

History of North Carolina HIS 347-02

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Welcome to HIS 347, History of North Carolina. This is a survey course spanning North Carolina history from pre-contact to the present. It is intended to provide students with an overview of major developments in North Carolina history in a variety of areas, including political history, racial relations, gender history, and cultural history. Students will also develop and practice many historical thinking skills, including primary source analysis, written argumentation, and evaluation of historiographical trends.

Course Objectives

At the end of this course, students should be able to

- Trace the development of North Carolina society over time in a broader national and global context.
- Use historical thinking and effective writing to contextualize, analyze and assess primary and secondary sources
- Formulate a coherent and well-reasoned argument using historical evidence in a written essay.

Assigned Readings

All required readings will be available on Canvas or online at the sites indicated below. The primary text (mandatory) for this course is William A. Link, *North Carolina: Change and Tradition in a Southern State* (Wheeling, IL: Harlan Davidson, 2009.) The book has been ordered by the UNCG Bookstore, but is also available, perhaps at lower cost, on Amazon and other retail sites.

Course Requirements, Activities, and Grading

This course will be graded on a total points system, described below:

Reading Responses: 120 points

Each week, you will be responsible for at least one reading. Readings will be drawn from both primary and secondary sources, and will usually include a chapter from the course text, William Link, *North Carolina: Tradition and Change in a Southern State* as well as other selections. When you have completed the readings, you will be required to complete a brief reading response (a couple of paragraphs or so) in response to a prompt that I post in the assignments section. Questions will address major themes in each reading. NOTE: Some weekly activities will include films, which expand on important events and developments in North Carolina history. Each reading response is worth ten points. There are thirteen readings, so I will drop your lowest grade in this section. Reading responses will be due by noon on Friday of each week, and should be completed in the appropriate box in the assignment section. I will post assignments by Sunday night before the week, so you will have all week to complete the assignment.

Midterm Exam: 80 pts

Your midterm exam will include several short-answer questions, as well as a single essay that should be around three pages. I will assign these questions 10 days in advance. They will be due by 6 p.m., October 7.

Book Review: 50 points

For this assignment, you will choose a scholarly monograph about a topic in North Carolina history. You will read the book and write an essay that identifies and assesses its argument and its importance to the study of North Carolina history. A list of suggested books on a variety of topics and spanning the period encompassed by this course can be found under Course Documents. Each of these books is available in the UNCG Library and many may be found in local libraries if you live far from campus. If a book is checked out from the UNCG library (or at most libraries) you can look into an interlibrary loan—just ask a member of the library staff.

Final Exam: 100 pts

Your final exam will be similar in format to your midterm in that it will require you to answer a few short answer

questions. It will be slightly longer, however—you will have two longer essays that ask you to consider broad questions raised during the course. The longer essays will thus be cumulative, while the short answer questions will only be drawn from material after the midterm. The total number of points available is 350. I will calculate your grade based on the total number of points you earn.

POLICIES

Late Work: Obviously, all work should be turned in on time, and I will close assignments on Blackboard after the due date. If, however, you are for some reason unable to get an assignment completed by the due date, you should contact me beforehand. Late work will be penalized, and I will not accept it at all if you have not discussed it with me. I reserve the right to refuse to accept late work after a period that I deem reasonable, and from students who chronically fail to turn work in on time.

Plagiarism: You are expected to follow the UNCG Academic Integrity Policy, which can be found at <http://academicintegrity.uncg.edu/complete/>. The consequences of plagiarism or other breaches of academic integrity depend on the severity of the offense and other factors, but I will report all such offenses to the Dean of Students.

Canvas: It is the responsibility of students to learn to use Canvas, which is in any case fairly user-friendly. I will be happy to try to help with minor problems that may arise, but you may have to seek tech support through the proper channels if you have persistent issues with the platform.

Office Hours/Communication: Because this is an online course, I do not keep regular office hours. I try to be responsive to emails, and you should expect a reply to inquiries within 24 hours at the latest. I encourage you to ask questions, and communicate with me if you are worried about falling behind, are suffering from illness or experiencing an emergency. I am especially responsive to questions about course topics. Do not wait until weeks after the fact to tell me what's going on—I will be far less understanding if you do so. If you think a face-to-face meeting is absolutely necessary, we can do that via Skype or Google Hangout, or failing that, schedule a meeting in my office at UNCG after 5 p.m. weekdays.

SCHEDULE OF READINGS AND ASSIGNMENTS [Please Note: all dates are due dates, and are not necessarily set in stone—I may add or subtract readings as I deem necessary]

Week One, 8/26: BEGINNINGS OF A BRITISH COLONY

Readings:

- Ch.1&2, William A. Link, *North Carolina: Change and Tradition in a Southern State*, 2009.
- Web articles (linked in assignment): recent developments in Roanoke Island (“Lost Colony”) archaeology

Week Two, 9/2: A SLAVE SOCIETY

Readings:

- Ch. 3, Link
- James Merrell, “The Racial Education of the Catawba Indians,” *Journal of Southern History*, 50 (August 1984) [available in Course Documents]

Week Three, 9/9: NORTH CAROLINA IN THE REVOLUTIONARY ERA

Readings:

- Ch. 4 & 5, Link

Week Four, 9/16: NORTH CAROLINA IN THE EARLY REPUBLIC

Readings:

- Ch. 6, Link
- Documents, “Joining the Federal Union” from *The North Carolina Experience*, Lindley S. Butler and Alan D. Watson, eds. [in Course Documents]

Week Five, 9/23: ANTEBELLUM NORTH CAROLINA

Readings:

- Ch. 7 & 8, Link

Week Six, 9/30: THE CIVIL WAR

Readings:

- Ch. 9, Link
- Other reading TBA

Week Seven, Oct 7: NO READINGS: MIDTERM EXAM

Week Eight, Oct. 14: RECONSTRUCTION IN NORTH CAROLINA

Readings:

- Ch. 10, Link

Documents, Kirk-Holden War, at http://docsouth.unc.edu/highlights/holden_kirk.html

Week Nine, Oct. 21: NO ASSIGNMENTS, FALL BREAK

Week Ten, Oct. 28: NORTH CAROLINA IN THE “NEW SOUTH”

Readings:

- Ch. 11 & 12, Link

Week Eleven, Nov. 4: NORTH CAROLINA IN THE PROGRESSIVE ERA AND WWI

Readings:

- Ch. 13, 14 Link

Week Twelve, November 11: DEPRESSION, NEW DEAL, AND WORLD WAR II

Readings:

- Ch. 15, Link; other reading TBA

NOVEMBER 14: BOOK REVIEW ESSAYS DUE 11:59 PM

Week Eleven, November 18: POSTWAR NORTH CAROLINA

Readings:

- Ch. 16, Link

Week Twelve, November 25: NO READINGS, THANKSGIVING HOLIDAY

Week Thirteen, December 2: THE CIVIL RIGHTS REVOLUTION

- Readings: Ch. 17, Link

· Film: *February One* OR *Negroes With Guns* [both streamed through UNCG Library]

Week Fourteen, December 5: MODERNIZERS AND TRADITIONALISTS (note: this due date is a Monday. You will be required to complete these readings for the final, but will not answer questions.) Readings:

- Ch. 18, Link
- Documents, TBD

NO CLASS: FINAL EXAM ASSIGNED 12/12

Students should consult the scoring guide, located in the section marked “Files” for more specific instructions for writing weekly reading responses. The scoring guide will serve as a rubric for grading. I will provide specific feedback to responses, particularly early in the course, to guide your responses. I will also post requirements and scoring guides prior to the midterm and the final exam.

