

CIVIL RIGHTS AND BLACK FREEDOM

HIS 332-01

Brian Suttell

E-MAIL: bwsuttel@uncg.edu

OFFICE HOURS: Mondays and Wednesdays 12:45-1:45 and by appointment

CLASS MEETING: Mondays and Wednesdays 2:00-3:15 P.M. in MHRA 2211

FALL 2016

Office: 2106 MHRA

Civil rights activists in the United States were not mere witnesses to history. Rather, they were participants in a historical movement that changed the role that ideas about race relations played in shaping social, economic, and political conditions in the United States. This class will address the history of race relations in the United States, especially in the period from 1940-1980. Students will examine and investigate the complexities of the black freedom movement at the local, national, and international levels. Participants in this course will analyze key events and people in the movement, and seek to appreciate the contributions that many unheralded activists made in the movement. History is not merely a random set of facts, but a guide in understanding the forces that have shaped the past and the present. Thus students will be encouraged to make informed connections between the past and present and recognize the role of history in shaping their own lives.

STUDENT LEARNING OUTCOMES:

- Examine various perspectives of the civil rights movement.
- Analyze and contextualize primary and secondary sources.
- Utilize documentary evidence and secondary sources to construct historical arguments.
- Demonstrate an appreciation of racial and cultural diversity.

ATTENDANCE: Attendance at class meetings is required. Students are allowed three unexcused absences. Students will be penalized two points on their final grade for each absence beyond three. Excused absences require a doctor's note or other legitimate documentation. More than six absences may result in the student being dropped from the course. In addition, students should arrive to class on time and remain until the end of the class. Two instances of tardiness or leaving before being dismissed by the instructor will count as one absence.

CLASS PARTICIPATION: Participation in class discussions is essential. Opportunities for discussion will be present during each class, especially on "class discussion" days.

DISCUSSION BOARD POSTS: Discussion board posts require two separate aspects which should be clearly labelled: 1) The student's original thoughts on the question or prompt 2) A response to another student's post in which you analyze their statements or provide further evidence to support their initial post. If you are the first to post in a given week, you should return to the discussion board at a later time to post your response. Your posts are due no later than 9:00 A.M. on the listed due date. Do not wait until the last minute! You may post up to a week prior to the due date.

ELECTRONIC DEVICES: The use of laptops, cell phones, tablets, or any other type of electronic device is prohibited during class.

LATE ASSIGNMENTS: All assignments must be submitted in hard copy. Late assignments will be penalized ten points (out of 100) for each class day they are late. No assignments will be accepted two weeks after the due date.

REQUIRED BOOKS:

-Barbara Ransby, *Ella Baker and the Black Freedom Movement: A Radical Democratic Vision* (Chapel Hill: The University of North Carolina Press, 2003).

-William H. Chafe, *Civilities and Civil Rights: Greensboro, North Carolina and the Black Struggle for Freedom* (Oxford: Oxford University Press, 1981).

READINGS:

Students must complete assigned readings by the date listed on the schedule. You should take notes, including factual information, but also noting the central arguments and points of analysis. Reading notes will be helpful for studying for exams and quizzes, and for writing papers and assignments. Aside from the books, readings (and films) are available on Canvas or the internet.

GRADING:

DISCUSSION/PARTICIPATION (Includes discussion posts)	20%
ASSIGNMENTS (4 assignments at 5 points each)	20%
QUIZZES (2 quizzes at 5 points each)	10%
PAPERS (Paper 1 is 10 points, paper 2 is 15 points)	25%
MIDTERM EXAM	10%
FINAL EXAM	15%

PLAGIARISM AND ACADEMIC INTEGRITY: Any instance of plagiarism will result in a zero for the assignment, and will be referred to the Dean of Students Office for appropriate action. Any use of sources (books, documents, articles, internet sites, etc.) must be cited properly. Blatant or egregious acts of plagiarism (including copying and pasting) or cheating will result in an “F” for the course and will be referred to the Office of Student Conduct. For more information, see the University’s Academic Integrity Policy at the following website: <http://sa.uncg.edu/handbook/academic-integrity-policy/>

CLASS SCHEDULE

NOTE: Readings and assignments should be completed by the date they are listed.

AUGUST 22 INTRODUCTION

AUGUST 24 THE ATLANTIC SLAVE TRADE

Reading: p. 102, David Brion Davis, *Inhuman Bondage* (on Canvas)

AUGUST 29 SLAVERY AND FREEDOM

Reading: TBA from Transatlantic Slave Trade Database (www.slavevoyages.org)

AUGUST 31 THE LEGACY OF SLAVERY/RACE RELATIONS TO 1939

Reading: Ransby, 1-45

ASSIGNMENT 1 DUE (See Canvas)

SEPTEMBER 5 NO CLASS

SEPTEMBER 7 WORLD WAR II AT HOME AND ABROAD

Reading: Ransby, 64-104

SEPTEMBER 12 ELLA BAKER AND GRASSROOTS ORGANIZING

Reading: Ranby, 105-147

QUIZ 1

SEPTEMBER 14 RACE AND THE COLD WAR

Reading: Ranby, 170-195

SEPTEMBER 19 CLASS DISCUSSION

Discussion board posts due by 9:00 A.M

SEPTEMBER 21 THE SEGREGATED SOUTH/ MONTGOMERY BUS BOYCOTT

Reading: Chafe, 3-70

SEPTEMBER 26 SCHOOL INTEGRATION

Readings: School Desegregation Documents (On Canvas)

SEPTEMBER 28 SIT-INS, STAND-INS, SWIM-INS

Reading: Chafe 71-101

OCTOBER 3 HBCUs/ 1960 SHAW CONFERENCE/ STUDENT ORGANIZING

Readings: Ransby, 239-272

-SNCC Documents (On Canvas)

OCTOBER 5 ELECTIONS OF 1960/ FREEDOM RIDES

Reading: Chafe, 102-152

ASSIGNMENT 2 DUE (See Canvas)

OCTOBER 10 MIDTERM EXAM

OCTOBER 12 THE REVOLUTION OF 1963

Readings: -Chafe 155-171

-Martin Luther King, Jr., "Letter from Birmingham Jail" (On Canvas)

OCTOBER 17 NO CLASS- FALL BREAK

OCTOBER 19 FREEDOM SUMMER/STUDENT PRESENTATIONS

ASSIGNMENT 3 DUE (Student Presentations)

Readings: -Ransby, 299-329

-Readings from www.crmvet.org (TBA)

OCTOBER 24 TBA

OCTOBER 26 CIVIL RIGHTS ACT/VOTING RIGHTS ACT

Reading: Kenneth T. Andrews and Sara Gaby, "Local Protest and Federal Policy: The Impact of the Civil Rights Movement on the 1964 Civil Rights Act" (Available through UNC-G library)

OCTOBER 31 WRITING LIKE A HISTORIAN/ CLASS DISCUSSION

Discussion board posts due by 9:00 A.M.

NOVEMBER 2 RESEARCH IN LIBRARY

NOVEMBER 7 BLACK POWER

Readings: -Chafe 172-202

-SNCC Position Paper on Black Power, available at www.crmvet.org

NOVEMBER 9 FAIR HOUSING/ MUSIC AND THE MOVEMENT

Readings: -Fair housing readings (On Canvas)

-Chafe, 203-236

NOVEMBER 14 COMPARATIVE MOVEMENTS

Reading: Chafe, 237-254

NOVEMBER 16 CIVIL RIGHTS FROM A GLOBAL PERSPECTIVE

Research Paper due at the beginning of class

NOVEMBER 21 CIVIL RIGHTS AND HUMAN RIGHTS

Film: TBA

QUIZ 2

NOVEMBER 23- NO CLASS- THANKSGIVING

NOVEMBER 28 MONUMENTS- STUDENT PRESENTATIONS

Assignment 4 due at the beginning of class/student presentations

NOVEMBER 30 RACE RELATIONS SINCE 1980

DECEMBER 5- REVIEW FOR FINAL EXAM

FINAL EXAM- MONDAY, DECEMBER 12, 3:30-6:30 P.M.