

**HISTORY 4474**  
**HISTORY OF GEORGIA**  
**FALL SEMESTER 2017**

Instructor: Dr. Matthew Hild

Office: TLC 3103 (Office hours: Tuesday & Thursday, 12:30-1:55, 4:50-5:20, 6:50-7:20, or by appointment)

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

E-mail address: [mhild@westga.edu](mailto: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*, 2<sup>nd</sup> 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)

Articles: (will be provided either as handouts or electronically)

Robert S. Davis, Jr., "An Old Georgia Map Documents Revolutionary War Sites," *Georgia Historical Quarterly* 69 (Winter 1985): 518-521.

Andrew Forest Muir, "The Battle of Atlanta as Described by a Confederate Soldier," *Ga. Hist. Q.* 42 (March 1958): 109-111.

Matthew Hild, "Reassessing *The Roots of Southern Populism*," *Agricultural History* 82 (Winter 2008): 36-42.

Michelle Brattain, "'A Town as Small as That': Tallapoosa, Georgia and Operation Dixie, 1945-1950," *Ga. Hist. Q.* 81 (Summer 1997): 395-425.

M. Reksulak, G.R. Karahan, and W.F. Shughart II, "Flags of Our Fathers: Voting on Confederate Symbols in the State of Georgia," *Public Choice* 131 (April 2007): 83-99.

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 nine 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 November 7. 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, as well as general classroom policies, please see this link:

[https://www.westga.edu/academics/assets/docs/Common\\_Language\\_for\\_Course\\_Syllabi.pdf](https://www.westga.edu/academics/assets/docs/Common_Language_for_Course_Syllabi.pdf)

Class schedule:

Week 1 (August 10) Course introduction

Week 2 (August 15 & 17) Pre-colonial and colonial Georgia

Read *Empire State*, introduction and chaps. 1 and 2; Cobb, preface and pp. 1-10; Davis article.

Week 3 (August 22 & 24) Georgia in the new republic  
Read *Empire State*, chap. 3

Week 4 (August 29 & 31) The Cherokee Removal; Antebellum growth and development  
Read *Empire State*, chaps. 4 & 5.

Week 5 (September 5 & 7) Slavery and antebellum Georgia  
Read *Empire State*, chaps. 6; Cobb, pp. 10-20.

Week 6 (September 12 & 14) Georgia in the Civil War  
Read *Empire State*, chap. 7; Cobb, pp. 20-27; Muir article.

Week 7 (September 19 & 21)

**Exam # 1, Tuesday, September 19**

During the class period on Thursday, September 21, students will sign up for their research paper oral presentation dates (as well as their paper topics if they have not already chosen one and had it approved). Instructions and guidelines for both the paper and the oral presentation will be discussed.

Week 8 (September 26 & 28) Reconstruction and the New South  
Read *Empire State*, chaps. 8-10; Cobb, pp. 27-41; Hild article.

Week 9 (October 3) TBA

Week 10 (October 10 & 12) The rise of Jim Crow; the Progressive Era  
Read *Empire State*, chaps. 11-12; Cobb, pp. 41-53.

Week 11 (October 17 & 19) The Great Depression and the New Deal; World War II  
Read *Empire State*, chaps. 13-14; Cobb, pp. 53-68.

Week 12 (October 24 & 26) Operation Dixie and the labor movement in post-World War II Georgia; the civil rights movement  
Read the Brattain article for Tuesday; read *Empire State*, chap. 15, and Cobb, pp. 69-84 for Thursday. (Class discussion of *Empire State* chapter will be on Tuesday, Oct. 31.)

Week 13 (October 31 & November 2) The emergence of modern Georgia  
Read *Empire State*, chap. 16; finish Cobb. (Class discussion of *Empire State* chapter will be on Tuesday, Nov. 7.)

Week 14 (November 7 & 9)

**Research paper is due at the beginning of class, Tuesday, November 7.**

Class is CANCELED on Thursday, November 9.

Week 15 (November 14 & 16)

Tuesday: Modern Georgia, continued. Read the article by Reksulak, Karahan, and Shughart.

Thursday: oral presentations

Thanksgiving break, Nov. 20-24

Week 16 (November 28 & 30)

Oral presentations on both days, plus discussion of take-home final exam on November 30.

**Final exam: Take-home exam must be submitted to the instructor no later than 5:00 PM, Tuesday, December 5.**