

HIS 701: Colloquium in American History
Fall 2021 Mondays 5:30pm-8:20pm
MHRA 2210

Professor: Dr. Warren Milteer, Jr.
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Bulletin Description: Issues of historical interpretation from the Colonial era through the Civil War.

Course Description: This course is designed to introduce graduate students to the historiographic themes, debates, and interpretations of United States History to 1865. Students will learn how to read not only for content but also to understand how historians develop their narratives. We will analyze several aspects of the construction of historical narratives including the development of arguments and the use of evidence. The course readings will include classics in the field along with current scholarship. Class will run as a seminar with weekly discussions about the assigned readings.

Student Learning Outcomes:

- Demonstrate a thorough and solid knowledge of American History. Students should know events, people, and major issues under consideration and be able to communicate this knowledge.
- Connect events in sequence, recognize cause and effect, and pinpoint change over time.
- Discern and explore the natures, means of interpretation, and biases within original historical source materials and later scholarly interpretations and understand how these distinctions can further their understanding of the human story.
- Recognize the rudimentary issues of historiography in the period and understand how changing questions influence these schools of thought.
- Construct a basic argument on the historical issues of the period and support the argument appropriately.

Academic Integrity Policy: Each student is required to sign the Academic Integrity Policy on all major work submitted for the course. Refer to the following URL: <https://osrr.uncg.edu/academic-integrity/>.

Accommodations: UNCG seeks to comply fully with the American with Disabilities Act (ADA). Students requesting accommodations based on a disability must be registered with the Office of Accessibility Resources and Services (OARS) in 215 Elliott University Center, (336) 334-5440, ods.uncg.edu.

COVID Statement:

As we return for fall 2021, the campus community must recognize and address continuing concerns about physical and emotional safety, especially as we will have many more students, faculty, and staff on campus than in the last academic year. As such, all students, faculty, and staff are required to uphold UNCG's culture of care by actively engaging in behaviors that limit the spread of COVID-19. Such actions include, but are not limited to, the following:

- Following face-covering guidelines
- Engaging in proper hand-washing hygiene when possible
- Self-monitoring for symptoms of COVID-19
- Staying home if you are ill
- Complying with directions from health care providers or public health officials to quarantine or isolate if ill or exposed to someone who is ill.

Instructors will have seating charts for their classes. These are important for facilitating contact tracing should there be a confirmed case of COVID-19. Students must sit in their assigned seats at every class meeting and must not move furniture. Students should not eat or drink during class time.

A limited number of disposable masks will be available in classrooms for students who have forgotten theirs. Face coverings will also be available for purchase in the UNCG Campus Bookstore. Students who do not follow masking requirements will be asked to put on a face covering or leave the classroom to retrieve one and only return when they follow the basic requirements to uphold standards of safety and care for the UNCG community. Once students have a face covering, they are permitted to re-enter a class already in progress. Repeated issues may result in conduct action. The course policies regarding attendance and academics remain in effect for partial or full absence from class due to lack of adherence with face covering and other requirements.

For instances where the Office of Accessibility Resources and Services (OARS) has granted accommodations regarding wearing face coverings, students should contact their instructors to develop appropriate alternatives to class participation and/or activities as needed. Instructors or the student may also contact OARS (336.334.5440) who, in consultation with Student Health Services, will review requests for accommodations.

Required Texts:

Edward E. Baptist, *The Half Has Never Been Told: Slavery and the Making of American Capitalism* (New York: Basic Books, 2014)
Ned Blackhawk, *Violence over the Land: Indians and Empires in the Early American West* (Cambridge: Harvard University Press, 2008)
William Cronon, *Changes in the Land: Indians, Colonists, and the Ecology of New England* (New York: Hill and Wang, 1983, 2003)
Kathleen DuVal, *The Native Ground: Indians and Colonists in the Heart of the Continent* (Philadelphia: University of Pennsylvania Press, 2006)
Amy S. Greenberg, *A Wicked War: Polk, Clay, Lincoln, and the 1846 U.S. Invasion of Mexico* (New York: Alfred A. Knopf, 2012)
Woody Holton, *Forced Founders: Indians, Debtors, Slaves, and the Making of the American Revolution in Virginia* (Chapel Hill: University of North Carolina Press, 1999)
Stephanie E. Jones-Rogers, *They Were Her Property: White Women as Slave Owners in the American South* (New Haven: Yale University Press, 2019)
Ethan J. Kytle and Blain Roberts, *Denmark Vesey's Garden: Slavery and Memory in the Cradle of the Confederacy* (New York: New Press, 2018)
Bruce Levine, *The Fall of the House of Dixie: The Civil War and the Social Revolution that Transformed the South* (New York: Random House, 2013)
Kate Masur, *Until Justice Be Done: America's First Civil Rights Movement, From the Revolution to Reconstruction* (New York: W. W. Norton and Company, 2021)
Keri Leigh Merritt, *Masterless Men: Poor Whites and Slavery in the Antebellum South* (New York: Cambridge University Press, 2017)

Grade Break Down:

Participation	25%
Book Reviews (2)	25%
In-Class Presentations	25%
Historiographical Paper	25%

Grade Scale: 100-93 A, 92-90 A-, 89-87 B+, 86-83 B, 82-80 B-, 79-77 C+, 76-73 C, 72-70 C-, 69-67 D+, 66-63 D, 62-60 D-, 59-Below F