

Fall 2015 | University of North Carolina, Greensboro
Prof. Watson Jennison | Email: wwjennis@uncg.edu | Office: MHRA 2143 | Phone: 334-4092
Office Hours: Tuesdays, 11:00 a.m. to 12:00 noon, and Thursdays, 11:00 a.m. to 12:00 noon

HIS 701: Colloquium in American History Course Syllabus

Covering the period from Encounter to Reconstruction, this colloquium hones in on key moments in American history. This course will expose students to history from a variety of different methodologies and approaches. Examining both politicians and the people, HIS 701 will also incorporate a broad range of historical perspectives. Students will analyze and evaluate scholarly works and position them within the historiography through a series of three papers and a final exam.

Course Requirements: The requirements for this course include assigned readings for each class, three papers, and one cumulative exam.

Assigned Readings: There are thirteen books assigned for this course. For the list of books, see the class schedule below. All of the books can be purchased at the University Bookstore.

Electronic Devices: The use of laptops, tablets, cellular phones, or any other type of electronic device is prohibited during class.

Attendance and Late Policy: Attendance in class is mandatory. 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. Students are allowed one absence, excused or unexcused, without an impact on their grade. For the second and every subsequent absence, students will receive a five-percent grade deduction from their final grade. Assignments submitted in class are due at the beginning of the class period. Students who submit assignments after the deadline will be penalized with a grade deduction based on the lateness of the assignment. No assignments will be accepted one week after the due date. All assignments must be submitted in hard copy.

Plagiarism Policy: The University defines plagiarism as intentionally or knowingly “representing the words of another, as one's own in any academic exercise.”¹ (See the University's [Academic Integrity Policy](#) for further information.) All sources (books, articles, documents, etc.) used in any paper or assignment must be properly cited or will be considered plagiarism. Any instance of plagiarism will receive a zero and will be referred to the Dean of Students Office for appropriate action, including suspension or expulsion from the University.

¹ <http://sa.uncg.edu/dean/academic-integrity/violation/plagiarism/>

Final Grade Composition

- Participation 20%
- Papers (3x20%) 60%
- Final Exam 20%

Participation: Participation in discussion is mandatory. **Students should be prepared to discuss the readings on the day that they are assigned.** Attendance alone is not sufficient for full participation credit.

Papers: Students are required to write three seven- to nine-page papers based on assigned readings and lectures, due on **September 24, October 29, and November 19.** All sources in the papers should be properly cited according to the guidelines laid out in [*The Chicago Manual of Style*](#), which is available on-line.

Final Exam: Students will take a final exam on **December 3**

Class Schedule

Week 1 (August 20): Introduction

Week 2 (August 27): Anthony Pagden, *Lords of All the World* (1998)

Week 3 (September 3): Robbie Ethridge, *From Chicaza to Chickasaw: The European Invasion and Transformation of the Mississippian World, 1540-1715* (2013)

Week 4 (September 10): Kathleen M. Brown, *Good Wives, Nasty Wenches, and Anxious Patriarchs* (1996)

Week 5 (September 17): William Cronon, *Changes in the Land: Indians Colonists, and the Ecology of New England* (1983)

Week 6 (September 24): Peter H. Wood, *Black Majority: Negroes in Colonial South Carolina* (1974)

Paper due at the beginning of class

Week 7 (October 1): Gary B. Nash, *The Unknown American Revolution: The Unruly Birth of Democracy and the Struggle to Create America* (2005)

Week 8 (October 8): Jack N. Rakove, *Original Meanings: Politics and Ideas in the Making of the Constitution* (1997)

Week 9 (October 15): Claudio Saunt, *A New Order of Things: Property, Power, and the Transformation of the Creek Indians, 1733-1816* (1997)

Week 10 (October 22): Paul E. Johnson, *A Shopkeeper's Millennium: Society and Revivals in Rochester, New York, 1815-1837* (1978)

Week 11 (October 29): Steven Deyle, *Carry Me Back: The Domestic Slave Trade in American Life* (2005)

Paper due at the beginning of class

Week 12 (November 5): Brian Delay, *War of a Thousand Deserts: Indian Raids and the US-Mexican War* (2009)

Week 13 (November 12): Chandra Manning, *What This Cruel War Was Over: Soldiers, Slavery and the Civil War* (2008)

Week 14 (November 19): Steven Hahn, *A Nation Under Our Feet: Black Political Struggles in the Rural South From Slavery to the Great Migration* (2003)

Paper due at the beginning of class

Week 15 (November 26): Class Cancelled – Thanksgiving

Final Exam: Thursday, December 3, 3:30 p.m. – 6:30 p.m.