HISTORY 212: THE UNITED STATES SINCE 1865

This course provides a historical perspective on major themes in U.S. history since 1865. It does not offer a comprehensive survey but will provide historical background on many important topics: foreign policy, race relations, labor, immigration, social policy, women’s rights, religion, and social movements. Students will learn how to use and evaluate a wide range of primary historical sources including memoirs, novels, letters, speeches, and oral interviews. They will learn to identify different methods of historical inquiry and gain an appreciation for how history structures our daily lives.

Required Texts: (available at UNCG bookstore, Addams bookstore on Tate Street, and on reserve at Jackson library)


Lecture and Discussion Sections:
On Monday and Wednesday, the class will meet as a large group in lecture. Each Friday, smaller discussion sections will meet, facilitated by teaching assistants. Attendance is mandatory for both lectures and discussions. Absences will hurt your grade. Before each section, you must read and print all of the assigned primary sources for the week and highlight the important passages. Bring the readings to section and come prepared to participate in the discussion. You will be graded on your preparation and on the quality and frequency of your contributions.

Textbook: The textbook for the course, *Give Me Liberty*, provides historical context for the lectures. It will also be useful as you prepare for your exams. You will not be quizzed on the textbook reading in sections.

Course Requirements (all percentages are approximate):
Attendance, participation, and class citizenship in lecture and discussion: 25%
Midterm Essay and Exam: 20%
Final Essay and Exam: 25%
Primary Source Assignments: 3 x 10% = 30%

We will use the following grading scale: 99 and above A+, 93 and above A, 90-92 A-, 88-89 B+, 83-87 B, 80-82 B-, 78-79 C+, 73-77 C, 70-72 C-, 68-69 D+, 63-67 D, 60-62 D-, 59 and below F.
Technology: E-mail Policy, Blackboard, Power Point, Laptops, and Cell Phones

E-mail is the best way to reach us. We will always confirm receipt of messages and try to respond quickly. If you do not receive a response from us within 48 hours, you should assume that we did not receive your message and try again. If you do not receive confirmation of your message, it means that we did not receive it and you will not be credited for any information that you communicated.

We will use e-mail to contact you, so you must check your UNCG email account regularly. All messages will be sent to UNCG accounts.

You must hand in hard copies of all papers and assignments. We will not accept e-mailed written work.

The course will have a blackboard website, which will have a copy of the syllabus and links to additional readings.

I will use power point in lecture. The slides are intended to help guide your note taking. They will not provide a complete set of notes. It is imperative that you take notes to supplement the power point in order to succeed in the course.

This is an interactive class that requires your engaged attention. You may not use laptops in the classroom. Cell phones and any other electronic equipment must also be turned off at all times.

Plagiarism:
Plagiarism is presenting the words or ideas of others without giving them credit. Any source that you use in your work (i.e. books, documents, articles, internet sites) must be properly cited. If you use someone else’s exact words they must be enclosed in quotation marks and be followed by a citation. If you put someone else’s ideas into your own words, you must also use a citation.

NOTE: Plagiarism includes copying and pasting any text from the internet without using quotation marks and a citation.

Anyone who commits plagiarism will be penalized severely. For more information, see UNCG’s academic integrity policy: http://academicintegrity.uncg.edu/complete/
I report all cases of plagiarism to the Dean of Students.

Course Schedule:
Documents can be found on e-reserve.
All of the reading for the week will be covered in discussion sections and must be read by Friday when you meet with your teaching assistant.

Week 1
Monday August 24 Introduction to the Course
Read over syllabus
Wednesday August 27 Reconstruction
Doc: Mississippi Black Code (1865)
Text: Marrow of Tradition Docs:
   Thirteenth, Fourteenth, and Fifteenth Amendments, pp. 338-40
   Suffrage and Eligibility to Office. Article VI, The North Carolina State
   Constitution, pp. 362-64
Textbook: pp. 520-55

Friday August 29 Discussion Sections

Week 2
Monday August 31 The Wilmington Riot
Primary Source Assignment #1 Distributed
Text: Marrow of Tradition, chapters 1-10
   Marrow of Tradition Docs:
      Turn of the Century Newspaper Reports on Lynching, pp. 377-80, 383-83
      Alexander Manly editorial, pp. 405-408
      Rebecca Latimer Felton Letter to the Atlanta Constitution, pp. 409-11
Textbook: pp. 608-16

Wednesday September 2 Industrial Capitalism
Text: Marrow of Tradition, chapters 11-24
Textbook: pp. 556-68

Friday September 4 Discussion Sections

Week 3
Monday September 7 NO CLASS - Labor Day

Wednesday September 9 Industrial Labor
Text: Marrow of Tradition, chapters 25-37
Docs: Finnerty, “The Decline of the Independent Craftsman” (1883)
      Shall Married Women Work? (1879)
Textbook: pp. 584-96

Friday September 11 Discussion Sections

Week 4
Monday September 14 Native Americans and the West
Docs: Report of the Commission on Indian Affairs (1869)
      Rules for Indian Boarding Schools (1890)
      The Buffalo Destroyed (1876-1877)
Textbook: pp. 568-79
Wednesday September 16  Immigration
Docs:  On the “Evils” of Chinese Immigration (1878)
       Chew, Life of a Chinese Immigrant (1903)
       Antin, The Promised Land (1912)
       In Georgia, Immigrants Unsettle Old Sense of Place (2006)
Textbook: pp. 617-22, 643-46

Friday September 18  Discussion Sections

Week 4
Monday September 21 Social Reform
Primary Source Assignment #1 Due
Docs:  The People’s Party Platform (1892)
       Roosevelt, The New Nationalism (1910)
       Conditions at the Triangle Shirtwaist Company (1911)
       An Insider’s View of Hull House (c.1900)
Textbook: pp. 637-43, 650-69

Wednesday September 23 Imperialism and World War I
Docs:  Beveridge, “The March of the Flag” (1898)
       Cartoons on American Imperialism (1920s)
       German-American Loyalty (1917)
       Selected Letters: Paul Eliot Green (1917-1918)
Textbook: pp. 624-36, 678-718

Friday September 25  Discussion Sections

Week 5
Monday September 28 Women’s Suffrage
Docs:  Alice Paul Inspires Her Fellow Suffragists (1917-1918)
       The Remonstrance (1909)
       Election Day! (1909)
       Todd, “Getting Out the Vote” (1911)

Wednesday September 30 The “Modern” 1920s
Midterm Take Home Essay and ID list distributed
Docs:  Advertisements of the 1920s
       Changes in Housework (1929)
       Happiness in Marriage (1926)
Textbook: pp. 719-38

Friday October 2 Discussion Sections
Week 6  
Monday October 5  The Conservative 1920s  
Doc:  The Ku Klux Klan (1924, 1921)  
    The Scopes Trial (1925)  
Textbook: pp. 739-48  

Wednesday October 7  Midterm Exam  

Friday October 9  No Discussion Sections  

Week 7  
Monday October 12  Fall Break - No class  

Wednesday October 14  Depression and New Deal  
Primary Source Assignment #2 Distributed  
Docs:  The New Deal and the ‘Common Man’ (1934, 1936)  
    Hoover, “The New Deal and Liberty” (1936)  
    Family Life (1939)  
Text: Desert Exile, chapter 1  
Textbook: pp. 748-95  

Friday October 16  Discussion Sections  
Please bring reading from October 5 and October 14 to discuss in section  

Week 8  
Monday October 19  World War II  
Text: Desert Exile, chapters 2-6  
Textbook: pp. 796-837  

Wednesday October 21  The Cold War  
Docs:  Truman Doctrine excerpts (1947)  
    Marshall Plan excerpts (1947)  
Text: Desert Exile, chapter 7 - end  
Textbook: pp. 838-70  

Friday October 23  Discussion Sections  

Week 9  
Monday October 26  Cities and Suburbs in the 1950s  
Docs:  A Journalist Describes Levittown (1948)  
    A Real Estate Agent Explains the Fine Art of Blockbusting (1962)  
    A Veteran on the GI Bill  
Textbook: pp. 871-99
Wednesday October 28  The Black Freedom Movement Part I

**Primary Source Assignment #2 Due**

Essay: Doyle, “Crisis in Little Rock”

Docs: King, “Letter from a Birmingham Jail” (1963)
      Baker, “Bigger Than a Hamburger” (1960)

Textbook: pp. 899-911

Friday October 30  Discussion Sections

Week 10

Monday November 2  The Black Freedom Movement Part II


Textbook: 912-33

Wednesday November 4  Vietnam

Docs: Johnson, “The Tonkin Gulf Incident” (1964)
      Potter, “The Incredible War” (1965)

Textbook: 933-43

Friday November 6  Discussion Sections

Week 11

Monday November 9  Native Americans

Doc: A Native American Protest (1969)

Textbook: pp. 947-948

Wednesday November 11  Postwar Feminism

Docs: Bread and Roses, “Declaration of Women’s Independence” (1970)
      Friedan, *The Feminine Mystique* (excerpt) (1963)
      Colonized Woman: The Chicana (1970)
      The Politics of Housework (1970)

Textbook: pp. 943-47

Friday November 13  Discussion Sections

Week 12

Monday November 16  1968

*Primary Source Assignment #3 Distributed*

Docs: Defenders (1964)  (Johnson, “The Great Society”)
      The Attack From The Right (1964)  (Goldwater, “Conscience of a Conservative”)
      Robert F. Kennedy in Cape Town (1966)

Textbook: pp. 948-56

Wednesday November 18  NO CLASS
Friday November 20 Discussion Sections

Week 13
Monday November 23 The New Right
Textbook: pp. 957-82

Wednesday November 25 No Class - Thanksgiving

Friday November 27 No Discussion Sections - Thanksgiving

Week 14
Monday November 30 Ronald Reagan
Primary Source Assignment #3 Due
Textbook: pp. 982-95

Wednesday December 2 The War in Iraq
Final Exam Essay Question Distributed
Textbook: pp. 1001-3, 1038-57

Friday December 4 Discussion Sections
Please bring reading from November 23, November 30, and December 2

Week 15
Monday December 7 Wrap-Up
Final Exam IDs distributed

*** FINAL EXAM Friday December 11 at noon ***