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 and examine what it means to be a U.S. citizen. The lectures reflect the instructor's interests and perceptions of the most important issues and forces that have shaped American society.

COURSE TECHNOLOGY REQUIREMENTS:

Computer Access

It is highly recommended that you have regular (daily) computer access, preferably a home computer with broadband Internet access. This course can be completed using public computers at UWG or other public access areas. However, be aware that using public computers may create a hardship. All course requirements remain the same whether your computer access is public or private (home).

Technical Skill Requirements

You should be comfortable with the following:

• using a word processor (changing font, spell check)
• using email for communication and sending an email attachment if necessary
• navigating the Internet

Online Help

• Have questions about our classroom navigation? Email me
• Have questions about getting into CourseDen? Contact the helpdesk:

UWG|Online HelpDesk (M-F 8-5pm) Phone: 678-839-6248
Their Email: online@westga.edu

24/7 HelpDesk https://D2LHelp.view.usg.edu

Word Processor:

• The one paper for the course requires you upload the paper as MS word document.
COURSE LEARNING OUTCOMES:

1. **Students will illustrate their knowledge of the political, social, economic, and cultural dimensions of American History** on exams and quizzes.
2. **Students will develop their analytical skills** by reading and interpreting primary and secondary sources. They will be assessed on their development through discussion assessments.
3. **Students will strengthen academic writing skills** by writing a paper that incorporates Learning Outcomes 1 and 2 to demonstrate their command of the material and their ability to present it in a coherent and sophisticated manner.

COURSE STRUCTURE:

Students will need to follow the syllabus and meet the deadlines for the online assignments in order to keep up with this fast paced (but completely doable!!) course. **This course is divided into 4 units (spanning 5 days each).** Each unit will consist of textbook readings from an online textbook (free!!), a quiz on the textbook readings, a set of primary source readings, and an online discussion. Some materials will be due on weekends..

ASSIGNMENTS: There will be readings, quizzes, discussions, a paper, a midterm exam, and a final exam in this course.

**Readings:** Without a lecture to guide you through material, it is vitally important that you read the textbook (available here: [https://openstax.org/details/books/us-history](https://openstax.org/details/books/us-history)). You will also have assigned readings consisting of primary sources. Primary sources are unique and different than a textbook reading (explained on CourseDen in more detail). You will have only one book to purchase for this course, *Separate Pasts: Growing Up White in the Segregated South* by Melton McLaurin. It is also a primary source. Each week’s assigned readings appear in the Schedule of Readings and Assignments and must be completed by the due date at 11:59pm (EST).

**Quizzes:** I will assess your understanding and completion of each required textbook reading. These quizzes will be multiple choice and true or false. **Quizzes will close after the due date.**

**Discussion Posts:** You are required to participate in weekly discussions on CourseDen. Each discussion will be based on the Primary Source readings. These 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 covered in the textbook. **No late posts will be graded.**

**Papers:** You are required to submit a 750 word paper this semester based on *Separate Pasts: Growing Up White in the Segregated South*, Melton McLaurin. The paper guideline is on CourseDen. You will submit your paper to Dropbox where it will be run through turnitin, a plagiarism detection software. Your paper is due on June 17th at 11:59pm. **No late papers will be graded.**

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

**Midterm Exam:** The midterm exam will consist of one essay based on the textbook and primary source readings. Your midterm is due June 12th at 11:59pm.

**Final Exam:** The final exam will consist of one essay question based on the textbook and primary sources readings. The final exam is June 26th at 5pm.
Make-ups quizzes, discussion, exams, and papers are given only with the permission of the instructor and only in the face of extreme, extenuating circumstances such as a prolonged illness or death in the family. If there is an emergency in which you have documentation you will be allowed to make up the missed paper or discussion post. You will only be allowed to make it up with my permission and it must be submitted within 48 hours of the due date or it will not be accepted. Documentation is subject to the instructor’s discretion.

The assignments are weighted as follows:
- Quizzes: 20%
- Discussion posts: 20%
- Paper: 20%
- Midterm Exam: 20%
- Final Exam: 20%

COURSE POLICIES:

ACADEMIC MISCONDUCT POLICY: All acts of dishonesty in any 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 Academic Dishonesty Tracking System. I take these issues seriously and I do not overlook, ignore, or give second chances.

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 READINGS AND ASSIGNMENTS

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UNIT ONE: 1865-1914 Reconstruction, Race, and Reform
START 5/31/2017
DUE 6/5/17 11:59pm (EST)

1. **Course Introduction:** Read the syllabus and other materials. Introduce yourself in the discussion section marked “Introductions.”

2. **Purchase and start reading** Separate Pasts: Growing Up White in the Segregated South by Melton McLaurin. Read the paper guideline.

3. **Textbook Reading:**
   - Chapter 16: Introduction, 455-456, section 16.2, 16.3 (only through 463), and 16.4
   - Chapter 17: Introduction, section 17.1 and 17.2
   - Chapter 21: Introduction, section 21.1 and 21.2
   - Chapter 22: Introduction, section 22.1

4. **Textbook Quiz**
5. **Read Primary Sources** (folder titled “PS Unit 1”)

6. **Discussion Post and Response**

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**UNIT TWO: A Modern US**

START 6/6/2017

DUE 6/10/17 11:59pm (EST)

1. **Textbook Reading:**
   - Chapter 23: Introduction, section 23.1 (664-667), 23.3 (675-678), 23.4 (684-686) and 23.5 (687-690)
   - Chapter 24: Introduction, section 24.2 and 24.3
   - Chapter 25: Introduction, section 25.1 and 25.2 (737-739)

2. **Textbook Quiz**

3. **Plagiarism Quiz**

4. **Read Primary Sources** (folder titled “PS Unit 2”)

5. **Discussion Post and Response**

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**MIDTERM**

6/11/2017-6/12/2017

(DUE 6/12/17 BY 11:59PM EST)

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**UNIT THREE: WWII AND THE POST WAR ERA**

START: 6/13/2017

DUE: 6/17/2017

1. **Textbook Reading:**
   - Chapter 27: Introduction, section 27.1, 27.2, 27.3 (810-812), 27.4
   - Chapter 28: Introduction, section 28.2, 28.3 (839-841), 28.4, 28.5
   - Chapter 29: Introduction, section 29.1 (858-861, 863-866), 29.2, 29.3

2. **Textbook Quiz**

3. **Read Primary Sources** (folder titled “PS Unit 3”)

4. **Discussion Post and Response**

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**PAPER DUE**

6/17/2017 by 11:59pm

*A Separate Past* by Melton McLaurin
UNIT FOUR: CHANGE AT HOME AND ABROAD
START: 6/18/2017
DUE: 6/22/2017

1. Textbook Reading:
   Chapter 29: Section 29.4
   Chapter 30: All
   Chapter 31: Introduction, section 31.1 (928-931), 31.3 (939-940), 31.4 (943-945 and 951-953)

2. Textbook Quiz

3. Read Primary Sources (folder titled “PS Unit 4”)

4. Discussion Post and Response

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FINAL EXAM
6/23/2017-6/26/2017
(DUE 6/26/17 BY 5PM EST)

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YOU MADE IT !!!!!!