

**US HISTORY II (Since 1865)**  
**HIST 2112 TR 9:30-10:50 Anth 7**  
**And TR 2-3:20 TLC 1303**  
**Dr. Stephanie M. Chalifoux**

Office: TLC 3202

Phone: 678-839-6043

Office Hours: Tues: 1-2pm and 3:30-5pm

Email: [schalifo@westga.edu](mailto:schalifo@westga.edu)

Wed: 1-3pm

Thurs: 1-2pm and 3:30-5pm

And by appointment

**COURSE DESCRIPTION:**

This course surveys the history of the United States from the end of the Civil War to the present. We will explore economic, political, social, and cultural developments in America and examine what it means to be a U.S. citizen. The lectures reflect the instructor's interests and perceptions of the most important issues and forces that have shaped American society. Supplemental readings will provide critical information about the theme of this course and assist you in answering who or what is "American" and what, if any, responsibilities accompany that status.

**COURSE LEARNING OUTCOMES:**

**1. Students will illustrate their knowledge of the political, social, economic, and cultural dimensions of American History** on exams and quizzes.

**2. Students will develop their analytical skills** by reading and interpreting primary and secondary sources. They will be assessed on their development through in-class essays and quizzes.

**3. Students will strengthen academic writing skills** by writing a research paper that incorporates Learning Outcomes 1 and 2 to demonstrate their command of the material and their ability to present it in a coherent and sophisticated manner.

**COURSE REQUIREMENTS:**

**LECTURES:** Each week of classes will consist of lectures. The lectures will provide an overarching framework of US History since 1865. The lectures will also provide you context in order to understand events, ideas, and themes. However, this course is not just about lecture. You will need to be a participant in your education, which will include reading, discussing, taking assessments, and attending class. The grade you earn in this course is dependent upon the time and effort you make to facilitate your learning.

**READINGS:** To make the most of this class students must read the assigned materials and be prepared to engage in dialogue based on what they have read and demonstrate they have read the material through various assessments. These assessments may be a brief quiz, a short writing assignment, a discussion, a homework assignment, or in class-group work. Each week's assigned readings appear in the Schedule of Lectures and Assignments and must be completed by the beginning of class.

**Daily/weekly reading assignments:** Will be available to you through CourseDen and one reading will need to be purchased.

**Books: There are 2 required books for this course**

1. Dorothy Richardson, *The Long Day - The Story of a New York Working Girl As Told by Herself*. This is an electronic book. You may access it through this link or through CourseDen <http://www.gutenberg.org/files/31118/31118-h/31118-h.htm>

2. Melton McLaurin, *Separate Pasts: Growing Up White in the Segregated South* (This book is available for purchase at the campus bookstore)

**Suggested Readings:**

There is no textbook for this class. The lectures and readings will provide the content you will need to know for all assessments (quizzes, exams, etc.). However, if you miss class or if you feel you need more information about a particular subject, a textbook is available on reserve at the Ingram Library. You are not required to read the textbook, but you may find it helps to clarify information, contextualize ideas, or supplement material you missed in class.

The textbook is titled *Give Me Liberty*, by Eric Foner. See the Schedule of Lectures for the textbook chapters that correspond with the topics we will cover.

**ATTENDANCE:** Attendance is **required** for this class. Students may miss **2 days** of class total. **Each absence after the second absence will result in 2 points deducted from the student's final grade.** The only exception to this policy is prolonged illnesses or death in the immediate family (grandparent, parent, sibling). Documentation will be required to substantiate these circumstances. Official school related absences on test days or days when assignments are due must be approved in advance with valid documentation. In the case of an emergency or illness related absence, you must contact the professor immediately.

Students who are involved in extracurricular activities that will occasionally require them to miss class *must provide their travel schedule well in advance of the expected absence. They must also arrange to make up any missed assignments before they leave.* Any absences resulting from a failure to follow this policy will be included in the student's record of absences.

**ASSIGNMENTS:** There will be readings, quizzes, one paper, two in-class writes, two timelines, a midterm exam, and a final exam in this course.

**Quizzes and Various Assessments:** I will assess your understanding and completion of each required reading. These assessments will take various forms. These readings are not busy work, rather they are designed to enhance your knowledge by pushing you to look a bit deeper into the events and issues we will cover in class.

**In-Class Writes (2):** You will be required to complete 2 in-class writes (essays) based on the two books you will read for this class. The essay question will not be assigned prior so be sure to read the book thoroughly and take notes.

**Paper:** You are required to submit a 1000 word (typed, double-spaced, and in 12-point font with standard margins) research paper. You may choose a topic in American History (since 1865) and I will need to approve it (see suggested topics on CourseDen) by **September 17**. You will be required to research and write this paper using at least **one** secondary source (a book from library

on an academic press or a professional academic journal) and **two** primary sources all of which must be approved in advance by me by **October 20**. You are also required to take and pass a plagiarism quiz. **Your paper will not be graded unless you pass the Plagiarism quiz.** It will be administered **September 29**. Guidelines for the paper will be posted on CourseDen. Papers must be submitted via the **Turnitin.com** link on CourseDen **and a hard copy** to me on **November 12**.

**Late Papers:** One letter grade will be docked for each day a paper is late and resulting in an F after 5 days (NO EXCEPTIONS).

**Timelines:** You will be required to submit a timeline for each exam. These timelines must be typed and printed out to submit with your exam. Each timeline will consist of events that you feel are significant for the eras we cover. A guideline will be posted on CourseDen providing you with further instructions.

**Midterm Exam:** The midterm exam will consist of multiple-choice and one essay. You must submit **2 exam booklets** (available at the bookstore) by **September 29**. Exam books will not be accepted the day of the exam. The midterm exam will be on **October 15**.

**Final Exam:** The exam will consist of multiple choice and two essay question requiring students to draw conclusions from the material in both the readings and the lectures. One essay will be comprehensive. The final exam for each class is listed at the end of Schedule of Lectures.

**Make-up exams** are given only with the permission of the instructor and only in the face of extreme, extenuating circumstances. Documentation to validate an absence is required and subject to the instructor's discretion. The instructor must be informed at least twenty-four hours prior to the test date for University excused absences. In the case of an emergency on test day, you must contact the instructor at the soonest possible time. Make up exams will be different from the class exam and will be administered at the instructor's convenience.

The assignments are weighted as follows:

Paper	14%
Plagiarism quiz: ( <b>You must take and pass</b> )	1%
Midterm Exam	15%
Final Exam	20%
Quizzes and Various Assessments	30%
Two In-class Writes	20%

### **COURSE POLICIES:**

**ACADEMIC MISCONDUCT POLICY:** All acts of dishonesty in any work constitute acts of academic misconduct. This includes first and foremost cheating and plagiarism. In cases of student academic misconduct, the instructor will determine the appropriate penalty which will range from a "0" on the assignment to a failing grade for the class. In addition, I will submit students who cheat or plagiarize to the Academic Dishonesty Tracking System. I take these issues seriously and I do not overlook, ignore, or give second chances.

**CLASSROOM CONDUCT:** A good learning environment requires that we treat each other with respect and consideration. We must all behave in a manner that is conducive to an effective and positive learning environment. Distracting behavior (talking, eating, reading the newspaper, and texting/internet) is not acceptable.

**Cell Phone Use Is Not Permitted In Class.**

**Laptops:** I will allow you to take notes on laptops, but I strongly discourage it. Multiple studies have demonstrated that students who take notes by hand are more engaged and perform better on class assessments. Read the most recent study: <https://hbr.org/2015/07/what-you-miss-when-you-take-notes-on-your-laptop>). If I find that you are using the laptop for activities other than note taking I will no longer allow you to use your laptop. **You MAY NOT record my lectures.**

**Please review the Common Language for university syllabi at the link below for further information about course policies as well as information about academic and disability services:**

[http://www.westga.edu/assetsDept/vpaa/Common\\_Language\\_for\\_Course\\_Syllabi.pdf](http://www.westga.edu/assetsDept/vpaa/Common_Language_for_Course_Syllabi.pdf)

**Special Note:** I reserve the right to modify the syllabus over the course of the semester as circumstances dictate. Revisions will be announced in class and on CourseDen. Students are responsible for checking CourseDen regularly for any changes to the syllabus and assignments.

## **SCHEDULE OF LECTURES AND ASSIGNMENTS**

Assigned readings are located on CourseDen unless noted otherwise.

8/25: Course Introduction

8/27: Post Civil War South and Reconstruction  
*Suggested Reading:* Foner, Chapter 15

9/1: New South  
*Suggested Reading:* Foner, Chapter 17

9/3: The West  
**Required Reading:**  
Mrs. Green Gives an Account of Frontier Life in Colorado (1887)  
*Suggested Reading:* Foner Chapter 16

9/8: Farmers in the Gilded Age  
**Required Reading:**  
Farmers Describe the Crisis (1890s)  
Farmers Create the Ocala Platform (1890)  
*Suggested Reading:* Foner, Chapter 17

9/10 The Growth of American Urban Life  
*Suggested Reading:* Foner, Chapter 16 and 18

- 9/15: Immigration and Labor  
*Suggested Reading:* Goldfield Chapter 18 Foner 16 and 17
- 9/17: In-Class Write and Book Discussion  
**Homework: Choose Paper topic by 11:59pm on CourseDen**  
**Required Reading:**  
*The Long Day - The Story of a New York Working Girl As Told by Herself* by Dorothy Richardson (link →) <http://www.gutenberg.org/files/31118/31118-h/31118-h.htm>
- 9/22: Reforming America:  
**Required Reading**  
Martha White, “Work of the Woman’s Club” (1904)  
Grover Cleveland, “Woman’s Mission” (1905)  
National Association of Colored Women (1906)  
*Suggested Reading:* Foner, Chapter 18
- 9/24: American Empire  
*Suggested Reading:* Foner, Chapter 18
- 9/29: WWI  
**Required Readings:**  
Plagiarism (link →) [http://www.westga.edu/writing/1326\\_1649.php](http://www.westga.edu/writing/1326_1649.php)  
**Homework:**  
**Exam Books Due (2)**  
*Suggested Reading:* Foner, Chapter 19
- 10/1: War at Home  
**Required Reading**  
A Mitchell Palmer, “The Case Against the ‘Reds’” (link below)  
<http://chnm.gmu.edu/courses/hist409/palmer.html>  
Walter White, “The Causes of the Chicago Race Riot” (link below)  
<http://www.yale.edu/glc/archive/1126.htm>  
*Suggested Reading:* Foner, Chapter 19 and 20
- 10/6: Modern America:  
**Required Reading**  
Declaration of Sentiments (1848)  
Bruce Bliven, Flapper Jane (1925)  
Nancy MacLean, “Mobilizing the Invisible Army”  
*Suggested Reading:* Foner, Chapter 20
- 10/8: Great Depression  
*Suggested Reading:* Foner, Chapter 20
- 10/13: New Deal  
*Suggested Reading:* Foner, Chapter 21

**10/15: Midterm**

10/20: World War II

**Homework:**

**Post your Sources on CourseDen by 11:59pm**

*Suggested Reading:* Foner, Chapter 22

10/22: The Cold War

**Required Reading:**

George F. Kennan's "Long Telegram" (1946)

Nikolai Novikov Identifies a US Drive for World Supremacy (1946)

*Suggested Reading:* Foner, Chapter 23

10/27: Civil Rights Movement

*Suggested Reading:* Foner, Chapter 24 and 25

10/29: In-Class Write and Book Discussion

**Required Reading:**

Melton McLaurin: *Separate Pasts*

11/3: 1950s Culture

**Required Reading:**

David Yellin, "I'm Married to Working Mother" (1956)

Betty Friedan, "Reveals the Problem With No Name" (1963)

Miracle of America (1948)

US News, "Perils of Mass Culture" (1955)

*Suggested Reading:* Foner, Chapter 24

11/5: The Policies of JFK and LBJ

*Suggested Reading:* Foner, Chapter 25

11/10: Vietnam to Watergate

**Required Reading:**

A South Vietnamese Peasant (1961)

A Soldier Remembers His Ordeal (1967-1968)

*Suggested Reading:* Foner, Chapter 26

11/12: Political and Social Movements of the 1960s and 1970s

*Suggested Reading:* Foner Chapter 25

**PAPER DUE**

11/17: Carter and Crises

*Suggested Reading:* Foner, Chapter 26

11/19: Rise of the New Right and 1980s Culture

**Required Readings:**

Man and Woman of the Year: Middle America (*Time*, 1970) (link below)

<http://www.colorado.edu/AmStudies/lewis/film/middle.htm>

Jerry Falwell, Listen America (1980)

Phyllis Schlafley, "Explains What's Wrong With Equal Rights" (1972)

*Suggested Reading*: Foner, Chapter 26

12/1: The US and Globalization

**Required Readings:**

Barry Lynn, "Unmade in America: The True Cost of the Global Assembly Line"

Obama bin Laden Declares Jihad (1998)

Robert Baer, "Fall of the House of Saad" (2003) (link below)

<http://www.theatlantic.com/magazine/archive/2003/05/the-fall-of-the-house-of-saud/304215/>

*Suggested Reading*: Foner, Chapter 27

12/4: Catch up and Final exam review

**Final Exam: Section 10: 9:30 -10:50 class**

**FINAL EXAM: Thursday, December 10<sup>th</sup> 8am-10:30am**

**Section 11: 2-3:20 Class:**

**FINAL EXAM: Tuesday, December 8<sup>th</sup> 2pm-4:30pm**