

History 347-01, North Carolina History
Fall, 2009
TR 8-9:15

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Hours: MWF 10-11 and by appointment
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This course will survey both chronologically and topically the history of North Carolina from its beginning in the 17th century up to the present time. We will seek to understand the events of this history in terms of individual decisions and the forces that shaped them, which have created the North Carolina of today. As this is a writing intensive section, we will spend time on acquiring the skills needed to research an historical topic and to present your research in writing. Learning about the kinds of sources to use and how to cite them correctly is also emphasized in this class. Other writings will be done in class, or essays on assigned readings from *The North Carolina Experience*.

1. Required texts: *North Carolina, Change and Tradition in a Southern State* by William Link; *The North Carolina Experience: An Interpretive and Documentary History* edited by Lindley S. Butler and Alan D. Watson. The first is a general history text; the second is a collection of primary sources and essays.
2. Attendance: You are expected to attend class regularly and to be on time. You may have 4 unexcused absences. If you exceed this, you will be dropped from the class. To receive an excused absence, you must contact me within 48 hours after your absence by e-mail. Most acceptable excuse: you are too ill to be in class.
3. Papers and student presentations: Each of you will be actively involved in your own instruction, by researching and writing two short papers from a list of topics I will provide. You will also each take a turn in teaching the class, by presenting the results of your research in an oral presentation. (If making a talk is not your thing, you may write two longer papers instead). After each paper is turned in and critiqued, you will be given the opportunity to revise and resubmit it. There will also be some informal writing assignments done in class (which will be announced in class and on Blackboard), as well as some essays which are listed on the syllabus. Those written outside class may be turned in by e-mail.
4. Grades: Each paper will be 20% of your final grade; each oral presentation will be 10%. The take-home exam essay is 20%. Class participation is 20%, which includes your other writing assignments and discussion of them.
5. The class will be a mixture of lecture and discussion. Your thoughts and observations will be valued!
6. There is a lot of reading for this class, especially early in the semester. The following class schedule gives the time frame for completing the reading, which will track our coverage of the material in class. Suggestion: read your assignments before the lectures.

CLASS SCHEDULE:

8/25: Introduction.

Unit One: 8/25-9/10: Colonial North Carolina.

Readings: Link, Chapters 1,2,3,4. Butler & Watson: Chapters 1,2,3,4.

9/3: First informal writing assignment, done in class, based on your reading of documents 1.1, 1.3, and 1.9 in *The North Carolina Experience*.

9/10: Turn in a brief paper based on reading “The Regulation”, pp.102-110 in Butler and Watson. Summarize the several ways of interpreting this protest movement.

Unit Two: 9/15-9/22: North Carolina in the Revolutionary era.

Readings: Link, Chapters 5 and 6.. Butler & Watson: Chapters 6 and 7.

9/18: Informal, in class writing based on your reading of documents 4.5, 4.11, 4.12 in the *North Carolina Experience*.

9/22: Turn in an outline, or a list of topics you will cover, for your first paper, and list the sources you will be using. Three scholarly sources are required, four if you have opted to write the longer paper.

Unit Three: North Carolina in the Civil War era: 9/24-10/20.

Readings: Link, Chapters 7,8,9; Butler & Watson, Chapters 9,10,11.

10/6: Turn in your first research paper: HARD COPY only. Five pages of text required (or 6 ½ if writing the longer paper).

10/6-10/8: Oral presentations of your research.

10/13: NO CLASS, fall break.

10/15: Turn in your revised paper WITH the original. You may e-mail your revision to me.

10/20: An in class writing and discussion, based on your reading of “Confronting the Issue of Slavery”, pp.194-200 in Butler and Watson.

Unit Four: 10/22—11/5: Reconstruction and its aftermath.

Readings: Link, Chapters 10, 11, 12; Butler and Watson, Chapters 13, 14,15.

10/27: Turn in an essay based on documents 13.1, 13.2, and 13.3, pp.294-300 in Butler and Watson. Summarize briefly points of view on what should happen next, after the Civil War.

11/5: Turn in sources and outline for second paper, by e-mail if you wish

Unit Five: 11/10—11/19: Modernizing North Carolina.

Readings: Link, Chapters 13,14,15; Butler & Watson, Chapter 16,17.

11/12: Turn in second paper, hard copy only. Oral presentations 11/12 and 11/17.

Unit Six: 11/25-12/3.: Toward the twenty-first century.

Readings: Link, Chapters 16,17,18; Butler & Watson, Chapter 18.

12/2: Turn in revised papers, with the original

12/15: Take- home exams due in my office or by e-mail at noon.

This is a writing intensive class. Your formal writing will consist of the 2 research papers. The intensity will consist of more time spent in getting all this right than is possible in a regular class. We will concentrate on how to differentiate between primary and secondary sources, and how to evaluate and use them. Constructing a paper, which makes your information and conclusions readable, is another goal Using correct citations and bibliographies is also a priority.

You will also have a number of informal writing assignments, done in class or at home. Here the idea is to get your critical thoughts about the readings and lectures down on paper.

