

Fall Semester, 1999

History 4167-001 and 5167-001: History of Southern Appalachia

Instructor: Dr. Marie Tedesco

Office: 485 Sherrod Library (Archives of Appalachia)

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Course Description. The course focuses on the social, cultural, and political history of the Southern Mountain Region, from the 17th century until the present. In addition to discussing and analyzing major events in the region's past, the course investigates major trends and themes which are vital to an understanding of the history of the region. The organization of the course is chronological, but within the chronology the course examines specific topics (e.g. slavery, coal mining, and activist movements). The course begins with an examination of the geography of Southern Appalachia, and of the evolution of "Appalachia" as a distinct place in the United States, and ends with an assessment of Appalachia in the 1990s.

Required Reading. The following books, available in the University Bookstore, are required for the course:

Pudup, Mary Beth, *et al*, *Appalachia in the Making: The Mountain South in the Nineteenth Century* (1995).

Inscoe, John, *Mountain Masters: Slavery and the Sectional Crisis in Western North Carolina*. (1989).

Miles, Emma Bell, *The Spirit of the Mountains* (1905; reprint ed., 1975).

Gates, Henry Louis, Jr., *Colored People: A Memoir* (1995).

Whisnant, David. *All That Is Native and Fine* (1983).

Verghese, Abraham, *My Own Country: A Doctor's Story of a Town and Its People in the Age of AIDS* (1995).

The following required articles are on reserve at the Circulation Desk of the Sherrod Library:

Taylor-Colbert, Alice. "Cherokee Women and Cultural Change," from Christie Anne Farnham, ed., *Women of the American South: A Multicultural Reader* (1997), pp. 43-55.

Simmons, J. Susanne Schramm, "Augusta County's Other Pioneers: The African-American Presence in Frontier Augusta County," from Michael J. Puglisi, ed., *Diversity and Accommodation: Essays on the Cultural Composition of the Virginia Frontier* (1997), pp. 159-71.

Allen, Bill. "Save Our Cumberland Mountains: Growth and Change Within a Grassroots Organization," from Stephen L. Fisher, ed., *Fighting Back in Appalachia: Traditions of Resistance and Change* (1993), pp. 85-99.

Tests. During the semester two tests will be given; a final exam will be administered during final exam week. Tests will consist of essay questions. The composition of the tests (i.e., the number of questions, point value of questions) will be provided by the instructor before each test. The final exam will not be comprehensive.

Make-up Tests. A missed test must be made up within one week of the original test date.

Outside Assignment. All students will complete an outside written analysis (minimum of five pages for undergraduates; seven for graduates for website analysis alone) on an Appalachian website, which will be assigned to the student by the instructor during the second week of the semester. An annotated bibliography of ten sources (undergraduate) and 20 sources (graduate) will accompany the paper. Each source's annotation must be at least one paragraph in length. Endnote citation format must follow the specifications set forth in Kate L. Turabian, *A Manual for Writers of Term Papers, Theses, and Dissertations*, 6th ed. (Chicago: University of Chicago Press, 1996). The paper must be in typescript, that is, computer or typewriter generated. Students are encouraged, but not required, to hand in a preliminary draft of the paper. Preliminary drafts are due no later than 4:30 p.m., October 27. Final drafts are due no later than 4:30 p.m., November 23. **Note:** The instructor will provide additional information on requirements for the paper with the assigning of the website.

Weighting of tests and outside assignments as part of course grade:

First test: 20%

Second test: 30%

Final exam: 30%

Outside assignment: 20%

Grade scale (for tests, outside assignment and final grade):

94 and above: A

93-90: A-

89-87: B+

86-84: B

83-80: B-

79-77: C+

76-74: C

73-70: C-

69-67: D+

66-60: D

59 and below: F

Schedule of Topics. Below is a schedule of topics to be covered during the semester, together with discussion of reading assignments, test dates, and video showings. Schedule is subject to change during the semester.

Date **Topic/Reading/Due Dates**

August 31	Introduction to course. What is Appalachia?
September 2	Cherokees, Europeans, and Africans in Southern Appalachia, 17 th and 18 th centuries.
7	Discussion: Taylor-Colbert, “Cherokee Women and Cultural Change.” (reserve article) Whites “resettle” Southern Appalachian lands, 1720-1800
9	Discussion: Simmons, “Augusta County’s Other Pioneers: The African-American Presence in Augusta County.” (reserve article) Southern Appalachian society and economy, 1800-60
14	Discussion: Dunaway, “Speculators and Settler Capitalists: Unthinking the Mythology about Appalachian Landholding, 1790-1860,” in Appalachia in the Making [AIM] , 50-75 Discussion: Anglin, “Lives on the Margin: Rediscovering the Women of Antebellum Western North Carolina,” <i>AIM</i> , pp. 185-209.
16	Slavery in Southern Appalachia, 1800-60
21	Political crisis and the Civil War in Southern Appalachia, 1850-65
23	Civil War (cont.)
28	Discussion, Insoe, <i>Mountain Masters: Slavery and the Sectional Crisis in Western North Carolina</i>
30	TEST 1
October 5	Reconstruction politics in the Southern Mountains, 1865-77
7	Overview: economic change, 1870-1920 Discussion: Pudup, “Town and Country in the Transformation of Appalachian Kentucky,” <i>AIM</i> , 270-96.

October 12	Timber and the economy of Southern Appalachia: Video, “Harvesting the Hardwoods.” Discussion: Lewis, “Railroads, Deforestation, and the Transformation of Agriculture in the West Virginia Back Counties, 1880-1920,” <i>AIM</i> , pp. 297-320.
14	Coal and the economy of Southern Appalachia; coal camp life in Southern Appalachia, 1870-1930,
19	Video: “Come All You Coal Miners.” Discussion: Banks, “Class Formation in the Southeastern Kentucky Coalfields, 1890-1920,” <i>AIM</i> , 321-346.
21	Redefining Appalachia: The Southern Mountains as a Distinct Region, 1870-1920.
26	Discussion: Waller, “Feuding in Appalachia: The Evolution of a Cultural Stereotype,” <i>AIM</i> , 347-76. Discussion: Miles, <i>The Spirit of the Mountains</i>
28	No class
November 2	Women reformers in the mountains, 1880-1930
4	Women reformers (cont.) Discussion: Whisnant, <i>All That Is Native and Fine: The Politics of Culture in an American Region</i> , pp. 1-179..
9	TEST 2
11	Society and economy: the 1920s and the Great Depression (1929-40)
16	Video: “Dreadful Memories” Discussion: Whisnant, <i>All That Is Native and Fine</i> , pp. 183-267
18	The New Deal in the Southern Mountains, 1933-40
23	The postwar era: economic recession and outmigration, 1950-60 Discussion: Gates, <i>Colored People: A Memoir</i>
30	Activism: The Highlander Center, 1950-90 Women activists: the Pikeville Hospital strike, 1972-81 Reading (no discussion): Allen, “Save Our Cumberland Mountains: Growth and Change Within a Grassroots Organization” (reserve article)
December 2	Activism: Men and women’s at the Brookside mine strike, 1973-74 Video: Harlan County, USA (begin)
7	Video: Harlan County, USA (finish)
9	Southern Appalachia in the 1990s: Selling the stereotype, Appalachia as a tourist trap. AIDS comes to the Southern Mountains: Discussion of Verghese, <i>My Own Country</i> .
14	Final exam: 1:20-3:20 p.m.

Important dates to remember:

September 30: Test 1

October 27: preliminary draft (not required) of paper due by 4:30 p.m.

November 9: Test 2

November 23: Final draft of paper due by 4:30 p.m.

November 25: Thanksgiving holiday

December 14: Final exam, 1:20-3:20 p.m.