

History 347-01, North Carolina History
Spring, 2009

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Hours: MWF 10-11 and by appointment
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This course will survey both chronologically and topically the history of North Carolina from its beginning in the 17th century up to the present time. We will seek to understand the events of this history in terms of individual decisions and the forces that shaped them, which have created the North Carolina of today. As this is a writing intensive section, we will spend time on acquiring the skills needed to research an historical topic and to present your research in writing. Learning about the kinds of sources to use and how to cite them correctly is also emphasized in this class. Other writings will be done in class, or essays on assigned readings from *The North Carolina Experience*.

1. Required texts: *North Carolina History through Four Centuries* by William S. Powell; *The North Carolina Experience: An Interpretive and Documentary History* edited by Lindley S. Butler and Alan D. Watson. The first is a general history text; the second is a collection of primary sources and essays.
2. Attendance: You are expected to attend class regularly. You may have 4 unexcused absences. If you exceed this, you will be dropped from the class. To receive an excused absence, you must contact me within 48 hours after your absence, by phone or e-mail. Most acceptable excuse: you are too ill to be in class.
3. Papers and student presentations: Each of you will be actively involved in your own instruction, by researching and writing two short papers from a list of topics I will provide. You will also each take a turn in teaching the class, by presenting the results of your research in an oral presentation. (If making a talk is not your thing, you may write two longer papers instead). After each paper is turned in and critiqued, you will be given the opportunity to revise and resubmit it. There will also be some informal writing assignments done in class (which will be announced in class and on Blackboard), as well as some essays which are listed on the syllabus.
4. Grades: Each paper will be 20% of your final grade; each oral presentation will be 10%. The mid-term and the exam are each worth 10%. Class participation is 20%, which includes your other writing assignments and discussion of them.
5. The class will be a mixture of lecture and discussion. Your thoughts and observations will be valued!
6. There is a lot of reading for this class, especially early in the semester. The following class schedule gives the time frame for completing the reading, which will track our coverage of the material in class. Suggestion: read your assignments before the lectures.

CLASS SCHEDULE:

1/20: Introduction.

Unit One: 1/22-2/3: Colonial North Carolina.

Readings: Powell, Chapters 1,2,3,4,5,6. Butler & Watson: Chapters 1,2,3.

1/29: First informal writing assignment, done in class, based on your reading of documents 1.1, 1.3, and 1.9 in *The North Carolina Experience*.

Unit Two: 2/5-2/12: North Carolina in the Revolutionary era

Readings: Powell, Chapters 7,8,9,10,11. Butler & Watson: Chapters 5,6,7.

2/12: Turn in an essay based on documents 4.11, 4.2, and 4.14 in the *North Carolina Experience*.

Unit Three: North Carolina in the Ante-Bellum era: 2/17-3/5.

Readings: Powell, Chapters 12,13,14,15,16,17; Butler & Watson, Chapters 8,9,10,11

2/19: Turn in a list of sources for your paper, with a short outline that lists the topics you will cover. You may e-mail this to me.

2/26: Turn in your paper: HARD COPY only.

2/26 & 3/3: Oral presentations of your research. If two people are researching the same topic, they may present together.

Week of 3/9: SPRING BREAK

Unit Four: 3/17-3/31: The Civil War and its aftermath.

Readings: Powell, Chapters 18,19,20; Butler and Watson, Chapters 12,13,14.

3/17: Turn in revised paper WITH the original. You may e-mail me your revision.

3/24: Turn in an essay based on the article "An Agrarian and Evangelical Culture."

3/31: MID-TERM

Unit Five: 4/2-4/9: North Carolina and the "New South".

Readings: Powell, Chapters 21,22,23; Butler & Watson, Chapters 15,16

4/7: Turn in an essay based on documents 13.1, 13.2, and 13.3.

4/9: Turn in sources for second paper, by e-mail if you wish.

Unit Six: 4/9-4/16: North Carolina in the early 20th Century.

Readings: Powell, Chapters 24,25; Butler & Watson, Chapter 17.

4/16: Turn in second paper, hard copy only. Oral presentations 4/16 and 4/21.

4/28: Turn in revised papers, with the original.

Unit Seven: 4/23-4/30: Late 20th century North Carolina.

Readings: Powell, Chapters 25,26,27; Butler & Watson, Chapters 18,19.

4/12: Take-home exams due in my office or by e-mail at noon.

This is a writing intensive class. Your formal writing will consist of the 2 research papers. The intensity will consist of more time spent in getting all this right than is possible in a regular class. We will concentrate on how to differentiate between primary and secondary sources, and how to evaluate and use them. Constructing a paper, which makes your information and conclusions readable, is another goal. Using correct citations and bibliographies is also a priority.

You will also have a number of informal writing assignments, done in class or at home. Here the idea is to get your critical thoughts about the readings and lectures down on paper. I have given the first assignment and the essays written out of class on your syllabus. Others will be announced on Blackboard or in class.

