

History 211:

U.S. History to 1877

Prof. William Ryan

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UNC-Greensboro

Office Hours: Monday, 10am-12pm

Spring semester 2008

ABOUT THE COURSE

Course description: This course is an introduction to the history of America from pre-Columbian times to 1877. The topics covered include exploration, colonization, Native American responses, the rise of race slavery, the American Revolution, Anglo-American expansion, slave life and culture, industrialization, reform, disunion, the Civil War, emancipation, and Reconstruction. The emphasis will be not just on facts but also on issues that often resonate today. In addition, through reading, discussion, and analysis of primary documents, the course is intended to introduce students to history as an ever-evolving academic discipline.

Meeting times and places:

Lectures

MW 9-9:50 am CURRY 225

Friday discussions

4 sections:

- 1) Section 06—8-8:50 am MHRA 1207
- 2) Section 07—9-9:50 am MHRA 1208
- 3) Section 08—9-9:50 am MHRA 1207
- 4) Section 09—10-10:50 am CURRY 244

The two teaching assistants for this course Joseph Moore and Keri Petersen:

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ktpeters@spartan.uncg.edu

Readings: The textbook (*Created Equal*) and its companion volume are available at the university book store. For most weeks as you can see below, you are to read one chapter per week in the text before the beginning of Monday's lecture. The primary readings in *Voices of Created Equal* are intended to supplement your textbook readings and to be the focus of our "Discussion" days. They are to be completed before your Friday morning meetings. Take notes on each primary source and be prepared to analyze and interpret the material in a group setting.

Textbook:

Jones, Jacqueline, Peter H. Wood, Thomas Borstelmann, Elaine Tyler May, and Vicki L. Ruiz. *Created Equal: A Social and Political History of the United States, Vol. 1 to 1877*. 2nd ed. New York: Pearson Longman, 2006.

Companion volume:

Voices of Created Equal, Vol. I. New York: Pearson Longman, 2006.

Grades:

- **Exams (3).** (75%) Two mid-terms and a final will each constitute 25% of your grade, for a total of 75%.
- **Participation (25%)** You are expected to engage in lively, thoughtful, and informed discussion on our discussion days.

Finally, please note that you cannot participate if you do not attend class. Unexcused absences from discussions will inevitably affect your participation grade.

Policies:

- **Attendance** at all class meetings is expected. Because lecture material will often present a view that is different from that found in the readings, it will be difficult to do well in this course if you miss class. An attendance sheet will be circulated at the start of each class. Please do not come late. If you do arrive after the start of the lecture, enter the room quietly.
- Your questions about lectures, related topics not covered by lectures, exam format, and other course-related issues are always welcome and usually prove helpful to us all. Your engagement and enthusiasm make a difference in what you can get out of the course and do not go unnoticed.
- Out of courtesy to others, plan on staying for the entire class period and **please do not talk in class, “text” your friends, or use electronic devices such as cell-phones or I-pods.**
- **Athletes and others** who must miss class meetings for travel on official university business are expected to provide me with a full schedule at the beginning of term *and* to remind me *before* each absence. Otherwise the absence will be considered unexcused. You are responsible for all the material covered in the classes you missed.
- **Makeup exams** will differ in format from the in-class exams at the instructor’s discretion. Unless you are traveling on official university business (athletes and others), I will need appropriate and timely notification. **All students must arrange to take makeup exams within 7 calendar days—NO EXEPTIONS!!!**
- **Cheating of any kind (including plagiarism) is not tolerated.** All students should review the UNC-G Community Standard and will be expected to abide by it in this class. If you are unsure of what constitutes plagiarism or cheating, please ask the professor. There is no penalty for asking.
- **Please do not eat food** during lectures unless you bring enough for everyone. Drinks are okay—just open them before we start.
- In order to receive **accommodation in support of a disability**, a student must contact the Office of Disability Services. Course requirements cannot be changed without documentation from ODS.

CLASS SCHEDULE & ASSIGNMENTS (subject to change at the professor's discretion)

WEEK 1	Reading: CHAPTER ONE <i>Created Equal:</i> pp. 2-41 <i>Voices of Created Equal:</i> pp 3-20 Please read the course syllabus as well!
January 14	Introduction to the Course
January 16	Lecture 1: First Founders
January 18	Discussion
WEEK 2	Reading: CHAPTER TWO <i>Created Equal:</i> pp. 42-75 <i>Voices of Created Equal:</i> 21-34
January 21	NO CLASS---MLK Day
January 23	Lecture 2: European Footholds on the Fringes of North America, 1600-1660
January 25	Discussion
WEEK 3	Reading: CHAPTER THREE <i>Created Equal:</i> pp. 76-108 <i>Voices of Created Equal:</i> 35-43
January 28	Lecture 3: Controlling the Edges of the Continent, 1660-1715 (part one)
January 30	Lecture 4: Controlling the Edges of the Continent, 1660-1715 (part two)
February 1	Discussion
WEEK 4	Reading: CHAPTER FOUR <i>Created Equal:</i> pp. 110-145 <i>Voices of Created Equal:</i> 47-60
February 4	Lecture 5: African Enslavement: Terrible Transformation (part one)
February 6	Lecture 6: African Enslavement: Terrible Transformation (part two)
February 8	Discussion
WEEK 5	Reading: CHAPTER FIVE <i>Created Equal:</i> pp. 146-179 <i>Voices of Created Equal:</i> pp. 61-72
February 11	MID-TERM EXAM 1 (Chapters 1-4)
February 13	Lecture 7: An American Babel, 1713-1763
February 15	Discussion
WEEK 6	Reading: CHAPTER SIX <i>Created Equal:</i> pp. 180-211 <i>Voices of Created Equal:</i> pp. 73-81
February 18	Lecture 8: The Limits of Imperial Control, 1763-1775 (part one)
February 20	Lecture 9: The Limits of Imperial Control, 1763-1775 (part two)
February 22	Discussion
WEEK 7	Reading: CHAPTER SEVEN <i>Created Equal:</i> pp. 214-249 <i>Voices of Created Equal:</i> pp. 85-97

February 25	Lecture 10: The Unfinished Revolution (part one)
February 27	Lecture 11: The Unfinished Revolution (part two)
February 29	Discussion
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WEEK 8	Reading: CHAPTER EIGHT <i>Created Equal:</i> pp. 250-281 <i>Voices of Created Equal:</i> pp. 99-111
March 3	Lecture 12: New Beginnings: The 1780s (part one)
March 5	Lecture 13: New Beginnings: The 1780s (part two)
March 7	Discussion
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WEEK 9	Reading: CHAPTER NINE <i>Created Equal:</i> pp. 284-320 <i>Voices of Created Equal:</i> pp. 113-130
March 10	Spring Break (NO CLASS)
March 12	Spring Break (NO CLASS)
March 14	Spring Break (NO CLASS)
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WEEK 10	No Reading Assignments —Study for Exam
March 17	MID-TERM EXAM 2 (Chapters 5-9)
March 19	Film: <u>Thomas Jefferson</u> by Ken Burns
March 21	Spring Holiday (NO CLASS)
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WEEK 11	Reading: CHAPTER TEN <i>Created Equal:</i> pp. 322-353 <i>Voices of Created Equal:</i> pp. 133-146
March 24	Reflect on the Fiddle-Playing Skills of Thomas Jefferson (NO CLASS)
March 26	Lecture 15: Defending and Expanding the New Nation, 1803-1818
March 28	Discussion
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WEEK 12	Reading: CHAPTER ELEVEN <i>Created Equal:</i> pp. 354-287 <i>Voices of Created Equal:</i> pp. 147-163
March 31	Lecture 16: Moving Westward: Society and Politics in the “Age of the Common Man,” 1819-1832 (part one)
April 2	Lecture 17: Moving Westward: Society and Politics in the “Age of the Common Man,” 1819-1832 (part two)
April 4	Discussion
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WEEK 13	Reading: CHAPTER TWELVE <i>Created Equal:</i> pp. 388-425 <i>Voices of Created Equal:</i> pp. 165-186

April 7	Lecture 18: Peoples in Motion, 1832-1848 (part one)
April 9	Lecture 19: Peoples in Motion, 1832-1848 (part two)
April 11	Discussion
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WEEK 14	Reading: CHAPTER THIRTEEN <i>Created Equal</i> : pp. 428-459 <i>Voices of Created Equal</i> : pp. 189-210
April 14	Lecture 20: The Crisis over Slavery, 1848-1860
April 16	Film: <u>The Civil War</u> by Ken Burns
April 18	Discussion
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WEEK 15	Reading: CHAPTER FOURTEEN <i>Created Equal</i> : pp. 462-496 <i>Voices of Created Equal</i> : pp. 211-226
April 21	Lecture 21: “To Fight to Gain a Country”: The Civil War (part one)
April 23	Lecture 22: “To Fight to Gain a Country”: The Civil War (part two)
April 25	Discussion
WEEK 16	Reading: CHAPTER FIFTEEN <i>Created Equal</i> : pp. 498-533 <i>Voices of Created Equal</i> : 227-244
April 28	Lecture 23: In the Wake of War: Consolidating a Triumphant Union, 1865-1877 (part one)
April 30	Lecture 24: In the Wake of War: Consolidating a Triumphant Union, 1865-1877 (part two)
May 2	Discussion
WEEK 17	No Reading Assignments —Study for Exam
May 5	FINAL EXAM (Chapters 10-15)
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