

GOING WEST: WESTERN TRAILS AND FRONTIERS

HIST 5485-05, Spring 2020. Nursing 122, TuTh 12:30-1:45 PM

Dr. Gary Van Valen

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Course Objectives

This course is an introduction to the history and civilization of the U.S. West and assumes no prior knowledge of the area. We will explore the history of the U.S. West as a succession of Native American, Hispanic, and American frontiers. Students will learn about these frontiers through primary and secondary sources on Native American trails, the Camino Real, the Santa Fe Trail, the Santa Fe Railroad, and Route 66. The Study Away component in New Mexico will allow students to study associated sites and experience the landscape traversed by these trails first hand. We will conduct this trip jointly with Dr. Ann McCleary's HIST 4485/5485 Cultural Heritage in the American West.

Specific learning outcomes include the ability to:

- Demonstrate content knowledge of history
- Analyze primary and secondary sources for their historical content and interpretations
- Demonstrate writing skills that reflect persuasive historical arguments based on evidence and proper citation

Additionally, this course is designed to help you appreciate the multicultural nature of the U.S. West. You will be able to improve your geographical awareness, your understanding of historiography, and the skills of writing, analysis, and critical thinking that all of your other important endeavors will require.

Course Requirements

Students will be expected to keep up with the reading. Because of the large amount of material to be covered, class attendance is absolutely essential if you hope to get a good grade. Attendance will be taken for administrative reasons, but is not mandatory.

Final payments for the study away program charge are due on Friday, January 10.

Travel to New Mexico between March 12 and March 19 is a required part of the course. If you plan on attending the National Council on Public History meeting in Atlanta (March 18-21, 2020), you may return before March 19, but you must let me know at the beginning of the semester.

Most of our class meeting time will be before we leave for New Mexico. We will not meet regularly after we return, but we will still meet two times (see schedule).

Our Study Away trip counts as some of your class meeting time.

Three additional meeting times related to the logistics of the Study Away trip are also

included on course schedule and are required. Please note that we may add meetings, if needed.

I reserve the right to make changes to this syllabus. It is your responsibility to attend class so that you may be aware of any changes.

Grading

Your grade will be distributed as follows:

10% Paper on Susan Shelby Magoffin, *Down the Santa Fe Trail and Into Mexico* and Lewis H. Garrard, *Wah-to-yah and the Taos Trail*

10% Paper on Richard White, *Railroaded: The Transcontinentals and the Making of Modern America* and other assigned readings

10% Paper on Peter B. Dedek. *Hip to the Trip: A Cultural History of Route 66*

10% Paper on Arnolde De León. *Racial Frontiers* and Sandra Myres, *Westering Women and the Frontier Experience, 1800-1915*

20% Journal (you can submit the same journal for Dr. Ann McCleary's HIST 4485 Cultural Heritage in the American West, if you are taking that class)

30% Reflection paper, which will be published on our Study Away website. Further instructions will be provided in class.

10 % Participation

Academic Honesty

You are expected to be familiar with and abide by the university's policies on academic honesty. As a West Georgia student, you have pledged not to lie, cheat, steal, or commit plagiarism. It is equally wrong to give aid as it is to receive it. When copying word for word from another source, you must use quotation marks and cite your source. When paraphrasing material or borrowing another author's ideas, you must also cite your source. Plagiarism on the written assignments will result in an F for the course. Assignments are to be done independently. Two or more students cannot hand in variations of the same paper, even if they study together. You are not allowed to submit your own work from a previous course without the prior instructor's and my permission.

Special Accommodations

If you are on record with the university's Accessibility Services as having special academic or physical needs requiring accommodations, please let me know as soon as possible. We need to discuss your accommodations before they can be implemented.

If you believe you are eligible for accommodations but have not formally contacted Accessibility Services, please call (678) 839-6428 or drop by the Counseling Center at 123 Row Hall. Please also check their webpage at <https://www.westga.edu/accessibility/>.

Policy on Electronic Devices and Communication

Cell phones must be turned off prior to entering the classroom. Laptops are allowed in the classroom only for taking notes. Do not text, check messages, use the internet, or listen to music

on any device during class. NOTE: These rules do not apply for the Study Away trip. Although you should pay attention during learning experiences, you are encouraged to take photos, videos, and communicate with each other during the trip.

To protect your privacy, all electronic communication with me must be conducted through your West Georgia e-mail. As all e-mail is potentially insecure, I will only discuss your grades with you in person.

University-Wide Policies

Please refer to the following document for additional information on university-wide policies that apply to this class: <https://www.westga.edu/administration/vpaa/common-language-course-syllabi.php>

Study Away Photo Contest

We will be sponsoring our Study Away/Study Abroad photo contest again this year for our trip to New Mexico! We will share the photo categories and submission dates as soon as we have those available. Winners will be announced at our dinner on April 28 and all contest photos will be published on our Study Away website.

Required Books:

Susan Shelby Magoffin. *Down the Santa Fe Trail and Into Mexico*. University of Nebraska Press, 1982. ISBN 9780803281165

Free version is available online at <http://cdigital.dgb.uanl.mx/la/1020000885/1020000885.PDF> (with watermarks)

Lewis H. Garrard. *Wah-to-yah and the Taos Trail*. University of Oklahoma Press, 1972. ISBN 9780806110165

Free versions are available online at <https://archive.org/details/wahtoyahtaostrai00garr/page/12> and <https://catalog.hathitrust.org/Record/008649276>

Richard White. *Railroaded: The Transcontinentals and the Making of Modern America*. W.W. Norton, 2011. ISBN 9780393342376

Peter B. Dedek. *Hip to the Trip: A Cultural History of Route 66*. University of New Mexico Press, 2007. ISBN 9780826341945

Arnoldo De León. *Racial Frontiers: Africans, Chinese, and Mexicans in Western America, 1848-1890*. University of New Mexico Press, 2002. ISBN 978082632272

Sandra Myres. *Westering Women and the Frontier Experience, 1800-1915*. University of New Mexico Press, 1982. ISBN 9780826306265

Hunt Janin and Ursula Carlson. *Trails of Historic New Mexico: Routes used by Indian, Spanish and American Travelers through 1886*. McFarland, 2010. ISBN 9780786440108. This book is

for your reference and should be read throughout the semester. There is no assigned paper, but it can be used to inform your final reflection paper.

Additional readings will be available on CourseDen.

Course Schedule:

DATE	TOPIC	READINGS
<u>Week 1</u>		
Jan. 7	Introduction to the class	
Jan. 9	Frontiers in theory	
Jan. 10	final payment deadline for program charge, and end of the Add-Drop period	
<u>Week 2</u>		
Jan. 14	Native American Frontiers	
Jan. 16	Native American Trails	
<u>Week 3</u>		
Jan. 21	Spanish American Frontiers and Trails	
Jan. 23	Trails Followed by 4:00-5:00 meeting of the two classes	
<u>Week 4</u>		
Jan. 28	Spanish American Frontiers and Trails	
Jan. 30	Trails	
<u>Week 5</u>		
Feb. 4	Trails	
Feb. 6	NO CLASS	
<u>Week 6</u>		
Feb. 11	Trails Paper due on Susan Shelby Magoffin, <i>Down the Santa Fe Trail and Into Mexico</i> and Lewis H. Garrard, <i>Wah-to-yah and the Taos Trail</i>	

Feb. 13 Railroads

Week 7

Feb. 18 Railroads

Feb. 20 Railroads, Video

Paper due on Richard White, *Railroaded: The Transcontinentals and the Making of Modern America* and other assigned readings

Week 8

Feb. 25 Highways

Feb. 27 Highways: Route 66

Week 9

Mar. 3 Movie

Mar. 5 Movie

Paper due on Peter B. Dedek. *Hip to the Trip: A Cultural History of Route 66*
Followed by 4:00-5:00 meeting of two classes

Mar. 10 Preparatory meeting before trip

Mar. 12 to Mar. 19 travel to New Mexico

Schedule (subject to modification)

Mar. 12 Depart for Albuquerque

Mar. 13 Visit Coronado Historic Site and Kasha-Katuwe Tent Rocks National Monument

Mar. 14 Visit Petroglyph National Monument, Rio Puerco Bridge (a Route 66 site), and Acoma Pueblo. Possible visit to Flea Market at State Fair Grounds in Albuquerque on return

Mar. 15 Visit Santa Fe

Mar. 16 Visit El Rancho de las Golondrinas (pending arrangement of private tour), followed by Pecos National Historical Park; return with stops at “Old West” style towns of Cerrillos and Madrid.

Mar. 17 Planned activities in Albuquerque, including visit to Old Town.

Mar. 18 Free day in Albuquerque

Mar. 19 Return to Atlanta

Mar. 31 Journals due

Apr. 14 Paper due on Arnolde De León. *Racial Frontiers* and Sandra Myres, *Westering Women and the Frontier Experience, 1800-1915*

Apr. 21 Reflection paper due

Apr. 28 Study Away group meets and shares research, 5- 7 p.m. Location to be announced.

May 11 Final grades will be submitted by 12:00 noon