



NORTH CAROLINA AGRICULTURAL AND TECHNICAL
STATE UNIVERSITY

Course Syllabus

History 106: African-American History Before 1877

Semester: Fall 2019

Class Meets: MWF 3:00-3:50 p.m.

Classroom Location: Gibbs 315

Section Number: HIST. 106

<https://www.ncat.edu/cahss/departments/hist/index.html>

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Course Description:

HIST 106 is an introduction to African-American History from slavery to emancipation. The course examines the African Diaspora and the African-American experience from slavery to Reconstruction. It discusses issues of major importance to African Americans in the context of American history. This course is designed to study the history of African Americans from their time in Africa to their arrival in the Caribbean, South America and North America. This course will examine sixteenth, seventeenth, eighteenth and early nineteenth century African-American History, with a particular focus upon the creolization of Africans during the colonial and early antebellum eras in the Caribbean and the Americas.

Course Objectives

Our major objectives include understanding the African Diaspora, the roots of slavery and the creolization of slaves, free Blacks and Maroons in the Caribbean and the Americas. The course will also examine the sugar culture of Brazil and the Caribbean, the tobacco culture of the Chesapeake, the rice and indigo culture of the Carolinas and the cotton culture of the "Lower" or "Deep South." This course will also examine the evolution of slave law and relations between Africans, Native Americans and Europeans in the New World. It will discuss the impact of the American Revolution, early Northern emancipation, the anti-slavery movement and the Underground Railroad on the new American Republic. This course will conclude by examining slave resistance, the rise of the domestic slave trade, the rise of the colonization movements in the United States during the early antebellum period and antebellum slavery, the Civil War, emancipation and reconstruction. The format of this course will include both lecture and student discussion.

This course also fulfills the Carnegie Service Learning Component. Service Learning is one of the major assignments for this class. The goal of this service learning experience is to experience an organization's efforts to address issues/themes at the center of this course. Although members of the class will have different sites for their service learning hours, we will periodically discuss these experiences to examine the ways in which text and other course information may relate to what people are observing and experiencing.

Required Books:

Blasingame, John. *The Slave Community*.

Clark-Hine, Darlene C., *African American Odyssey*. 6th edition.

Conniff, Michael L. and Davis Thomas J. *Africans in the Americas*.

Smallwood, Arwin D. *The Atlas of African-American History and Politics*.

Smallwood Arwin D. *Bertie County: An Eastern North Carolina History*.

Specific Instructional Objectives:

1. Discuss Africa its climate, geography, and people before European exploration.
2. Discuss the North-African Muslims (Moors) and their influence over the first European nation-states of Spain and Portugal.
3. Discuss the Trans-Saharan and East African Slave Trade.
4. Discuss the Papal Decree and the Treaty of Tordesillas, “the line of Demarcation” between lands colonized and held by Portugal and Spain.
5. Discuss Africans and their role in the exploration and colonization of the Americas including: the Caribbean, Central America and the Southwestern United States.
6. Discuss Indian and slave revolts and the establishment of Maroon Communities in the Spanish and Portuguese colonies of the Caribbean and the Americas during the 16th and 17th Centuries.
7. Trace the origins and expansion of colonial slavery through the Caribbean, South America and the Southern, Middle, and New England colonies of North America.
8. Discuss the Trans-Atlantic Slave Trade and the European nations enriched by the trade (France, England, Spain, Portugal, Sweden, Denmark and Holland).
9. Discuss the Trans-Atlantic Slave Trade and the West-African Kingdoms enriched by the trade (Senegambia, Benin, and Wolof).
10. Discuss slave revolts and Maroon Communities in the Spanish, Portuguese, English, French, and Dutch colonies of the Caribbean and the Americas in the 17th and 18th centuries.
11. Discuss the legalization of slavery, Slave Codes, and Black Codes in the thirteen English colonies.
12. Discuss the role of Africans and slavery in “Triangular Trade” between Africa, America, the Caribbean, and Europe.

13. Discuss the role of African-Americans in the American Revolution and the origins of Sierra Leone.
14. Discuss the emancipation of slaves in the North and its impact on North-South relations.
15. Discuss the three-fifths compromise, the Northwest Ordinance, and the Southwest Territory and their impact on the sectionalism of the United States.
16. Discuss the Haitian Revolution and its impact on the United States.
17. Discuss the growth of the free Black population in the United States and the rise and evolution of the Abolitionist Movement.
18. Discuss the Upper and Lower South and their involvement in slave smuggling and the domestic slave trade.
19. Discuss the significance of the Missouri Compromise of 1820.
20. Discuss the rise of the “Cotton Kingdom” and cotton production in the South from 1820-1860.
21. Discuss the establishment and development of the “Underground Railroad.”
22. Discuss the American Colonization Movement and the founding of Liberia.
23. Discuss the Mexican-American War, the Wilmot Proviso Bill and the expansion of slavery into the Southwest Territory (1846-1853).
24. Discuss the significance of the Compromise of 1850, the Kansas-Nebraska Act of 1854, Bleeding Kansas in 1855, the Dred Scott Decision in 1857, and John Brown’s Raid in 1859.
25. Discuss the role of Blacks in the Civil War 1861 – 1865.
26. Discuss the wealth of Northern and Southern states before and after the Civil War.
27. Discuss the significance of the “Emancipation Proclamation” and the ending of slavery and the Civil War.
28. Discuss Reconstruction and the differences between the presidential plans (Lincoln’s and Johnson’s) and the Congressional plan.
29. Discuss Blacks and peonage, sharecropping and tenant farming in the old slave-holding South.

30. Discuss the establishment and development of the first Black churches, schools, colleges, businesses, and insurance companies in the South during Reconstruction.
31. Discuss the rise of and the Black response to the “Ku Klux Klan” and collapse of Reconstruction in 1877.
32. Discuss the “Black Exodus” or “Great Black Migration” to the North and West, Black Cowboys, “Buffalo Soldiers,” and factory workers.

Broader Course Goals

1. **Learn History:** By acquiring knowledge of the basic facts and events of African-American History before 1877, we will be able to identify the significant events and questions about the period.
2. **Think Historically:** By learning to ask **HOW** and **WHY** as well as **who, what, where, and when**, we will gain an understanding of historical change, of how historians think and interpret the past through the lens of the present. Reading primary source documents to hear the voices of Black Americans on their own terms is critical to viewing change across time.
3. **Retrieve/Recover History:** Through exposure to a wide variety of historical sources and practices, we will learn how historians go about “recovering” or interpreting the past. We will analyze a variety of secondary sources (books written by historians) and primary sources (autobiographies, cartoons, political documents, speeches, and so forth), learn to assess their reliability and produce our own interpretation of them.
4. **Do History:** After learning some of the historian’s tools, we will use these tools to better understand the past and present by conducting oral history interviews.

To reflect on the course’s themes and goals, we will use a variety of materials, including textbooks, primary sources, films, multimedia, activities, role-plays, debates, and most importantly in-class discussions—to explore the history of African descended peoples.

TIPS I encourage you to take notes on all lectures, readings, videos, and documents as you read/view them. Try to summarize their arguments/meanings. This will pay off in big ways as it will serve as a ready-made study guide.

Schedule of Assignments:

Week 1: Aug. 14- 18

- **Pre-Test**
- **Introduction “How and Why We Study History”**
- **Lecture “Africa: Its Climate, Geography, and People”**
- **The African American Odyssey. Chapter 1 "Ancestral Africa: Africans and their way of life"**
- **Atlas of African-American History and Politics. Unit 1 "Africa: It’s Climate, Geography and People"**

Week 2: Aug. 21 – 25

- African American Odyssey. Chapter 2 “Africa ca. 6000 BCE-ca 1600 CE & the Middle Passage.”
- Lecture “The meeting of three cultures: Native American, African, and European.” “Africans and the Atlantic World” and “Early African Experiences in the Caribbean, Brazil and the rest of the Americas.”
- - The Atlas of African-American History and Politics. Unit 2 “The Native American Slave Trade, the Atlantic Slave Trade, and the Political Developments in North America and the Caribbean”

Week 3: Aug. 28 – Sept. 1

- **Tuesday Service Learning -Class Explains what they have learned to NCAT Middle College Students**
- African American Odyssey. Chapter 3 “Black People in Colonial North America 1526-1763.”
- Lecture “Establishing North American Slavery and Cultural blending in the New World”
- “Africans in Mainland Spanish America and the 13 Colonies”
- - The Atlas of African-American History and Politics. Unit 2 “The Native American Slave Trade, the Atlantic Slave Trade, and the Political Developments in North America and the Caribbean”

Week 4: Sept. 4 – 8

- African American Odyssey. Chapter 4 “Rising Expectations: African Americans and the Struggle for Independence.”
- Lecture “18th Century Slave Societies and the Revolutionary Era ”
- The Atlas of African-American History and Politics. Unit 3 “Free Blacks, Slaves, and Slavery in the New Republic”
- **Review for Exam #1**

Week 5: Sept. 11 – 15

- **Tuesday Service Learning -Class Explains what they have learned to NCAT Middle College Students**
- African American Odyssey. Chapter 5 African Americans in the New Nation.”
- The Atlas of African-American History and Politics. Unit 3 “Free Blacks, Slaves, and Slavery in the New Republic”
- The Slave Community. Chapters 1 – 4
- **Exam #1, Friday, September 15**

Week 6: Sept. 18 – 22

- African American Odyssey. Chapter 6 “Life in the Cotton Kingdom.”
- Lecture. “The Rise of the Cotton Kingdom and the Expansion of Slavery in the lower South.”
- The Atlas of African-American History and Politics. Unit 4 “The ‘Peculiar Institution’ and Sectionalism in Antebellum America”
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Week 7: Sept. 25- 29

- **Tuesday Service Learning -Class Explains what they have learned to NCAT Middle College Students**
- African American Odyssey. Chapter 7 “Free Blacks.”
- The Atlas of African-American History and Politics. Unit 4 “The ‘Peculiar Institution’ and Sectionalism in Antebellum America”

Week 8: Oct. 2 – 6

- The Slave Community Chapters 5 – 8
- Lecture. “Acculturation, Assimilation and the Africanization of the American South”

Week 9: Oct. 9 – 13

- **NO CLASS FALL BREAK**
- **Tuesday Service Learning -Class Explains what they have learned to NCAT Middle College Students**
- African American Odyssey. Chapter 8. Opposition to Slavery
- The Atlas of African-American History and Politics. Unit 4 “The ‘Peculiar Institution’ and Sectionalism in Antebellum America”
- **Thursday Oct. 22 “Fall Convocation” - Class must Attend Convocation**

Week 10: Oct. 16 – 20

- African American Odyssey. Chapter 9. Let Your Motto Be Resistance 1833-1850
- The Atlas of African-American History and Politics. Unit 4 “The ‘Peculiar Institution’ and Sectionalism in Antebellum America”
- **Review for Exam**

Week 11: Oct. 23 – 27

- African American Odyssey. Chapter 10. “And Black People Were at the Heart of It” 1846-1861
- The Atlas of African-American History and Politics. Unit 4 “The ‘Peculiar Institution’ and Sectionalism in Antebellum America”
- **Tuesday Service Learning -Class Explains what they have learned to NCAT Middle College Students**
- **Exam #2 Friday, October 27.**

Week 12: Oct. 30 – Nov. 3

- **Tuesday Service Learning -Class Explains what they have learned to NCAT Middle College Students**
- African American Odyssey. Chapter 11. Liberation: African Americans and the Civil War 1861-1865
- The Atlas of African-American History and Politics. Unit 5 “The Impact of the Civil War, Emancipation on African Americans”
- The Civil War. Episode 8.

Week 13: Nov. 6 – 10

- African American Odyssey. Chapter 12 “The Meaning of Freedom: The Promise of Reconstruction 1865 to 1868”
- The Atlas of African-American History and Politics. Unit 6 “The Impact of Emancipation and Reconstruction on African Americans”
- Lecture. “The impact of the Civil War on the Slave-holding South and the Free Labor North.”
- Lecture. “Presidential Reconstruction: Lincoln, Johnson and “Congressional Reconstruction.”
- Lecture. “The Rise of the Black Church and Black Education”

Week 14: Nov. 13 – 17

- African American Odyssey. Chapter 13. “The Meaning of Freedom: The Failure of Reconstruction 1865”
- The Atlas of African-American History and Politics. Unit 6 “The Impact of Emancipation and Reconstruction on African Americans”
- Lecture. “The Black Exodus from the American South.”
- Lecture. “Blacks and the West: Buffalo Soldiers and the Indian Wars.”

Week 15: Nov. 20 - 24

- **Dec. 3, LAST DAY OF CLASS, (“POST-TEST AND REVIEW FOR FINAL EXAM)**
- **Final Exam (See University Exam Schedule)**
- **Service Learning Project Due Dec. 1**
- **Rough draft of paper Due Nov. 17**
- **Paper Due Nov. 27**
- **Thanksgiving Break Nov. 22-24**

Bibliography for Futher Reading

Europe, Africa, America, and the African Slave Trade

- Ajayi, J.F.A. and Michael Crowder eds. A Thousand Years of West African History.
- Bernal, Martin. Archeological and Documentary Evidence.
- Bennett, Lerone Jr. Before the Mayflower: A History of Black America.
- Bitterli, Urs. Cultures in Conflict: Encounters between European and Non European Cultures, 1492-1800.
- Bovill, E.W. Golden Trade of the Moors.
- Bulliet, R.W. The Camel and the Wheel.
- Chittick, H.N. and R.I. Rotberg. East Africa and the Orient: Cultural Syntheses in Pre-Colonial Times.
- Donner, F.M. The Early Islam Conquest
- Harris, Joseph E. Africans and Their History.
- Hiernaux, Jean. The People of Africa.
- Lewis, B. The Muslim Discovery of Europe.
- Manning, Patrick. Slavery and African Life: Occidental, Oriental and African Slave Trade.
- Mannix, Daniel. Black Cargos: A History of the Atlantic Slave Trade, 1518-1865.
- Oliver, R. and G. Mathew, eds. History of East Africa.
- Oliver, R. and C. Oliver eds. Africa in the Days of Exploration.
- Oxnard, C.E. Fossils, Teeth and Sex: New Perspectives on Human Evolution.
- Price, Richard. Maroon Societies: Rebel Slave Communities in the Americas.
- Pritchard, J.M. Africa: The Geography of a Changing Continent.
- Rout, L.B. The African Experience in Spanish America.
- Stamp, Dudley L. and W.T.W. Morgan. Africa: A Study in Tropical Development.
- Scammell, Geoffrey Vaughn. The World: The First European Maritime Empires 800-1650
- Van Sertina, Ivan. They Came Before Columbus.
- Vogt, Jon. Portuguese Rule on the Gold Coast, 1469-1682.

Colonial Slavery in the Caribbean and the Americas

- Alderman, Clifford Lindsey. Rum, Slaves and Molasses: The Story of New England's Triangular Trade.
- Beckles, Hillary M. White Servitude and Black Slavery in Barbados, 1627-1715.
- Boles, John B. Black Southerners, 1619-1869.
- Boyer, Paul and Stephen Nissenbaum. Salem-Village Witchcraft: A Documentary Record of Local Conflicts in Colonial New England.
- Bridenbaugh, Carl and Raberta Bridenbaugh. No Peace Beyond the Line: The English in the Caribbean, 1624-1690.
- Carr, Lois Green. Colonial Chesapeake Society.
- Curtin, Philp. The Atlantic Slave Trade: A Census.
- Curtin, Philp. Economic Change in Pre-Colonial Africa: Senegambia in the Era of the Slave Trade.
- Duignan, Peter and Clarence Celendened. The United States and the African Slave Trade, 1619-1862.
- Gallay, Allen, The Indian Slave Trade: The Rise of the English Empire In the American South.

Greene, Jack P. Pursuits of Happiness: The Social Development of Early Modern British Colonies and the Formation of American Cultures.
Law, Robin. The Slave Coast of West Africa, 1550-1750: The Impact of the Atlantic Slave Trade on an African Society.
Price, Richard. Maroon Societies: Rebel Slave Communities in the Americas.
Sheridan, Richard B. Sugar and Slavery: An Economic History of the British West Indies, 1623-1775.
Sobel, Mechal. The World They Made Together: Black and White Values in Eighteenth-Century Virginia.
Watson, Alan. Slave Law in the Americas.

Free Blacks and Slaves in the New American Republic

Aptheker, Herbert. American Negro Slave Revolts.
Bancroft, Frederick. Slave Trading in the Old South.
Berlin, Ira and Ronald Hoffman. Slavery and Freedom in the Age of the American Revolution.
Billington, Ray. Westward Expansion.
Carroll, Joseph C. Slave Insurrection in the U.S. 1800-1865.
Cashin, Joan. A Family Venture: Men and Women on the Southern Frontier.
DuBois, W.E.B. The Suppression of the African Slave Trade to the United States.
Eaton, Clement. The Growth of Southern Civilization 1790-1860.
Filler, Louis. The Crusade Against Slavery, 1830-1860.
Hersh, Blanche Glassman. The Slavery of Sex: Feminist Abolitionist in America.
James, C.L.R. The Black Jacobins: Toussaint L'Ouverture and the Santo Domingo Revolution.
Katz, Williams Loren. Black People Who Made the Old West.
Litwack, Leon. North of Slavery: The Negro in the Free States, 1790-1860.
Mathieson, Williams Law. British Slavery and Its Abolition 1823-1838.
McDougall, Marion Gleason. Fugitive Slaves 1619-1865.
McManus, Edgar J. Black Bondage in the North.
Ott, Thomas O. The Haitian Revolution 1789-1804.
Porter, Kenneth W. The Negro on the American Frontier.
Quarles, Benjamin. Black Abolitionist.
Robinson, Donald L. Slavery in the Structure of American Politics, 1765-1820.
Stephenson, W.H. Issac Franklin: Slave Trader and Planter of the Old South.
Walker, James W. St. G. The Black Loyalists: The Search for a Promised Land in Nova Scotia and Sierra Leone 1783-1870.
Weinberg, Albert K. Manifest Destiny: A Study of National Expansionism in American History.
Wilson, Ellen Gibson. The Loyal Blacks.

The Civil War and Emancipation

Aptheker, Herbert. The Negro in the Civil War.
Barrett, John Gilchrist. Sherman's March through the Carolinas.
Berlin, Ira Joseph P. Reidy and Leslie S. Rowland. The Black Military Experience.
Blockson, Charles L. The Underground Railroad.
Bogin, Ruth. Black Women in Nineteenth-Century American Life.
Durden, Robert. The Gray and the Black: The Confederate Debate on Emancipation.
Franklin, John Hope. The Emancipation Proclamation.

Geryeis, Louis. From Contraband to Free Man: Federal Policy toward Southern Blacks 1861-1865.

Kane, Harnett Thomas. Spies for the Blue and Gray.

Markle, Donald E. Spies and Spymasters of the Civil War.

McPherson, James M. Abraham Lincoln and the Second American Revolution.

McPherson, James. The Negro's Civil War: How American Negroes Felt and Acted.

Meirs, Earl Schenck. The General Who Marched to Hell: William Tsumseh and his March to Fame and Infamy.

Pessen, Edward. Riches, Class and Power Before the Civil War.

Roland, Charles P. An American Illiad: The Story of the Civil War.

Stamp, Kenneth. The Peculiar Institution: Slavery in the Ante-Bellum South.

Stamp, Kenneth ed. A Guide to Records of Ante-Bellum Southern Plantations for the Revolution through the Civil War.

Schwartz, Rosalie. Across the Rio To Freedom: U.S. Negroes in Mexico.

Siebert, Wilbur Henry. The Underground Railroad from Slavery to Freedom.

Thomas, M. Emory. The Confederate Nation, 1861-1865.

Trefousse, Hans. Lincoln's Decision for Emancipation.

Trowbridge, John Townsend. The Desolate South, 1865-1866; A Picture of the Battlefield and of the Devastated Confederacy.

Vlach, John Michael. Back of the Big House: The Architecture of Plantation Slavery.

Walters, John Bennett. Merchant of Terror: General Sherman and Total War.

Reconstruction, the Black Exodus, the Indian Wars and the Settling of the West

Bentley, George R. A History of the Freeman's Bureau.

Benedict, M. Les. A Compromise of Principles: Congressional Republicans and Reconstruction, 1863-1869.

Berry, Mary Frances. Military Necessity and Civil Rights Policy: Black Citizenship and the Constitution, 1861-1868. 1977.

Bowman J. Wilson. Americas Black Colleges.

Cable, George C. But There Was No Peace.

Carroll, John M. Buffalo Soldiers West.

Carroll, John M. The Black Military Experience in the American West.

Chalmers, David M. Hooded Americanism: The First Century of the Ku Klux Klan.

Cruden, Robert. The Negro in Reconstruction.

Coulter, E. Merton. The South During Reconstruction.

Daniel, Pete. Breaking the Land.

Daniel, Pete. The Shadow of Slavery.

Du Bois, W.E.B. Black Reconstruction.

Durham, Philip and Everett L. Jones. The Negro Cowboys.

Dusard, Jay. The North American Cowboy: A Portrait.

Dykstra, Robert R. The Cattle Towns.

Foner, Eric. Reconstruction: America's Unfinished Revolution, 1863-1877.

Foner, Eric. Freedom's Lawmakers: A Directory of Black Office Holders During Reconstruction.

Fowler, Arlen L. The Black Infantry in the West 1869-1891.

Franklin, John Hope. Reconstruction After the Civil War.

Frazer, Robert W. Forts of the West: Military Forts and Presidios and Posts Commonly Called Forts of the West Mississippi River to 1898.

Hamilton, Kenneth Marvin. Black Towns and Profit Promotion and Development in the Trans-Appalachian West 1877-1915.

Hassrick, Royal B. Cowboys: the Real Story of Cowboys and Cattle.

Horn, Stanley F. Invisible Empire: The Story of the Ku Klux Klan 1866-1871.

Katz, William Loren. The Black West.

Leckie, William H. The Buffalo Soldiers: A narrative of the Negro Cavalry in the West.

Lester, John C. The Ku Klux Klan: Its Origin, Growth and Disbandment.

Litwack, Leon. Been in the Storm so Long: The Aftermath of Slavery.

Logan, Rayford W. The Betrayal of the Negro.

Maltz, Earl M. Civil Rights, The Constitution and Congress. 1863-1869.

McMillen, Neil N. Dark Journey.

Nieman, Donald G. The Freedmen's Bureau and Black Freedom.

Oubre, Claude F. Forty Acres and a Mule: The Freedmen's Bureau and Black Land Ownership.

Painter, Nell. Exodusters: Black Migration to Kansas after Reconstruction.

Peirce, Paul S. The Freedmen's Bureau, A Chapter in the History of Reconstruction.

Perman, Michael. Reunion without Compromise; the South and Reconstruction: 1865-1868.

Rabinowitz, Howard, ed. Southern Black Leaders of the Reconstruction Era.

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