SOUTH SINCE RECONSTRUCTION

What happened to the South after the Civil War? Did the land of moonlight and magnolias recreate itself in the image of the victorious North? How were over six million black slaves transformed into citizens? Why is the controversy over Creationism vs. Evolution centered in Southern schools? Topics include the civil rights movement, fundamentalist Christianity, sunbelt economics, Latino migration, and southern politics from Jefferson Davis to Bill Clinton.

Texts (available for purchase at the campus bookstore):

Carter, Dan                        From George Wallace to Newt Gingrich: Race in the Conservative Counterrevolution, 1963-1994
Covington, Sam                    Salvation on Sand Mountain, Snake Handling and Redemption in Southern Appalachia
Escot, Paul D. and Goldfield, David R.     Major Problems in the History of the American South, v. 2
Greene, Melissa Faye                The Temple Bombing
Jones, James                       Bad Blood, The Tuskegee Syphilis Experiment
Larson, Edward                     Summer for the Gods, The Scopes Trial and America’s Continuing Debate Over Science and Religion
Rosengarten, Theodore              All God’s Dangers
Smith, Lillian                     Killers of the Dream
Williams, Tennessee                A Streetcar Named Desire
Woodward, C. Vann                  Tom Watson, Agrarian Rebel

There will also be required articles or book chapters on reserve in the library and in the History Lounge. This material is not available in the bookstore and is marked with an asterisk (*).

Requirements and Other Information

A. This course requires the submission of a 15-20 page word-processed paper which explores a specific aspect of the political, social, or economic developments in the American South during the period, 1865-present. Because one of the goals of the paper is to permit you to delve into a topic in greater depth than the assignments make possible, undergraduate papers need not demonstrate extensive research in primary sources. The paper should be based on a variety of
secondary sources. However, when available and relevant, primary sources may be used. You may explore a topic not covered in class if you wish. All paper topics must be approved by the instructor prior to beginning the project. Papers will be graded on style as well as content. Proper form for endnotes and bibliography can be found in either *The Chicago Manual of Style* or in Kate L. Turabian, *A Manual for Writers of Term Papers, Theses and Dissertations* (use the most recent edition).

**Tuesday, February, 19th** is the deadline for submitting a 2-3 page word-processed statement of topic and preliminary bibliography for the instructor’s approval. The paper will be due on **Tuesday, April 16th in class**.

**B. Graduate Students:** Requirements for graduate students include the following:

1) Graduate papers must be based heavily on primary sources.
2) Graduate students will read three books in addition to the assigned readings and will meet as a group with the instructor to discuss those readings.

**C.** There will be a mid-term examination on **Tuesday, February 26** and a final examination on **Tuesday, May 7th 5:30-8:00 PM**.

**D. GRADES:**

- Midterm Examination 25%
- Paper 30%
- Class Participation 5%
- Final Examination 40%

All late papers will be penalized ½ grade for each day after the deadline they are submitted, including Saturday and Sunday. **No extensions, incompletes, or make-up examinations will be given except for medical reasons or other extraordinary circumstances (as defined by the instructor).** All medical excuses must be documented with appropriate doctors’ notes.

**Schedule of Readings:**

January 15: Introduction: Moonlight, Magnolias, and the Lash
- Film: *Gone With the Wind*, VHS 2349

January 22: Race and Reconstruction -- the Controversial Opportunity
- Escot and Goldfield, pp.1-69.
- Film: *Birth of a Nation* (silent), VHS 6

January 29: The “New South” and the “Solid South”
- Begin Woodward, *Tom Watson*
- Escot and Goldfield, pp.70-85; 102-114.

February 5: The “Solid South and the Populism”
- Finish *Watson*
February 12: Progressivism and Pellagra
   Begin Larson, *Summer for the Gods*
   Escot and Goldfield, pp. 204-276.

February 19: The Nineteen Twenties
   Finish *Summer for the Gods*
   *Excerpts from I’ll Take My Stand*

February 26: Mid-term

March 5: Depression and the New Deal
   Theodore Rosengarten, *All God’s Dangers*
   Film: *Huey Long*, VHS 255

March 12: Spring Break

March 19: The Age of Roosevelt
   Lillian Smith, *Killers of the Dream*
   Escot and Goldfield, pp.378-411.

March 26: Civil Rights: 1940s and 1950s
   Melissa Fay Greene, *The Temple Bombing*
   Tennessee Williams, *A Streetcar Named Desire.*
   Film: *Delta Jews: Jews in the Land of the Blues*, VHS 5910
   Recommended: *Driving Miss Daisy*, VHS 4673

April 2: The Birth of Rock and Roll and the South’s Interaction With Mainstream Culture
   Guest Speaker: Dr. Scott Parker

April 9: Civil Rights: 1960s
   Dan Carter, *From George Wallace to Newt Gingrich*
   Film: *Eyes on the Prize* (see all the episodes of the TV series).

April 16: Echoes of Racism and the Latino Presence
   James Jones, *Bad Blood, The Tuskegee Syphilis Experiment*
   Film: *Deceit and Deception*, VHS 2040
April 23: Appalachia, Sunbelt Politics, and Bill Clinton
Sam S. Covington, *Salvation on Sand Mountain, Snake Handling and Redemption in Southern Appalachia*
Film: *Family Name*, VHS 4800

May 7: Final Examination (5:30-8:00 PM)