

University of Texas at Tyler
HIST 4322: The American South
MW, 2:30-3:50
BUS 259
 Spring 2016

Instructor: Dr. Matt Stith
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Office: BUS 238
Office Hours: MWF, 10:10-11:10; Or by appointment.

“Doubt is not a pleasant condition, but certainty is absurd.” ~ Voltaire

Course Description:

We will explore Southern history from European contact to the present with wide focus on several major themes including Anglo-Indian relations, agricultural development, slavery, sectional issues, the Civil War, Reconstruction, segregation and disfranchisement, populism, the Great Depression, and the Civil Rights movement. In so doing, we will consider social, cultural, political, environmental, and military history through the South’s evolution within North America and the United States.

Content Objectives:

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

1. Demonstrate a strong understanding of evolution of the American South from European contact to the present.
2. Think critically and objectively about the South and its place in American social, cultural, environmental, political, economic, and military history.
3. Develop analytical skills through thinking, speaking, and writing about American history generally and the American South specifically.

Important Note:

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

Required Reading:

BOOKS:

- Jack Temple Kirby, *Mockingbird Song: Ecological Landscapes of the South* (Chapel Hill: University of North Carolina Press, 2006)
- Edward E. Baptist, *This Half Has Never Been Told: Slavery and the Making of American Capitalism* (New York: Basic Books, 2014)
- Pete Daniel, *Lost Revolutions: The South in the 1950s* (Chapel Hill: University of North Carolina Press, 2000)

ARTICLES/CHAPTERS: (On Blackboard)

- James C. Cobb, “Rednecks, White Socks, and Pina Coladas: Country Music Ain’t What it Used to Be . . . And it Really Never Was,” *Southern Cultures* 5 (December 1999): 41-51.

Book Reviews:

A one page, single-spaced, 600-word, typed review is required for two books--Baptist and Daniel. A good review will include: 1) the author’s argument and purpose, 2) a brief summary of the central theme, and 3) whether or not the author succeeds in proving their argument. Each review is worth 10 points, for a total of 20 points.

Exams:

There will be two exams worth 50 points each. We will have a study session during the class before each exam. The exams will consist of two essay questions worth equal amounts. Typically, one essay will cover class lecture and discussion and the other will focus almost entirely on assigned reading.

Research Paper:

Students will write a 10-12 page research paper on some aspect of southern history. The paper *must* be based on primary source material. It is worth 50 points. Detailed instructions will be distributed early in the semester.

Attendance and Participation:

This is an upper-level university course. Attendance and participation are mandatory. *More than four un-excused absences will result in the loss of a letter grade in the class.*

Point Breakdown:

Book Reviews (25pts x 2):	50 pts
Exam I:	50 pts
Exam II:	50 pts
<u>Research Paper (Final):</u>	<u>50 pts</u>
Total:	200 pts

Make-up Policy:

I will work with you on an individual basis with regard to any missed exams or deadlines.

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/scholasticdishonesty.php>

- PART I: What is/was the South?; Contact, Colonies, and Revolution (1520s-1814)
- PART II: The Antebellum South (1800-1860)
- PART III: The Causes and Course of the Civil War (1850-1865)
- PART IV: Reconstruction and the Jim Crow South (1865-1930)
- PART V: Civil Rights and the Modern South (1930-2011)

Important Dates:

Baptist Review:	Monday, March 14 (by 11:59pm on Blackboard)
Exam I (Mid-Term):	Wednesday, March 16
NO CLASS:	Wednesday, March 23
Daniel Review:	Wednesday, April 27 (by 11:59pm on Blackboard)
Exam II:	Wednesday, April 27
Research Paper (aka Final):	Wednesday, May 4 (by 11:59pm on Blackboard)

POLICIES THAT MUST APPEAR IN EACH COURSE SYLLABUS

The following University policies must appear on each course syllabus or be provided as an informational sheet (web-links to these policies may be used in the print or electronic syllabus) <http://www.uttyler.edu/academicaffairs/syllabuspolicies.pdf>

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>

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. 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 is the deadline for many forms and enrollment actions that students need to be aware of. 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 offers accommodations to students with learning, physical and/or psychological disabilities. If you have a disability, including non-visible a disability diagnosis such as a chronic disease, learning disorder, head injury or ADHD, or you have a history of modifications or accommodations in a previous educational environment you are encouraged to contact the Student Accessibility and Resources office and schedule an interview with an Accessibility Case Manager. If you are unsure if the above criteria applies to you, but have questions or concerns please contact the SAR office. For more information or to set up an appointment please visit the SAR webpage (<http://www.uttyler.edu/disabilityservices/>) or the SAR office located in the University Center, Room 3150 or call 903.566.7079. You may also send an email to saroffice@uttyler.edu.

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.