

History 211 (Fall 2022)
United States History to 1865
MWF 1-1:50

Instructor: Mrs. Kaitlyn Williams

Office: MHRA 3103

Office Hours: Monday and Friday 11-1 via zoom or MHRA 3103

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Course Description: This course will explore American history from a time before European contact through Reconstruction. After completing this course, students will be able to analyze significant political, social, economic, and cultural developments in American history. This course will explore the impact and contributions of many historical actors, not just traditional figures. The goal of this course is to familiarize students with the impact of ordinary people on the world around them. Students will also learn how to understand historical context and gain analytical skills useful in the study of history and beyond.

General Education Historical Perspectives (GHP) Student Learning Outcomes:

1. Use a historical approach to analyze and contextualize primary and secondary sources representing divergent perspectives.
2. Use evidence to interpret the past coherently, orally and/or in writing.

General Education Course Writing Intensive SLO (WI)

1. Students will be able to recognize and write in genres appropriate to the discipline(s) of the primary subject matter of the course.
2. Students will be able to use informal and formal approaches to writing and multiple drafts to deepen their mastery of the subject.

Course Specific Student Learning Outcomes (SLO):

1. Explain the significance of major events, people, and debates in the history of the United States.
2. Engage in historical thinking to contextualize, interpret, and analyze primary and secondary texts.
3. Identify the historical origins of significant debates in today's world.

Minerva Academic Curriculum SLOs (MAC):

Diversity & Equity Through the Humanities and Fine Arts

1. Describe how political, social, or cultural systems and structures, in the past or present, have advantaged and oppressed different groups of people.
2. Describe how political, social, or cultural systems, in the past or present, have produced and sustained ideas of difference and, in the face of that, how marginalized groups have meaningfully engaged in self-definition.
3. Examine individual and collective responses for addressing practices of disenfranchisement, segregation, or exclusion.

Readings:

Each week the course readings will be available in Canvas. The textbook for this course is the American Yawp. This is an open-source textbook that is also linked throughout canvas.

Course Requirements:

Participation and Attendance (GHP 1, 2; SLO 1, 2, 3):

Your participation grade will be based on in class discussions. Students should complete course readings before class and come prepared to participate. A copy of the assigned readings should be brought to class meetings. Attendance is mandatory and will be taken at the start of each class. Students who regularly arrive late or leave early without permission will be marked absent. Each student is allowed three absences. Excused absences will require a doctor's note or other legitimate documentation. After three classes have been missed, 5 points will be deducted for each absence from attendance grade.

Discussions (GHP 2; SLO 1, 2, MAC 1,2,3):

Discussions for this course will be based on a wide variety of primary sources. These sources are accounts of specific events from the perspective of people who lived through the event. For this class, we will examine multiple unique perspectives on events to paint a more detailed picture of how people at the time created change and dealt with circumstances of an ever-changing nation. Each post is due by 1 pm on Friday before class. In class, we will discuss the post. The posts should be at least 200-300 words but can be longer when needed.

Papers and Paper Outlines (GHP 1, 2; SLO 1, 2, MAC 1,2,3 WI 1,2):

Students will be required to complete two papers in this course. Since this is a writing intensive course, the papers will make up a large portion of the student's grade. More information on the papers and how to compose a well written, college level document will be given in class. To prepare students for the papers, an outline will also be required for each paper. This will give me a chance to leave feedback and will help to ensure that you are on the right path.

Unit Reflections (GHP 1, 2; SLO 1, MAC):

Instead of in class exams, this class will have three end of unit reflections. These assignments will ask students to draw connections between weeks of the unit. It will also ask students to use the skills we will be discussing in class regarding writing.

Grading:

Grades will be based on four different aspects of student performance: (1) writing assignments, (2) exams, (3) in-class reading quizzes, and (4) participation and attendance. The final grade will be determined according to the following calculation:

Papers:	40% total
Paper 1 Outline	5%
Paper 1	10%
Paper 2 Outline	5%
Paper 2	20%
Unit Reflections:	30% total
Discussions:	20% total
Attendance and Participation:	10% total

Grading Scale:

B+: 87-89 C+: 77-79 D+: 67-69 F: 0-59

A: 93-100	B: 83-86	C: 73-76	D: 63-66
A-: 90-92	B-: 80-82	C-: 70-72	D-: 60-62

Electronic Devices:

Laptops and tablets are allowed for notetaking, but please refrain from cellphone use. If cellphone use becomes an issue, points will be deducted from the attendance grade. Make sure all electronics are silenced before class begins.

Academic Integrity:

All work must be your own. UNCG prohibits any and all forms of academic dishonesty. It is the student's responsibility to know what constitutes academic integrity and to be familiar with UNCG policies which can be found here: <https://sa.uncg.edu/handbook/academic-integrity-policy/>. Students who engage in academic dishonesty (such as plagiarizing part of a paper or cheating on an exam) will receive a zero and will be referred to the Office of Student Conduct for appropriate action, including suspension or expulsion. Do not attempt it.

Useful Resources:

UNCG provides a variety of useful services for students that focus on writing, speaking, and researching.

History Department Website: <https://his.uncg.edu/>

Jackson Library Website: <https://library.uncg.edu/>

Writing Center Website: <https://writingcenter.uncg.edu/>

Speaking Center Website: <https://speakingcenter.uncg.edu>

Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA):

UNCG seeks to adhere to the ADA and provide equal access to a college education. Students with any questions or needs related to academic accommodations for disabilities should contact the Office of Accessibility Resources and Services (OARS), located in the Elliot University Center, Suite 215. For more information, please see <https://ods.uncg.edu>.

Required UNCG Syllabus Language for Fall 2022

As we return for Fall 2022, all students, faculty, and staff and all visitors to campus are required to uphold UNCG's culture of care by actively engaging in behaviors that limit the spread of COVID-19. While face-coverings are optional in most areas on campus, individuals are encouraged to wear masks. All individuals and visitors to campus are asked to follow the following actions:

- **Engaging in proper hand-washing hygiene.**
- **Self-monitoring for symptoms of COVID-19.**
- **Staying home when 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.**
- **Completing a self-report when experiencing COVID-19 symptoms, testing positive for COVID-19, or being identified as a close contact of someone who has tested positive.**
- **Staying informed about the University's policies and announcements via the COVID-19 website.**

Students who are ill, quarantining, or isolating should not attend in-person class meetings, but should instead contact their instructor(s) so alternative arrangements for learning and the submission of assignments can be made where possible.

As we continue to manage COVID-19 on our campus, we are following the lead of the local health department and we will adjust our plans to balance student success, instructional requirements, and the hallmarks of the collegiate experience with the safety and wellbeing of our campus community.