HIS 302: Race and Segregation
Course Syllabus

In this course, we will examine the changing ways in which violence and discrimination toward blacks have structured American society in the one hundred and fifty years since the end of slavery. At the same time, we will move beyond the stereotype of blacks simply as victims and we will explore the ways in which black women and men took control of their lives. Throughout the course, we will examine why certain black voices have been excluded from the story of American history and why others have been included. We will attempt to integrate diverse black experiences and perspectives into the main narrative of American history, destroying the segregated history that is itself a product of a history of oppression.

Course Requirements: The requirements for this course include assigned readings for each class, periodic assignments and quizzes on the assigned readings, an eight- to ten-page paper, a mid-term exam, and a final exam. Assignments submitted in class are due at the beginning of the class period. Students who submit assignments after the deadline will be penalized with a grade deduction based on the lateness of the assignment. No assignments will be accepted one week after the due date. All assignments must be submitted in hard copy.

Assigned Readings: There are four books assigned for this class: Eric Foner, Forever Free: The Story of Emancipation and Reconstruction (2005); W. E. B. Du Bois, Souls of Black Folks (1903); Eric Arnesen, ed., Black Protest and the Great Migration: A Brief History with Documents (2003); and Elaine Brown, A Taste of Power: A Black Woman’s Story (1992). Each of these books can be purchased at the University Bookstore or on-line. Additional readings are on Canvas and the internet. The assigned reading list may undergo minor changes; students should be sure to consult the most current and official version of the syllabus on Canvas.

Electronic Devices: The use of laptops, tablets, cellular phones, or any other type of electronic device is prohibited during class. Use of electronic devices will incur grade penalties.

Attendance: Attendance in class is mandatory. The door will close ten minutes after class starts. After ten minutes, students will no longer be admitted to the class and will be considered absent. Each student is allowed two absences. After two unexcused absences, students will receive a zero for participation for that day. The instructor will excuse absences with a doctor’s note or legitimate documentation of other emergencies. After ten absences, students will receive an automatic F.

Late Assignments: All assignments must be submitted in hard copy. Unless otherwise specified on the syllabus, papers are due in class at the beginning of the class period. Students who submit assignments after the deadline will be penalized with a grade deduction based on the lateness of the assignment. No assignments will be accepted one week after the due date. If a student leaves a paper in the professor’s mailbox, it is the student’s responsibility to check that the professor has received the paper.
Plagiarism: The University defines plagiarism as "intentionally or knowingly representing the words of another, as one's own in any academic exercise."¹ (See the University's Academic Integrity Policies for further information.) All sources (books, articles, documents, internet sites, etc.) used in any paper or assignment must be properly cited or will be considered plagiarism. Any instance of plagiarism will receive a zero and will be referred to the Office of Student Conduct for appropriate action, including suspension or expulsion from the University.

Final Grade Composition

- Participation 10%
- Assignments 15%
- Movies 10%
- Midterm Exam 20%
- Final Exam 25%
- Paper 20%

Participation: Participation in discussion is mandatory. Students should be prepared to discuss the readings on the day that they are assigned. Attendance alone is not sufficient for full participation credit.

Assignments: Students will be given brief in-class and take-home writing and research assignments based on the assigned readings. Students will also be periodically quizzed on readings and lectures. There will be no make-up assignments in the case of a missed class.

Movies: Students are required to write three two- to three-page movie reviews, the first due on February 21, the second on March 16, and the third on April 9.

Exams: There will be two exams in this class: one midterm exam on February 28 and one final exam on May 2.

Papers: Students are required to write an eight- to ten-page paper based on assigned readings and lectures, due on April 25. All sources in the papers should be properly cited according to the guidelines laid out in The Chicago Manual of Style, which is available online.

Class Schedule

Week 1 (January 8, 10): Introduction

Monday: Introduction


Week 2 (January 15, 17): The Struggle for Freedom

Monday: MLK Day – Class Cancelled

¹ http://studentconduct.uncg.edu/policy/academicintegrity/violation/plagiarism/
Wednesday: Eric Foner, *Forever Free*, pp. 68-106

**Week 3 (January 22, 24): The Rise and Fall of Black Reconstruction**

Monday: Eric Foner, *Forever Free*, pp. 107-58


**Week 4 (January 29, 31): Solving the “Negro Question”**

Monday: Eric Foner, *Forever Free*, pp. 189-224


**Week 5 (February 5, 7): Black Life in the New South: Separate and Unequal**


**Week 6 (February 12, 14): World War I and the Great Migration**


**Week 7 (February 19, 21): The Rise of the New Negro**


* Movie review on “Rosewood” (1997) due on Wednesday, February 21 *

**Week 8 (February 26, 28): The Politics of Dissent**

“Pan-Africa and New Racial Philosophy” on Canvas; Manning Marable, ed., *Let Nobody Turn Us Around* (Lanham: Rowman and Littlefield, 2000), pp. 303-19 on Canvas; Ella Baker and Marvel Cooke, “The Bronx Slave Market” on Canvas

**Wednesday: *Mid-Term Exam* **

**Week 9 (March 5, 7): Spring Break – Class Canceled**

**Week 10 (March 12, 14): Black Heroes, World War II, and the Double “V” Campaign**

Monday: Robin D. G. Kelley, “‘We Are Not What We Seem’: Rethinking Black Working-Class Opposition in the Jim Crow South,” *Journal of American History* 80, no. 1 (June 1993), pp. 75-112 on Canvas; Eric Lott, “Double V, Double-Time: Bebop’s Politics of Style,” *Callaloo*, No. 36 (Summer, 1988), pp. 597-605 on Canvas


* Movie review on “A Soldier’s Story” (1984) due on Friday, March 16 *

**Week 11 (March 19, 21): Inching Toward Integration**


**Week 12 (March 26, 28): The “Movement”**


**Week 13 (April 2, 4): Riots, Radicals, and the Rise of Black Power**


Week 14 (April 9, 11): “Chocolate Cities and Vanilla Suburbs”


* Movie review on “Super Fly” (1972) due on Monday, April 9 *


Week 15 (April 16, 18): “Predators,” the War on Drugs, and the Prison-Industrial-Complex


Week 16 (April 23, 25): Reflection and Review

Monday: TBA

Wednesday: TBA

* Paper due on Wednesday, April 25 *

Final Exam

Wednesday, May 2, 12:00 p.m. to 3:00 p.m.