

Multicultural Georgia
History 4110H

Spring 2008
LeConte 135
Tu/Th 5:00 – 6:15

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In this course, we will explore the racial, ethnic, and regional diversity of Georgia – and by extension the South – from Spanish exploration through the civil rights movement and recent immigration trends. We will take both chronological and thematic approaches in assessing the interactions of Georgians – Native American, European, African-American, Jewish, Coastal, Appalachian, Piney Woods, Latino – at various points in our state's history. In many ways such multi-cultural interactions among Georgians have been typical of those across the American South; in other ways, they have shaped the course of Georgia's development, past and present, in more distinctive terms. These will be among the issues we will explore throughout the course.

This will be a multi-disciplinary as well as a multi-cultural approach to understanding Georgia's cultural past. We will draw on both historical and literary sources and a variety of approaches to the various cultures and cultural interactions that we will study. Assigned readings will consist of a variety of genres in which the Georgia experience has been captured and conveyed – historical and sociological monographs, primary documents, novels, short stories, plays, memoirs and diaries, music, and film.

Assigned readings: available (new or used) at UGA and off-campus bookstores

The New Georgia Guide

Theda Perdue and Michael Green, *The Cherokee Nation and the Trail of Tears*

Kent A. Leslie, *Woman of Color, Daughter of Privilege*

James Dickey, *Deliverance*

Kevin Kruse, *White Flight*

Janisse Ray, *Ecology of a Cracker Childhood*

Bel-Jean Course Packet (available at Broad St. store)

Course Requirements/Assessment:

Course requirements will include a midterm, a final exam, periodic quizzes and in-class thought pieces on the readings, and three short papers (5 to 7 pp.), including one based on *The New Georgia Guide* and one based on an outside film and/or novel. Details on topics, guidelines, and dates for papers will follow.

Attendance is mandatory, and excessive absence (more than four) will result in a drop in grade. Class participation will also be a crucial factor in assessing your performance in the course.

Course Schedule and Reading Assignments:

(dates are approximate and subject to revision)

Note: Unless noted otherwise, assigned readings are in the Bel-Jean packet. In a few cases (indicated below), they'll be available on Library Reserve instead:

Note: Most assignments below include references to articles in *The New Georgia Encyclopedia* (NGE) which you may find helpful as background reading on the topics and the authors covered for that week. You are encouraged to consult it regularly.

- Week 1
Jan. 8-10 Overview of Georgia History
Read: Jim Cobb, "Georgia Odyssey" in *The New Georgia Guide*
- Week 2
Jan. 15-18 Oglethorpe's Vision of Multicultural Colony
Read: Spalding, "Oglethorpe's Quest for an American Zion"
Levy, "Early History of Georgia's Jews"
Gillespie, "Sexual Politics of Race and Gender"
NGE: James Oglethorpe, Trustee Georgia, Colonial Immigration, Jews and Judaism,
Mary Musgrove, et al.
- Week 3
Jan. 22-24 The Politics of Cherokees, Slavery, and Removal
Read: Saunt, "The Grayson's Dilemma: A Creek Family Faces the Science of Race"
Perdue and Green, *The Cherokee Nation and the Trail of Tears*
NGE: Creek Indians, Cherokee Removal, et al.
- Week 4
Jan. 29-31 Coastal Perspectives on Slavery and Race
Read: Fanny Kemble, excerpts from *Journal of Residence on Ga. Plantation*
"Great Slave Auction in Savannah"
William McFeely, *Sapelo's People*, Chaps. 3 and 4 (Library Reserve)
NGE: Antebellum Slavery, Fanny Kemble, Butler Family, Sapelo Island
- Week 5
Feb. 5-7 Slave Fugitives and Tricksters
Read: William and Ellen Craft, *Running a Thousand Miles for Freedom*
Julius Lester, "Tales of Uncle Remus"
Matt Bernstein, "Nostalgia, Ambivalence, Irony: "Song of the South" and Race
Relations in 1946 Atlanta" (Library Reserve)
Film: "Song of the South" (Thurs.)
NGE: Slave Narratives, the Crafts, Joel Chandler Harris, Uncle Remus Stories

- Week 6 The Civil War and Its Legacy
Feb. 12-14 Read: Joseph E. Brown's Public Letter on Secession
 Jonathan Sarris, "Anatomy of an Atrocity" (Library Reserve)
 Tony Horowitz, excerpts from *Confederates in the Attic*
 Flannery O'Connor, "A Late Encounter with the Enemy"
 NGE: multiple topics on Civil War, Secession, Joseph E. Brown, Stone Mountain,
 Flannery O'Connor's Short Fiction, Lost Cause Religion,
- Week 7:
Feb. 19-21 Read: Joseph Glatthaar, "Sherman's Army and Blacks"
 Albion Tourgee, excerpts from *The Invisible Empire*
 Margaret Walker, *Jubilee*, Chapter 36
 Kent Leslie, *Woman of Color, Daughter of Privilege*
 NGE: Reconstruction, Joel Chandler Harris, Sherman's March, Emancipation, Ku Klux
 Klan, *Jubilee*
- Week 8:
Feb. 26 Southern Anti-Semitism: The Leo Frank Case
 Read: Joel Williamson, "Leo Frank and the Paranoid Style"
 Alfred Uhry, "Parade"
 NGE: Jews and Judaism, Leo Frank, Alfred Uhry
- Feb. 28 MIDTERM EXAM
- Week 9
Mar. 4-6 Disability as Multiculturalism
 Film: "The Heart is a Lonely Hunter" (Tues. and Thurs.)
 NGE: Carson McCullers, *The Heart is a Lonely Hunter*, Twelve Great Works of
 Georgia Fiction .
- SPRING BREAK
- Week 10
Mar. 18-20 Jim Crow Georgia
 Read: Walter White, "I Learn What I Am" from *A Man Called White*
 Flannery O'Connor, "The Artificial Nigger"
 W.E.B. Du Bois, "Georgia: Invisible Empire State"
 Lillian Smith, excerpt from *Killers of the Dream*
 NGE: Walter White, Atlanta Race Riot, Segregation, W.E.B. Du Bois, Lillian Smith,
 Killers of the Dream, Ku Klux Klan -20th Cent.
- Week 11:
Mar. 25-27 Culture Clash in Appalachian Georgia
 Read: James Dickey, *Deliverance*
 Emily Burke, "The Crackers of North Georgia"
 Eliot Wigginton, from *The Foxfire Book*
 Zell Miller, "Mountain Dialect" (Library Reserve)
 Film: "Foxfire" (Thurs.)
 NGE: Blue Ridge Mtns., James Dickey, *Deliverance*, Foxfire, Zell Miller

- Week 12: UGA's Desegregation
Apr. 1-3 Read: Charlayne Hunter-Gault, Excerpt from *In My Place*
Robert Cohen, "2, 4, 6, 8: We Don't Want to Integrate"
Charles Martin, "Racial Change and Big Time Football in Ga."
NGE: Desegregation of Higher Education, Charlayne Hunter-Gault, Hamilton Holmes,
Civil Rights, et al.
- Week 13: Race Relations in Metro Atlanta
Apr. 8-10 Read: Melissa Fay Greene, excerpt from *The Temple Bombing*
Hank Aaron, excerpt from *I Had a Hammer* (Library Reserve)
Kevin Kruse, *White Flight*
NGE: Civil Rights, Atlanta, Temple Bombing, Hank Aaron, Atlanta Braves, et al.
- Week 14: Poor and White in the Piney Woods and the Okefenokee
Apr. 15-17 Read: Janisse Ray, *Ecology of a Cracker Childhood*
Megan Nelson, excerpt from *Trembling Earth* (Library Reserve)
NGE: Wiregrass Georgia, Okefenokee Swamp, Longleaf Pines, Crackers,
Janisse Ray
- Week 15: *Nuevo Georgia*
Apr. 22-24 Read: Carl Bankston, "New People in the New South" (Library Reserve)
Tore Olsson, "Your DeKalb Farmers Market" (Library Reserve)
Edward J. Ayers, "The Future of the South" (Library Reserve)
Judith Ortiz Cofer, reading (to be determined)
NGE: Judith Ortiz Cofer, Latinos, Immigration
- May 1 FINAL EXAM
7-10 pm