

The University of Texas at Tyler
HIST 4325: Alcohol in American History
MWF, 12:20-1:15
 Spring 2023

Instructor: Prof. Matt Stith
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Office: CAS 127
Office Hours: Tuesday & Thursday, 12:30-2:00; Or by appointment.



“Gerke Brewing Co. Employees, n.d., Cincinnati, Ohio”

Course Description:

This course explores alcohol's role in American history from the pre-Columbian era to the twenty-first century. In so doing, it engages the social, cultural, political, economic, agricultural, and environmental forces that shaped American history through the lens of beer, wine, and spirits.

Content Objectives:

Upon completion of this course, students should be able to:

- 1) Demonstrate a strong understanding of how alcohol shaped social, cultural, political, and environmental currents in American history.
- 2) Think critically and objectively about the history alcohol and its place in the course of American history.
- 3) Develop analytical skills through thinking, speaking, and writing about American history generally and the history of alcohol in America specifically.

Important Note:

I encourage you to meet with me regularly to discuss or clarify lecture, discussion, or reading—or to talk about history in general. My job (and satisfaction) is as much to work with students on an individual basis as it is to lecture. Please keep this in mind throughout the semester.



George Washington and the Whiskey Rebellion (1794)

Required Reading: [All available on course reserve at the library, aka free]

- Sharon V. Salinger, *Taverns and Drinking in Early America* (Baltimore: Johns Hopkins University Press, 2002)
- Megan L. Bever, *At War With King Alcohol: Debating Drinking and Masculinity in the Civil War* (Chapel Hill: University of North Carolina Press, 2022)
- Daniel Okrent, *Last Call: The Rise and Fall of Prohibition* (New York: Scribner, 2010)

Recommended Reading for Further Study or General Interest: [These are not required, but I recommend all of them should you be interested in pursuing the topic(s) further now or in the future. Some of these might also be worth consulting for your research project.]

- Dane Huckelbridge, *The United States of Beer: The True Tale of How Conquered America, From B.C. to Budweiser and Beyond* (New York: HarperCollins, 2016)
- _____. *Bourbon: A History of the American Spirit* (New York: HarperCollins, 2014)
- Reid Mitenbuler, *Bourbon Empire: The Past and Future of America's Whiskey* (New York: Penguin, 2015)
- Thomas John Lappas, *In League Against King Alcohol: Native American Women and the Woman's Christian Temperance Union, 1874-1933* (Norman: University of Oklahoma Press, 2020)
- Lisa McGirr, *The War on Alcohol: Prohibition and the Rise of the American State* (New York: W.W. Norton, 2015)
- Elliott West, *The Saloon on the Rocky Mountain Mining Frontier* (Lincoln: University of Nebraska Press, 1979)
- Sarah W. Tracy, *Alcoholism in America: From Reconstruction to Prohibition* (Baltimore: Johns Hopkins University Press, 2005)
- William Hogeland, *The Whiskey Rebellion: George Washington, Alexander Hamilton, and the Frontier Rebels Who Challenged America's Newfound Sovereignty* (New York: Simon & Schuster, 2006)
- Richard Zaks, *Island of Vice: Theodore Roosevelt's Quest to Clean Up Sin-Loving New York* (New York: Anchor Books, 2012)
- Gregg Smith, *Beer in America: The Early Years, 1587-1840* (1998)
- Rob DeSalle and Ian Tattersall, *A Natural History of Beer* (New Haven: Yale University Press, 2019)



Jerry Thomas, 19th Century New York City Bartender

Participation: 150 points

For this course to work, regular and informed participation is critically important. Please come to each class ready to engage the readings. Also, come prepared with a list of open-ended, thoughtful questions that we might all consider. No or minimal interaction will result in a loss of points as will any lack of proper decorum in discussion. Three un-excused absences are allowed without penalty. The fourth and *each subsequent* unexcused absence will result in 10 percent (15 points) subtracted from the participation score. Finally, if all goes as planned, we will take some “field trips” throughout the semester. I will work with each of you as much as possible to ensure that we can all attend all the trips, but I understand that certain times/days might be an impossibility for some.

Take Home Essays: 100 points (50x2)

Students will write two brief (3-4 page) essays in which they connect readings with class discussion using specific examples from each. These will be “take-home” and will be due on Canvas. The first will be due at the mid-term, the second at the end of the semester. Each prompt will be made available at least a week before it is due. Each essay is worth 50 points.

Reading Outlines (Analytical Summaries): 150 pts (50x3)

Please create a detailed outline (in bullet point) for each book we read in class. A passing outline will include: 1) Proper citation of the title, etc., at top; 2) A clear statement of the argument(s); 3) Three or more specific examples the author uses to prove their argument(s); 4) Your clear analysis of the book’s strengths and/or weaknesses. Each outline is worth 50 points.

Research Presentation: 100 pts

Please prepare and deliver a 15 to 20-minute presentation to the class in which you present research on a mutually agreed-upon topic. We will discuss possible topics early in the semester. All presentations must be accompanied by a detailed outline and an annotated bibliography. The latter must contain 5+ primary sources and 10+ secondary sources. Both the outline and the bibliography will be distributed to the class in advance of the presentation. More detailed guidelines will be posted early in the semester.

Point Breakdown:

Participation:	150 pts
Take Home Essays (50x2):	100 pts
Reading Outlines (50x3):	150 pts
<u>Research Presentation:</u>	<u>100 pts (Presentation: 60%; Annotated Bib: 20%; Outline: 20%)</u>
Total:	500 pts

Important Dates:

Feb. 20, 22, 24 (Hybrid Week)

Take Home Essay I Due: 11:59pm, Friday, Feb 24, on Canvas

Research Presentations: April 17, 19, 21

Take Home Essay II Due: 11:59pm, Friday, April 28, on Canvas

Reading Outlines: Semi-flexible, but generally within a week after we finish the book in question. I will keep you posted.



The Drunkard's Progress (1846)

Schedule/Topic/Lecture Outline:**Part 1: Alcohol in American History from Pre-Columbian America to 1831**

- Unit 1: Class Introduction: The Meaning of Alcohol in History & Corn, Gender, and Beer in Pre-Columbian America
- Unit 2: "Our victuals being much spent, especially our beer": Alcohol and Early British America, 1590s-1690s
- Unit 3: American Culture, American Alcohol: Culture, Trade, and the Foundations of an Alcoholic Empire, 1690s-1750s
- Unit 4: Hard Cider, Weak Beer, and Strong Spirits: Fermentation and Fomentation, 1760s-1775
- Unit 5: Alcohol, War, and American Independence, 1776-1783
- Unit 6: Nationhood, Taxes, and a "Spirited" Rebellion, 1784-1803
- Unit 7: Alcoholic Republic, Temperance America, 1803-1831
- Spring Break! (March 6-10)

Part 2: Alcohol in American History from 1831 to 2021

- Unit 8: American Bourbon, Amerikanisch Bier, and Irish Whiskey: Fermenting a New American Identity, 1832-1850
- Unit 9: Beer, Whiskey, and America's War with Itself, 1850-1877
- Unit 10: Saloons, Beer Halls, and the Rebirth of Alcohol in the Rural West and the Urban East, 1877-1910
- Unit 11: The Politics of Beer, Wine, and Liquor from Reconstruction to Prohibition, 1865-1920
- Unit 12: Dry America, Drunk America: Speakeasies, Moonshiners, Gangsters, and Gatsby, 1920-1933
- Unit 13: Big Beer, Hipster Beer: Alcohol and Modern American Culture, 1933-2021



Anti-Immigrant Cartoon, c. 1840s

Classroom Conduct:

Be nice.

Make-up Policy:

I'll work with you on anything missed.

Academic Honesty:

Cheating of any kind, including plagiarism, will result in immediate failure of the class and possibly further sanctions from the University of Texas at Tyler. Plagiarism, put simply, is using another's work as your own without proper citation or usage. This includes everything from copying and pasting from the Internet to failing to cite an idea from another source that you put in your own words. I strongly recommend reviewing the university policy for cheating and academic dishonesty at the following website: <http://www.uttyler.edu/judicialaffairs/>



Prohibition Protest, c. 1920s

UNIVERSITY POLICIES AND ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

UT Tyler Honor Code

Every member of the UT Tyler community joins together to embrace: Honor and integrity that will not allow me to lie, cheat, or steal, nor to accept the actions of those who do.

Students Rights and Responsibilities

To know and understand the policies that affect your rights and responsibilities as a student at UT Tyler, please follow this link:

<http://www.uttyler.edu/wellness/rightsresponsibilities.php>

Campus Carry

We respect the right and privacy of students 21 and over who are duly licensed to carry concealed weapons in this class. License holders are expected to behave responsibly and keep a handgun secure and concealed. More information is available at

<http://www.uttyler.edu/about/campus-carry/index.php>

UT Tyler a Tobacco-Free University

All forms of tobacco will not be permitted on the UT Tyler main campus, branch campuses, and any property owned by UT Tyler. This applies to all members of the University community, including students, faculty, staff, University affiliates, contractors, and visitors. Forms of tobacco not permitted include cigarettes, cigars, pipes, water pipes (hookah), bidis, kreteks, electronic cigarettes, smokeless tobacco, snuff, chewing tobacco, and all other tobacco products.

There are several cessation programs available to students looking to quit smoking, including counseling, quitlines, and group support. For more information on cessation programs please visit www.uttyler.edu/tobacco-free.

Grade Replacement/Forgiveness and Census Date Policies

Students repeating a course for grade forgiveness (grade replacement) must file a Grade Replacement Contract with the Enrollment Services Center (ADM 230) on or before the Census Date of the semester in which the course will be repeated. (For Fall, the Census Date is Sept. 12.) Grade Replacement Contracts are available in the Enrollment Services Center or at

<http://www.uttyler.edu/registrar>. Each semester's Census Date can be found on the Contract itself, on the Academic Calendar, or in the information pamphlets published each semester by the Office of the Registrar.

Failure to file a Grade Replacement Contract will result in both the original and repeated grade being used to calculate your overall grade point average. Undergraduates are eligible to exercise grade replacement for only three course repeats during their career at UT Tyler; graduates are eligible for two grade replacements. Full policy details are printed on each Grade Replacement Contract.

The Census Date (Sept. 12th) is the deadline for many forms and enrollment actions of which students need to be aware. These include:

- Submitting Grade Replacement Contracts, Transient Forms, requests to withhold directory information, approvals for taking courses as Audit, Pass/Fail or Credit/No Credit.
- Receiving 100% refunds for partial withdrawals. (There is no refund for these after the Census Date)
- Schedule adjustments (section changes, adding a new class, dropping without a "W" grade)
- Being reinstated or re-enrolled in classes after being dropped for non-payment
- Completing the process for tuition exemptions or waivers through Financial Aid State-Mandated Course Drop Policy

Texas law prohibits a student who began college for the first time in Fall 2007 or thereafter from dropping more than six courses during their entire undergraduate career. This includes courses dropped at another 2-year or 4-year Texas public college or university. For purposes of this rule, a dropped course is any course that is dropped after the census date (See Academic Calendar for the specific date). Exceptions to the 6-drop rule may be found in the catalog. Petitions for exemptions must be submitted to the Enrollment Services Center and must be accompanied by documentation of the extenuating circumstance. Please contact the Enrollment Services Center if you have any questions. **Disability/Accessibility Services** In accordance with Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act, Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) and the ADA Amendments Act (ADAAA) the University of Texas at Tyler offers accommodations to students with learning, physical and/or psychological disabilities. If you have a disability, including a non-visible diagnosis such as a learning disorder, chronic illness, TBI, PTSD, ADHD, or you have a history of modifications or accommodations in a previous educational environment, you are encouraged to visit <https://hood.accessiblelearning.com/UTTyler> and fill out the New Student application. The Student Accessibility and Resources (SAR) office will contact you when your application has been submitted and an appointment with Cynthia Lowery, Assistant Director of Student Services/ADA Coordinator. For more information, including filling out an application for services, please visit the SAR webpage at <http://www.uttyler.edu/disabilityservices>, the SAR office located in the University Center, # 3150 or call 903.566.7079. **Student Absence due to Religious Observance** Students who anticipate being absent from class due to a religious observance are requested to inform the instructor of such absences by the second class meeting of the semester.

Student Absence for University-Sponsored Events and Activities

If you intend to be absent for a university-sponsored event or activity, you (or the event sponsor) must notify the instructor at least two weeks prior to the date of the planned absence. At that time the instructor will set a date and time when make-up assignments will be completed.

Social Security and FERPA Statement

It is the policy of The University of Texas at Tyler to protect the confidential nature of social security numbers. The University has changed its computer programming so that all students have an identification number. The electronic transmission of grades (e.g., via e-mail) risks violation of the Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act; grades will not be transmitted electronically.

Emergency Exits and Evacuation

Everyone is required to exit the building when a fire alarm goes off. Follow your instructor's directions regarding the appropriate exit. If you require assistance during an evacuation, inform your instructor in the first week of class. Do not re-enter the building unless given permission by University Police, Fire department, or Fire Prevention Services.

Student Standards of Academic Conduct

Disciplinary proceedings may be initiated against any student who engages in scholastic dishonesty, including, but not limited to, cheating, plagiarism, collusion, the submission for credit of any work or materials that are attributable in whole or in part to another person, taking an examination for another person, any act designed to give unfair advantage to a student or the attempt to commit such acts.

“Cheating” includes, but is not limited to:

- copying from another student's test paper;
- using, during a test, materials not authorized by the person giving the test;
- failure to comply with instructions given by the person administering the test;
- possession during a test of materials which are not authorized by the person giving the test, such as class notes or specifically designed “crib notes”. The presence of textbooks constitutes a violation if they have been specifically prohibited by the person administering the test;
- using, buying, stealing, transporting, or soliciting in whole or part the contents of an unadministered test, test key, homework solution, or computer program;
- collaborating with or seeking aid from another student during a test or other assignment without authority;
- discussing the contents of an examination with another student who will take the examination;
- divulging the contents of an examination, for the purpose of preserving questions for use by another, when the instructor has designated that the examination is not to be removed from the examination room or not to be returned or to be kept by the student;
- substituting for another person, or permitting another person to substitute for oneself to take a course, a test, or any course-related assignment;
- paying or offering money or other valuable thing to, or coercing another person to obtain an unadministered test, test key, homework solution, or computer program or information about an unadministered test, test key, home solution or computer program;
- falsifying research data, laboratory reports, and/or other academic work offered for credit;
- Taking, keeping, misplacing, or damaging the property of The University of Texas at Tyler, or of another, if the student knows or reasonably should know that an unfair academic advantage would be gained by such conduct; and
- misrepresenting facts, including providing false grades or resumes, for the purpose of obtaining an academic or financial benefit or injuring another student academically or financially.

“Plagiarism” includes, but is not limited to, the appropriation, buying, receiving as a gift, or obtaining by any means another's work and the submission of it as one's own academic work offered for credit.

“Collusion” includes, but is not limited to, the unauthorized collaboration with another person in preparing academic assignments offered for credit or collaboration with another person to commit a violation of any section of the rules on scholastic dishonesty.

All written work that is submitted will be subject to review by plagiarism software.

UT Tyler Resources for Students

- [UT Tyler Writing Center](http://writingcenter@uttyler.edu) (903.565.5995), writingcenter@uttyler.edu
- [UT Tyler Tutoring Center](http://tutoring@uttyler.edu) (903.565.5964), tutoring@uttyler.edu
- The Mathematics Learning Center, RBN 4021, this is the open access computer lab for math students, with tutors on duty to assist students who are enrolled in early-career courses.
- [UT Tyler Counseling Center](http://counseling@uttyler.edu) (903.566.7254)