

THE AMERICAN UNIVERSITY
Department of History

HIST-354/654.001
T 5:30-8:00 PM

Spring, 2002
Professor Alan Kraut
Office : Battelle 143, x2410
Hrs. M 3:00- 5:00 PM
TF 2:00-4:00 PM & by appt.
akraut@american.edu

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

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*

Escot and Goldfield, pp.129-186.

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
* Raymond Arsenault, "The End of the Long Hot Summer: The Air Conditioner and Southern Culture," *Journal of Southern History* 50(November, 1984): 592-628.

April 9: Civil Rights: 1960s
Dan Carter, *From George Wallace to Newt Gingrich*
Escot and Goldfield, Martin Luther King, Jr. "Letter from the Birmingham Jail," p.544-557.
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*
* Raymond H. Mohl, "Blacks and Hispanics in Multicultural America: A Miami Case Study," in Raymond A. Mohl, ed., *The Making of Urban America* (Wilmington, DE: Scholarly Resources, Inc., 1997):283-308.
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*

*Carl Abbott, "New West, New South, New Region, The Discovery of the Sunbelt," in Raymond A. Mohl, ed., *Searching for the Sunbelt: Historical Perspectives on a Region* (Knoxville: University of Tennessee Press, 1990), pp.7-24.

* Ronald H. Bayor, "Models of Ethnic and Racial Politics in the Urban Sunbelt South," *Ibid.*, pp.105-123.

Film: *Family Name*, VHS 4800

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