original due date.

**Late papers:** If approved, it must be submitted within 48 hours of the original due date.

**Make-up midterm exam:** If approved, it must be taken within 48 hours of the original exam date.

**Make-up final exam:** If approved, you will receive an incomplete until the following semester when you will take the exam at my convenience.

**The assignments are weighted as follows:**

Quizzes and Various Assessments	20%
In-Class Essay	5%
Paper One	15%
Paper Two	15%
Midterm Exam	20%
Final Exam	25%

**COURSE POLICIES:**

**ACADEMIC MISCONDUCT POLICY:** Any acts of dishonesty in your work constitute acts of academic misconduct. This includes first and foremost cheating and plagiarism. In cases of student academic misconduct, the instructor will determine the appropriate penalty which will range from a “0” on the assignment to a failing grade for the class. In addition, I will submit students who cheat or plagiarize to the University of West Georgia’s Academic Dishonesty Tracking System. I take these issues seriously and I do not overlook, ignore, or give second chances.

**CLASSROOM CONDUCT:** A good learning environment requires that we treat each other with respect and consideration. We must all behave in a manner that is conducive to an effective and positive learning environment. Distracting behavior including, but not limited to, talking, eating, working on assignments for another class, using earbuds or headphones, texting is not acceptable. **Studies show that students who check their phones during class receive an average of half a grade lower than their peers who do not check their phones. Turn your phone off.** You will be asked to leave class if you violate the classroom conduct rules. Continued violations will be reported to the student conduct board. Penalties range from community service, withdrawal from the course, and suspension from the university.

**LAPTOPS: YOU ARE NOT ALLOWED TO USE LAPTOPS IN THIS CLASS. No exceptions without documentation from Accessibility Services.** Multiple studies have demonstrated that students who take notes by hand are more engaged and perform better on class assessments Read the most recent study: <http://www.npr.org/2016/04/17/474525392/attention-students-put-your-laptops-away>  
If I find you are using a laptop (or cellphone or other technology) I will ask you to stop. If you disregard my request, I will ask you to leave class.

**YOU MAY NOT RECORD MY LECTURES.**

**Please review the Common Language for university syllabi at the link below for further information about course policies as well as information about academic and disability services:**

[http://www.westga.edu/assetsDept/vpaa/Common\\_Language\\_for\\_Course\\_Syllabi.pdf](http://www.westga.edu/assetsDept/vpaa/Common_Language_for_Course_Syllabi.pdf)

**Special Note:** I reserve the right to modify the syllabus over the course of the semester as circumstances dictate. Revisions will be announced in class and on CourseDen. Students are responsible for checking CourseDen regularly for any changes to the syllabus and assignments.

## **SCHEDULE OF LECTURES AND ASSIGNMENTS**

Assigned readings are located on CourseDen unless noted otherwise.

8/10: Course Introduction and the Aftermath of the Civil War

8/15: Reconstruction

8/17: New South

8/22: The West

**Required Reading:**

Mrs. Green Gives an Account of Frontier Life in Colorado (1887)

8/24: Country and City

8/29: Immigration

**Required Readings:**

UWG Plagiarism Policy

8/31: Labor and Protest

9/5: No Class – Labor Day

9/7: **PAPER ONE DUE**

**Required Readings:**

Erik Larson, *Devil in the White City* book discussion  
Progressive Reform

9/12: Triangle Shirtwaist Factory

**Exam Books Due (3)**

9/14: American Empire

**Required Readings:**

Editorial Cartoons

9/19: WWI

**Required Readings:**

World War I Diaries

9/21: War at Home

9/26: Modern America:

**Required Reading**

Bruce Bliven, Flapper Jane (1925)

Hiram Evans, The Klan's Fight for Americanism (1926)

Robert Clancy, The Immigration Act of 1924

9/28: Great Depression and Exam Discussion

**10/3: MIDTERM**

10/5: New Deal

10/10: World War II

**Required Reading:**

Harry Truman, The Atomic Bombing of Hiroshima

Karl Compton, If the Atomic Bomb Had Not Been Used

10/12: World War II Home Front

10/17: The Cold War

**Required Reading:**

George F. Kennan's "Long Telegram" (1946)

Nikolai Novikov Identifies a US Drive for World Supremacy (1946)

10/19: 1950s Culture

10/24: Civil Rights Movement

10/26: **PAPER TWO DUE**

**Required Readings:**

Melton McLaurin: *Separate Pasts* Book Discussion

Civil Rights continued

10/31: The Policies of JFK and LBJ

**Required Readings:**

President Lyndon B. Johnson Announces His Program for a "Great Society" (1964)

Landmark Legislation Targets Poverty (1964)

Governor Ronald Reagan Warns of the Danger of the Welfare State (1964)

11/2: Vietnam to Watergate

**11/7: In-Class Essay on Vietnam**

11/9: Political and Social Movements of the 1960s and 1970s

11/14: Carter and Crises

**11/16:** Rise of the New Right, Reagan, and the End of the Cold War

**Required Readings:**

Man and Woman of the Year: Middle America (1970)

Jerry Falwell, Listen America (1980)

Phyllis Schlafly, "Explains What's Wrong With Equal Rights" (1972)

11/21: No Class – Thanksgiving Break

11/23: No Class – Thanksgiving Break

11/28: 1980s Culture

**11/30:** September 11

**Required Readings:**

Political Scientist Samuel Huntington Predicts Turmoil and War (1993)

Osama bin Laden Declares Jihad (1998)

President George W. Bush Examines Sources of Anti-Americanism (2001)

Exam Discussion

**Final Exam: Wednesday December 7, 11am-1pm in TLC 1303**