

Fall 2005 | University of North Carolina, Greensboro
Prof. Watson Jennison | Email: wwjennis@uncg.edu | Office: McIver 208 | Phone: 336-334-5488

Office Hours: Mondays, 11 a.m. to 12 p.m. and Wednesdays, 2 p.m. to 3 p.m.

HIS 302: Race and Segregation States to 1865

Course Syllabus

Go To: [August](#) | [September](#) | [October](#) | [November](#) | [December](#)

In this course, we will examine the changing ways in which violence and discrimination toward blacks have structured American society in the one hundred and forty years since the end of slavery. At the same time, we will move beyond the stereotype of blacks simply as victims and we will explore the ways in which black women and men took control of their lives. Throughout the course, we will examine why certain black voices have been excluded from the story of American history and why others have been included. We will attempt to integrate diverse black experiences and perspectives into the main narrative of American history, destroying the segregated history that is itself a product of a history of oppression.

Attendance in class is mandatory. You should be prepared to discuss the readings on the day that they are assigned. Assignments will periodically be given in class. If you are absent, you will be given a zero for that assignment. The door will close ten minutes after class starts. Once the door closes, students will no longer be admitted to the class and will be considered absent. Each student is allowed three excused absences. I will deduct points from your participation grade for each class missed beyond that number. In addition, you will be dropped from the class for excessive absences.

Course requirements include three five- to seven-page papers and a final exam. In addition, you will be responsible for three movie reviews.

Final Grade Composition:

- | | |
|-----------------|-----|
| ▪ Participation | 10% |
| ▪ Movies | 10% |
| ▪ Papers | 60% |
| ▪ Final Exam | 20% |

Books are available in the university bookstore. Articles and other short reading assignments are available on E-Reserve and under “Course Documents” on Blackboard. Consult the official syllabus under “Course Information” on Blackboard for possible changes in reading assignments.

Assigned Books:

- Steven Hahn, *A Nation Under Our Feet: Black Political Struggle in the Rural South from Slavery to the Great Migration* (2003)
- Glenda Elizabeth Gilmore, *Gender and Jim Crow: Women and the politics of White Supremacy in North Carolina, 1896-1920* (1996)
- Eric Arnesen, ed., *Black Protest and the Great Migration: A Brief History with Documents* (2003)
- Timothy B. Tyson, *Radio Free Dixie: Robert F. Williams and the Roots of Black Power* (1999)

Week 1 (August 15, 17, 19): Experiments in Freedom

Readings:

M Introduction

W Hahn, *A Nation Under Our Feet*, chapter 2; Spotswood Rice to "My Children," September 3, 1864, and Spotswood Rice to Kittey Diggs, September 3, 1864, on [blackboard](#)

F Hahn, *A Nation Under Our Feet*, chapter 3

Week 2 (August 22, 24, 26): Contested Power

Readings:

M W. E. B. Du Bois, "Propaganda of History," in *Black Reconstruction in America, 1860-1880*, pp.711-29 on [blackboard](#)

W Hahn, *A Nation Under Our Feet*, chapter 4

F Hahn, *A Nation Under Our Feet*, chapter 5; Stephen Middleton, ed., *Black Congressmen During Reconstruction*, pp. 41-58, 141-44, 297-308 on blackboard

Week 3 (August 29, 31, September 2): Black Reconstruction

Readings:

M Hahn, *A Nation Under Our Feet*, chapter 6; "Hamburg Riot of 1876" in *African American Mosaic: A Documentary History from the Slave Trade to the Twenty-first Century*, pp. 50-58 on blackboard

W Hahn, *A Nation Under Our Feet*, chapter 7

F Hahn, *A Nation Under Our Feet*, chapter 8

Week 4 (September 5, 7, 9): Opportunities: Lost and Found

Readings:

M Labor Day Holiday – No class

W Hahn, *A Nation Under Our Feet*, chapter 9

F Booker T. Washington, "Speech at the Atlanta Exposition" on blackboard; W. E. B. Du Bois, "Of the Black Belt," in *The Souls of Black Folk*, pp. 110-34 (electronic edition) on internet

Week 5 (September 12, 14, 15): Solving the “Negro Question”

First paper due in class on Monday, September 12th.

Readings:

M Gilmore, *Gender and Jim Crow*, pp. xi-60

W Gilmore, *Gender and Jim Crow*, pp. 61-90

F Gilmore, *Gender and Jim Crow*, pp. 91-118

Week 6 (September 19, 21, 23): On their Own

Readings:

M Gilmore, *Gender and Jim Crow*, pp. 119-176

W Gilmore, *Gender and Jim Crow*, pp. 177-202

F Gilmore, *Gender and Jim Crow*, pp. 203-228

Week 7 (September 26, 28, 29): World War I, The Great Migration, and Urbanization

Readings:

M Arnesen, *Black Protest and the Great Migration*, pages TBA

W Arnesen, *Black Protest and the Great Migration*, pages TBA

F Arnesen, *Black Protest and the Great Migration*, pages TBA

Movie: “Rosewood” (1997)

Week 8 (October 3, 5, 7): The Rise of the New Negro

Readings:

M Arnesen, *Black Protest and the Great Migration*, pages TBA

W Arnesen, *Black Protest and the Great Migration*, pages TBA

F Arnesen, *Black Protest and the Great Migration*, pages TBA

Week 9 (October 10, 12, 14): Harlem Renaissance and the Jazz Age

Readings:

M Fall Break – No class

W Cary D. Wintz, *Black Culture and the Harlem Renaissance*, pp. 64-86

F Literary selections will be made available on-line.

Week 10 (October 17, 19, 21): The Politics of Dissent

Second paper due in class Monday, October 17th.

Readings:

M Manning Marable, ed., *Let Nobody Turn Us Around*, pp. 303-13 on blackboard;
selections from Herbert Aptheker, ed., *A Documentary History of the Negro People in the United States*, Vol. 4, pages TBA.

W William R. Scott, "Black Nationalism and the Italo-Ethiopian Conflict, 1934-36," *The Journal of Negro History*, Vol. 63, No. 2 (Apr., 1978), pp. 118-34 on blackboard

F Robert Korstad and Nelson Lichtenstein, "Opportunities Found and Lost: Labor, Radicals, and Early Civil Rights Movement," *Journal of American History* 75, no. 3 (December 1998), pp. 787-811 on blackboard

Week 11 (October 24, 26, 28): Black Heroes, World War II, and the Double "V" Campaign

Readings:

M TBA

W Lauren Rebecca Sklaroff, "Constructing G.I. Joe Louis: Cultural Solutions to the "Negro Problem" During World War II," *Journal of American History* 89, no. 3 (Dec 2002), pp. 958-983 on blackboard

F Robin D. Kelley, "'We Are Not What We Seem': Rethinking Black Working-Class Opposition in the Jim Crow South," *Journal of American History* 80, no. 1 (June 1993), pp. 75-112 on blackboard

Movie: "A Soldier's Story" (1984)

Week 12 (October 31, November 2, 4): Inching Toward Integration

Readings:

M Daryl Michael Scott, *Contempt and Pity*, pp. 93-118

W Daryl Michael Scott, *Contempt and Pity*, pp. 119-136

F Class Cancelled

Week 13 (November 7, 9, 11): The "Movement" and its Origins

Readings:

M Tyson, *Radio Free Dixie*, pp. 1-48

W Tyson, *Radio Free Dixie*, pp. 49-89

F Tyson, *Radio Free Dixie*, pp. 90-136

Week 14 (November 14, 16, 18): Riots, Radicals, and the Rise of Black Militancy

Readings:

M Tyson, *Radio Free Dixie*, pp. 137-188

W Tyson, *Radio Free Dixie*, pp. 189-219

F Tyson, *Radio Free Dixie*, pp. 220-61

Movie: "Superfly" (1972)

Week 15 (November 21, 23, 25): “Chocolate Cities and Vanilla Suburbs”

Readings:

M Tyson, *Radio Free Dixie*, pp. 262-308

W Thanksgiving – No class

F Thanksgiving – No class

Week 16 (November 28, 30, December 2): “Predators,” the War on Drugs, and the Prison-Industrial-Complex

Readings:

M Mike Davis, *City of Quartz*, pp. 267-300

W Mike Davis, *City of Quartz*, pp. 301-322

F Robin G. Kelley, excerpt from *Yo' Mama's Disfunktional!: Fighting the Culture Wars in Urban America*

Third paper due in class Friday, December 2nd.

Week 17 (December 5): Review

No Readings

Final Exam

December 9, 2005