

HIS 211- US to 1865 History

Class: Online

Instructor: Justina Licata

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Office: MHRA 3103

Office Hours: Tuesday 1pm – 2pm

This course surveys the social, cultural, and political history of the United States from the beginnings of European colonization of America to the end of the American Civil War. Because of its broad historical sweep, the variety of topics covered in this course make no claim to be comprehensive. The course will examine leaders as well as ordinary people demonstrating the importance of top down and bottom up history.

This course also serves as an introduction to the discipline of history as a field. Students will be trained to think as historians by analyzing evidence and learning to ask questions that help to understand the historical context of the evidence. Students will learn how to read, use, and evaluate a wide range of primary historical sources including memoirs, novels, letters, speeches, political cartoons, and oral interviews. They will identify different methods of historical inquiry and gain an appreciation for how history structures our daily lives.

Course Objectives

- Students will gain a strong understanding of major themes and events in U.S. history to 1865.
- Students will learn how to historically contextualize and analyze a range of primary sources representing different points of view.
- Students will use evidence-based reasoning to interpret the past coherently while developing and presenting an original argument.
- Students will improve their reading, writing, and verbal skills.

Link to Fall 2016 Academic Calendar

<https://reg.uncg.edu/calendars/fall-2016-academic-calendar/>

Required Books and Other Readings

You must also purchase the book *Kingdom of Matthias: A Story of Sex and Salvation in 19th Century America* by Paul E. Johnson and Sean Wilentz. You can find it at the UNCG bookstore, on Amazon, or other bookstores. All other required readings will be posted to Canvas.

Policies

Office Hours

My office hours are on Tuesday from 1-2 pm or by appointment. If you schedule an appointment with me, please treat this appointment seriously. Notify me immediately (preferably 24 hours ahead of time) if you are going to need to cancel or reschedule the appointment.

E-mail

E-mail is the best way to reach me. I will always confirm receipt of messages and try to respond quickly. If you do not receive a response within 24 hours (48 hours on weekends please), you should assume that I did not receive your message and try again. I will use e-mail to contact you, so you must check your UNCG email account regularly.

You can use j.licata@uncg.edu. Please always

- Include the title of the class in the subject line
- Use a salutation – “Dear,” “Hello,” or even just “Hi” are all fine
- Include your full name at the end

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, webpages) 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.

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

Anyone who commits plagiarism will be penalized. 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.

Resources for Student with Disability

Students with recognized disabilities should register with the Office of Accessibility Resources & Services (OARS). OARS is located on the second floor of the Elliott University Center (EUC) in Suite 215 and maintains webpage at <http://ods.uncg.edu/>. The mission of OARS is to provide, coordinate, and advocate for services, which enable undergraduate and graduate students with disabilities to receive equal access to a college education and to all aspects of university life.

Grading

Grade Components

Weekly Assessments: 30%

Weekly Context Quizzes: 10%

Research Project: 25%

Reflections and Responsive Posts (students must write a total of 8 posts throughout the semester): 15%

Kingdom of Matthias Paper: 20%

Grading Scale

99 and above A+, 93-98 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

Course Requirements

Modules

Every week you will need to complete all tasks outlined in that week's Module. These tasks will include: watching helpful video clips, reading the lecture notes and or PowerPoint outlines, completing the week's assigned readings or watching the week's assigned documentary or movie, taking context quizzes completing the week's assessment, and working on your reflections and responses. Please complete the Modules in the order that they are arranged. Each week's Module will be up on Canvas no later than Sunday evening. You will be required to complete all the tasks in the Module by the following Sunday night (midnight).

Reflection Discussion Boards

Each week a discussion board will be posted allowing students to write a reflective post and responsive post. These boards should create conversations that would be similar to a discussion in a classroom. **You are only required to write 4 reflection posts and 4 responses to other student posts throughout the semester, and you may choose which weeks you would like to post and respond to posts (your responsive posts and reflective posts do not need to be completed in the same weeks).** Reflective posts must be 400-500 words, and responsive posts must be 200-300 words. Student may write all posts in first person form. These posts should be a personal reflection to what you learned that week and to discuss your thoughts, questions, or feelings. They can be specific to the readings, or they can discuss all the information you examined throughout the week. Think about what you learned about a historical moment, person, institution, etc. It can also examine how you felt personally. You may discuss your emotional and/or your scholarly reactions to a topic, reading, video, etc. Responsive posts need to be a direct response to another student's reflective post (respond as if you were having an in-class discussion). You may agree or disagree with other students, but this must be done in a polite and professional manner.

Paper on the *Kingdom of Matthias*

Instructions are forthcoming.

Research Project

Instructions are forthcoming.

Course Schedule

Week 1 August 22-28

- *NY Times* article on Columbus
- Excerpt from Diaz's *The True History of the Conquest of New Spain*

Week 2 August 28-September 4

- Ch 2. Tales of Captivity and Redemption

Week 3 September 4-11

- Read the Introduction and Chapter 1 of *The Slave Ship* by Rediker

Week 4 September 11-18

- Article: "Biological Warfare in Eighteenth Century North America" and Ch. 4 from *Going to the Source*

Week 5 September 18-25

- Movie: "The Midwife's Tale" (PBS Film)

Week 6 September 25-October 2

- The Declaration of Independence
- Patrick Henry's Speech
- John Dickinson, A Speech Against Independence
- Joseph Brant Pledges Mohawk Loyalty to Britain
- Abigail and John Adams on Women's Rights
- An Act for the Gradual Abolition of Slavery

Week 7 October 2-9

- Ch. 6 "Debating the Constitution"

Week 8 October 9-16

- Rosemarie Zagari's article, "The Rights of Man and Woman in Post-Revolutionary America"
- **October 14- Primary Source Worksheet must be completed (part of your Research Project and instructions are forthcoming)**
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Week 9 October 16-23 **No assignments will be due this week!**

- Start reading *Kingdom of Matthias*

Week 10 October 23-30

- Complete *Kingdom of Matthias*

Week 11 October 30-November 6

- ***Kingdom of Matthias* paper due November 5**
- Indian Removal Primary Source Documents A-J (all)

Week 12 November 6-13

- Slave Narrative Readings
- **November 4- Secondary Source Worksheet must be completed (part of your Research Project and instructions are forthcoming)**

Week 13 November 13-20

- *What This Cruel War Was Over* by Manning

Break for Thanksgiving

Week 14 November 27-December 4

- Excerpt from *This Republic of Suffering*

Final Project Due Friday, December 12th by 5pm