

HISTORY 4474
HISTORY OF GEORGIA
SPRING SEMESTER 2016

Instructor: Dr. Matthew Hild

Office: TLC 3103 (Office hours: Monday & Wednesday, Noon-1:55, 4:55-5:25, 6:55-7:25, or by appointment)

Office telephone: (678) 839-6508 (for messages only)

E-mail address: mhild@westga.edu (Send e-mails directly to this address; do not use Course Den to send e-mails.)

Required books:

--James C. Cobb, *Georgia Odyssey*, 2nd ed. (Athens: University of Georgia Press, 2008)

--Christopher C. Meyers, ed., *The Empire State of the South: Georgia History in Documents and Essays* (Macon: Mercer University Press, 2008)

--C. Vann Woodward, *Tom Watson, Agrarian Rebel* (any one of the numerous printings of this book will suffice; they are all identical except for the cover)

Course description:

This course will examine the history of Georgia from pre-colonial times to the present, including Native American cultures; colonization and Georgia's role in the American Revolution; Georgia in the new republic; slavery and antebellum agricultural and economic development; the Civil War and Reconstruction; the New South era; the impact of the Great Depression and World War II; the civil rights movement; and the emergence of modern Georgia.

Course objectives:

In addition to gaining an understanding of the major themes and developments in the history of Georgia, students should also develop their critical reading and listening skills, analytical skills, writing skills, and speaking skills.

Exams, assignments, and grading:

--There will be two exams in this course, a mid-term and a non-cumulative final. Each will count for 25 percent of the course grade.

--Each student will be required to write a research paper. Each student may choose his or her own topic, but must have that choice of topic improved by the instructor. The research paper must draw upon at least three primary sources and at least three secondary sources, and must be at least eight double-spaced, typed pages in length (not counting footnotes or endnotes). This paper must be turned in at the beginning of class in hard copy form on March 23. The paper will count for 20 percent of the course grade.

--Each student will also make an oral presentation in class based upon his or her research paper. You will sign up in advance for the date of your presentation, and you must be in class to make your presentation on that date (unless you have an excused absence with

written verification). This presentation should take about ten to fifteen minutes and will count for 10 percent of the course grade.

--Class attendance and participation will count for the remaining 20 percent of the course grade.

--Each student's course grade will be determined according to the following scale, with no exceptions: A= 89.50 or above; B=79.50-89.49; C=69.50-79.49; D=59.50-69.49; F=less than 59.50.

Classroom etiquette:

All participants in this class (students and instructor alike) will be expected to refrain from rude or disruptive behavior in class, to keep their cell phones turned off in class, and to stay awake in class.

For information regarding accommodations for disabilities, UWG e-mail policy, credit hour policy, and the honor code, please see this link:

http://www.westga.edu/assetsDept/vpaa/Common_Language_for_Course_Syllabi.pdf

Class schedule:

Week 1 (January 11 & 13) Course introduction; Pre-colonial and colonial Georgia
Read *Empire State*, introduction and chaps. 1 and 2; Cobb, preface and pp. 1-10.

Week 2 (January 20) Georgia in the new republic
Read *Empire State*, chap. 3

Week 3 (January 25 & 27) The Cherokee Removal; Antebellum growth and development
Read *Empire State*, chaps. 4 & 5.

Week 4 (February 1 & 3) Slavery; the Civil War
Read *Empire State*, chaps. 6-7; Cobb, pp. 10-27.

Week 5 (February 8 & 10)

Exam # 1, Monday, February 8

During the class period on Wednesday, February 10, students will sign up for their research paper topics and oral presentation dates. Also at this point (after taking the exam), you should begin reading *Tom Watson, Agrarian Rebel*, and finish reading it before the final exam.

Week 6 (February 15 & 17) Reconstruction and the New South
Read *Empire State*, chaps. 8-10; Cobb, pp. 27-41.

Week 7 (February 22 & 24) The rise of Jim Crow; the Progressive Era
Read *Empire State*, chaps. 11-12; Cobb, pp. 41-53.

Week 8 (February 29 and March 2) The Great Depression and the New Deal; World War II

Read *Empire State*, chaps. 13-14; Cobb, pp. 53-68.

Week 9 (March 7 & 9) The civil rights movement

Read *Empire State*, chap. 15; Cobb, pp. 69-84.

Week 10 No classes—spring break, March 14-18

Week 11 (March 21 & 23) The emergence of modern Georgia

Read *Empire State*, chap. 16; finish Cobb.

Research paper due at the beginning of class on Wednesday, March 23.

Week 12 (March 28; no class on March 30 due to honors day)

Oral presentations

Week 13 (April 4 & 6)

Oral presentations

Week 14 (April 11 and 13)

Oral presentations

Week 15 (April 18 & 20)

Oral presentations on April 18; class discussion of *Tom Watson, Agrarian Rebel* on April 20

Final exam: Wednesday, April 27, 2:00 PM