

History 4481: Atlantic World Slavery
Spring 2019 Independent Study
My Email: cvasconc@westga.edu

Course Objectives:

The Atlantic World is a vibrant mixture of ethnicities, classes, and cultures in continuous struggle to forge new national identities. Throughout the course of this semester, we will see how the processes of colonial exploitation, the formation of plantation societies, the enforcement of slavery, and the development of the abolitionist movement shaped these struggles. By approaching this topic from a comparative perspective, we will be able understand Atlantic World slavery from a broader perspective.

Learning Outcomes:

Please see CourseDen for a list of learning outcomes specific to each unit of instruction.

This is a 100% online course.

100% of this course will take place online using CourseDen and your computer as the main delivery system. It is highly recommended that you have regular computer access. This course can be completed using public computers at UWG or other public access areas. However, be aware that using public computers may create a hardship. All course requirements remain the same whether your computer access is public or private (home).

Assigned Readings:

Please note that all readings are provided or are available online with links provided.

1. Philip Curtin, *The Rise and Fall of the Plantation Complex*. (UWG Library eBook)
2. Supplemental Readings provided in CourseDen

Special Note:

Please carefully review the following information at this link:

<https://www.westga.edu/administration/vpaa/common-language-course-syllabi.php>

This link contains important material pertaining to your rights and responsibilities in this class. Because these statements are updated as federal, state, university, and accreditation standards change, you should review the information each semester.

COMPUTER ACCESS

It is highly recommended that you have regular (daily) computer access, preferably a home computer with broadband Internet access. This course can be completed using public computers at UWG or other public access areas. All course requirements remain the same whether your computer access is public or private (home).

TECHNICAL SKILL REQUIREMENTS You should be comfortable with the following:

- using a word processor (changing font, spell check)
- using email for communication and sending an email attachment if necessary
- navigating CourseDen

Online Help

- Have questions about our classroom navigation? Email me either in courseden or at cvasconc@westga.edu

Have questions about getting into CourseDen? Contact the helpdesk:

<https://D2LHelp.view.usg.edu> Email: online@westga.edu Phone (M-F: 8-5p): 678-839-6248

Course Requirements and Evaluation

The course will be evaluated on a ten-point scale. A=90-100; B=80-89; C=70-79; D=60-69; F=59-0.

Emphasis will be on clarity of ideas, extent of research, reading, writing, analytical skills, class participation, and overall presentation. Participation in class discussions and lectures is encouraged and will form a component of the written assignment grades. Grade calculations are as follows

Reaction Papers 80%

Final Research Paper 20%

Attendance Verification

Since this is an independent study, we aren't going to have any discussions (unless you want them), so there isn't a class participation grade for this course. There is an attendance verification requirement in the form of a **mandatory student contract quiz and a mandatory plagiarism quiz**. You can find those in the quizzes module, and you'll recognize them from our Foodways class.

Failure to complete these quizzes by 11:59P on Wednesday, January 16 will result in your removal from the course and I will not be reinstating you. So FYI.

Reaction Papers: 80%

Each unit requires a short and informal reaction paper of 3-5 pages based on that modules' readings. There are 7 in total. For specific topic details, see the Unit Modules for readings and paper details. Combined, these papers are 80% of your grade, and they will be due at the end of each unit. I'll give you a prompt for each, but feel free to write about what you want to write about. There are no set guidelines for these papers outside of length. Cite your sources with an (author, pg) citation in text. Late papers are not accepted without proper documentation. Technical difficulties are exempt as an excuse. **Please see the syllabus and CourseDen for specific reaction paper deadlines.**

Final Research Paper: 20%

You will have **one formal research paper of 8-10 pages** to write on any topic of your choice relating to any particular theme you are interested in that relates to the materials relative to this

course. Please use footnotes cited according to the *Chicago Manual of Style* (or Turabian). Late papers are not accepted without proper documentation. Technical difficulties are exempt as an excuse. **This paper is due Monday, April 29 by 11:59P.**

A Note about Submitting Assignments to CourseDen

ASSIGNMENT FORMAT: All submitted assignments must be double spaced, written in size 12 Times New Roman font, black text, with 1" margins, and submitted in MS word format. In-text citations are required for all paraphrased or directly quoted information. All citations, unless otherwise specified in the assignment guidelines, must be cited according to the *Chicago Manual of Style*.

SUBMITTING ASSIGNMENTS LATE OR OUTSIDE COURSEDEN: **Late assignments submitted without proper documentation will receive a 0. Please note that this rule is written in stone.**

THE RETURN OF GRADED WORK: Assignments will be graded in one week's time of their scheduled deadlines unless otherwise noted by me in CourseDen.

IN THE EVENT OF TECHNICAL DIFFICULTIES

It is **your responsibility** to see that your assignments have posted to CourseDen properly. Please check to make sure that your assignment was uploaded correctly and appears in the appropriate Assignment Dropbox. **It is your responsibility to confirm that your assignments have been submitted properly to the Assignment Dropbox.**

In the event that you are having computer/wifi difficulties, please find an alternative source. **Please do not wait until the last minute to submit assignments.** You are submitting items over the Internet, and sometimes the Internet Gods get angry and withhold access. There are many things that can go wrong in the path between your computer and CourseDen. **Technical problems related to computer connections, equipment, or submitting an incomplete or incorrect assignment cannot be used as an excuse for failure to complete assignments or to participate online.** Please be aware of alternate Internet connections and computers available through college computer labs, college Learning Resource Centers (libraries), the public library, and any friends, relatives, or neighbors and access them if my personal computer equipment is not working. **It is your responsibility to locate the computer hardware, software and Internet connections necessary to stay connected and current with your course work online.**

A Note about Academic Honesty:

I will not tolerate cheating, plagiarism, or any other form of academic dishonesty in this class and my policy is one of zero tolerance. All assignments and discussion posts submitted in class must be written in your own words. This includes paraphrasing, which may not be taking a passage word for word, but certainly does not give credit to ideas and/or information. **All assignments will be monitored by Turnitin, and plagiarizers will automatically fail the course.**

Plagiarism is a serious offense and every UWG student agrees upon their admission to the university to uphold the UWG Honor Code, which states: “[a]s a West Georgia student, I will represent myself truthfully and complete all academic assignments honestly. I understand that if I violate this code, I will accept the penalties imposed, should I be found guilty of violations through processes due me as a university community member.” UWG students further agree that they will “refrain from engaging in acts that do not maintain academic and personal integrity. These include, but are not limited to, plagiarism, cheating, fabrications, aid of academic dishonesty, lying, bribery or threats, and stealing.”

In short, don’t do it. You can find a link to the UWG Honor Code in the Course Overview Module, as well as links to pages on what constitutes plagiarism and how to avoid it in the Course Overview Module. Also, the mandatory plagiarism quiz will help you with this as well. Furthermore, assignment and discussion guidelines will give instructions on citation formats, but feel free to contact me with questions on how or what to cite. A good rule of thumb is “when in doubt, cite.”

Tentative Course Schedule

Unit 1: The Enlightenment vs. Plantation Agriculture

Wed, 1/16: Mandatory Syllabus Quiz and Mandatory Plagiarism Quiz by 11:59P

Sat, 1/19: Reaction Paper 1 Due by 11:59P

Unit 2: The Transatlantic Slave Trade

Wed, 1/30: Reaction Paper 2 Due by 11:59P

Unit 3: Slave Life

Tue, 2/12: Reaction Paper 3 Due by 11:59P

Unit 4: Resistance and

Sun, 2/24: Reaction Paper 4 Due by 11:59P

Unit 5: The Abolitionists

Tue, 3/12: Reaction Paper 5 Due by 11:59P

Unit 6: Slavery and Abolition in Latin America

Sun, 3/31: Reaction Paper 6 Due by 11:59P

Unit 7: Legacies

Sat, 4/13: Reaction Paper 7 Due by 11:59P

Unit 8: Research

Mon, 4/29: Final Research Paper Due by 11:59P