

# Old South

Department of History

## College of Prothro-Yeager College of Humanities and Social Sciences

# HIST 4043-101

MWF: 11:00-11:50

# Fall 2020

## Contact Information

**Instructor**: Dr. Whitney Snow

**Office**: OD 223

**Office hours**: Tuesdays (8:00 A.M.-1:00 P.M.) Due to COVID-19, I will not be offering face-to-face office hours so please do NOT stop by my office. Instead, I will be available via Zoom. Each week’s office hours Zoom link is posted on D2L.

## Office phone: (940) 397-8917

**E-mail**: [whitney.snow@msutexas.edu](mailto:whitney.snow@msutexas.edu)

## Course Description

This course is designed to serve as an introduction to the antebellum South. For many years, the Old South was idealized by Southerners, a fact that complicates its history since the region exists to a considerable extent in the popular imagination. This course, however, will not be focusing on the mythology of the Old South. Instead, pour aim is to examine the region as it actually existed. Consequently, some of your readings will be primary documents, written by contemporaries—black and white, northern and southern, men and women, African, American, and European—who moved to, lived in, visited, and otherwise observed the South prior to the Civil War.

This class is not designed to offer an encyclopedic history of the antebellum experience of the region. Indeed, the broad geographical and chronological scope of the subject—15 slave states, 11 of which seceded, and two-and-a-half centuries of Anglo-American settlement (to say nothing of French and Spanish influences)—preclude a comprehensive history of the region in a single semester. The class will, however, introduce students to the central cultural, social, economic, political, intellectual, and environmental themes that defined antebellum society in the South.

In addition to introducing students to the major themes of antebellum history, this course stresses the critical analysis of historical events and documents in order to make sense of their (sometimes contested) meanings. Please feel free to ask questions in class and stop by during my office hours if you have any questions or concerns regarding the class.

## Required Books

\*William J. Cooper, Thomas E. Terrill, and Christopher Childers, *The American South: A History* v. 1, 5th ed. (Rowman & Littlefield, 2017)

\*Sally G. McMillen, et al., eds. *Major Problems in the History of the American South; Documents and Essays*, v. 1., 3rd ed. (Wadsworth Cengage Learning, 2012)

\*Walter Johnson, *Soul by Soul: Life Inside an Antebellum Slave Market* (Harvard University Press, 1999).

\*Victoria E. Bynum, *Unruly Women: The Politics of Social and Sexual Control in the Old South* (University of North Carolina Press, 2016)

\*Craig Thompson Friend and Lorri Glover, ed., *Southern Manhood: Perspectives on Masculinity in the Old South* (University of Georgia Press, 2004)

## Student Handbook

Refer to: <https://msutexas.edu/student-life/_assets/files/handbook.pdf>

## Academic Misconduct Policy & Procedures

Academic Dishonesty: Cheating, collusion, and plagiarism (the act of using source material of other persons, either published or unpublished, without following the accepted techniques of crediting, or the submission for credit of work not the individual’s to whom credit is given). Additional guidelines on procedures in these matters may be found in the Office of Student Conduct.

## Grading

| Assignments | Points |
| --- | --- |
| Book Review #1 | 10% |
| Book Review #2 | 10% |
| Book Review #3 | 10% |
| Film Critique | 10% |
| Paper | 25% |
| Midterm | 15% |
| Final | 20% |

Table 2: Total points for final grade.

| Grade | Points |
| --- | --- |
| A | 90-100 |
| B | 80-89 |
| C | 70-79 |
| D | 60-69 |
| F | 0-59 |

## Exams

\*This course includes two exams (a midterm and a final) which will consist of six identification terms and one essay.

\*Students will take both the midterm and final exam via D2L. Follow these instructions:

1.Log onto D2L.

2.Click on the 9-block square at the top of the page and find our class. Click on it.

3.Once you are on our classroom dashboard, click on “Assessments” near the top of the page.

4.Under the drop-down list, click on “Tests.” You will see “Midterm” and “Final.”

5.On the scheduled date, click on the arrow next to either “Midterm” or “Final.” Once you begin, you will have 105 minutes to complete the midterm and 120 minutes to complete the final.

\*The Midterm is on October 9; the Final Exam is on December 7.

## Book Reviews

\*Students will be expected to write book reviews on three of your assigned readings: Johnson, Bynum, and Friend & Glover.

\*The three book reviews must be typed, in 12-point font, Times New Roman, and double spaced. The margins should be 1 inch on the top and bottom and 1.25 inches on the left and right. Submit each of your book reviews via D2L. On our D2L class dashboard, click on “Assessments.” Then click on “Assignments.” You should see “Book Review 1”; “Book Review 2”; and “Book Review 3.” You must submit your book reviews via D2L by 11:30 P.M. on the due dates. However, on the due dates, you will be expected to discuss your reviews in class. The due date for Book Review #1 is September 11. The due date for Book Review #2 is October 2. The due date for Book Review #3 is November 13.

\*Four sample book reviews are posted on D2L.

## Movie Assignment

\*Students are expected to write a 5-6-page essay in which they will answer questions about the *Free State of Jones* (2016). Further instructions can be found on our class dashboard on D2L. Click on “Content” and then click on “Movie Assignment Instructions.” In your essay, you must answer each of the questions asked.

\*Your essay must be typed, in 12-point font, Times New Roman and double spaced. The margins should be 1 inch on the top and bottom and 1.25 on the left and right. Submit your film critique via D2L. On our D2L class dashboard, click on “Assessments.” Then click on “Assignments.” You should see “Free State of Jones.” You must submit by 11:30 P.M. on November 20.

**Term Paper**

\*Students will be expected to write a 10-15-page research paper based on primary sources. Your paper should be based on primary and secondary sources and must include a thesis (argument). Use at least 10 books (preferably those published by university presses). Use at least 4 peer-reviewed journal articles or book chapters. These can be found either in Moffett Library or in its online databases. Use footnotes (Chicago Manual of Style). Please include a bibliography at the end of your paper. Papers should be typed, double-spaced in 12-point Times New Roman font. The paper is due on November 30. Please submit via D2L. On our D2L class dashboard, click on “Assessments.” Then click on “Assignments.” You should see “Term Paper.” You must submit your term paper by 11:30 P.M. on the due date. During the last week of class, you will present your paper to the rest of the class. See D2L for further information on how to write a term paper.

\*Term Paper Abstracts are due on September 4. Your abstract should include a title and a minimum of 600 words detailing what you would like to research and write about. If you already have a thesis, great! If not, that’s ok given your project is just beginning. If you don’t have a thesis, maybe include the question or questions you hope to answer.

\*Rough Drafts are due on October 23.

\*The Final Drafts are due on November 30.

## Extra Credit

\*No extra credit assignments will be accepted, but bonus points may be offered for attending instructor-specified events on campus.

## Make Up Work/Tests

Students who miss class due to university-related activities will be able to make up exams and writing assignments. In cases of a doctor’s excuse and/or a family death, students will be able to make up exams and writing assignments.

**Midterm Progress Report**

In order to help students keep track of their progress toward course objectives, the instructor for this class will provide a Midterm Progress Report through each student’s WebWorld account. All students will receive this midterm progress report. Midterm grades will not be reported on the students’ transcript, nor will they be calculated in the cumulative GPA. They simply give students an idea of where they stand at the midpoint of the semester. Students earning below a C at the midway point should schedule a meeting with the instructor.

## Important Dates

Last day for term schedule changes:August 24-26

Deadline to file for December graduation: September 28

Deadline to file for May graduation: October 5

Last Day to drop with a grade of “W:” December 4

Refer to: [Drops, Withdrawals & Void](https://mwsu.edu/student-life/development/learning/index)

## Desire-to-Learn (D2L)

Extensive use of the MSU D2L program is a part of this course. Each student is expected to be familiar with this program as it provides a primary source of communication regarding assignments, examination materials, and general course information. You can log into [D2L](https://d2l.mwsu.edu/) through the MSU Homepage. If you experience difficulties, please contact the technicians listed for the program or contact your instructor.

## Attendance

\*While attendance is not part of your grade, it is nevertheless expected and will be taken into consideration if a student is close between letter grades. Official university absences will be excused. A student with excessive unexcused absences may be dropped from a course by the instructor.

\*The instructor will not give out notes under any circumstances. Students are responsible for all missed information.

## Instructor Class Policies

\*Attendance requires more than being present in class. It means showing up prepared; contributing to class discussions; and exhibiting respect for classmates and the instructor.

\*Cell phones should be on silent and put away during class. During exams, a student with a cell phone in their hand or on their desk will be asked to leave.

\*Smart watches are not allowed in class on days of exams. If a student is seen looking at his/her smartwatch during the midterm or final, they will be asked to leave.

\*If seen wearing earbuds or headphones, students will be asked to remove them. Repeat offenders will be asked to leave the classroom.

\*Laptops are a privilege and not a right. Students are welcome to use laptops to take notes. However, if they are seen using the laptop for a non-class-related purpose, students will be given a verbal warning. Repeat offenders will no longer welcome to bring a laptop to class.

## Services for Students With Disabilities

In accordance with Section 504 of the Federal Rehabilitation Act of 1973 and the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990, Midwestern State University endeavors to make reasonable accommodations to ensure equal opportunity for qualified persons with disabilities to participate in all educational, social, and recreational programs and activities. After notification of acceptance, students requiring accommodations should make application for such assistance through Disability Support Services, located in the Clark Student Center, Room 168, (940) 397-4140. Current documentation of a disability will be required in order to provide appropriate services, and each request will be individually reviewed. For more details, please go to [Disability Support Services](http://www.mwsu.edu/student-life/disability).

## College Policies

### Campus Carry Rules/Policies

Refer to: [Campus Carry Rules and Policies](https://mwsu.edu/campus-carry/rules-policies)

## Notice

Changes in the course syllabus, procedure, assignments, and schedule may be made at the discretion of the instructor.

## Course Schedule

| Week or Module | Readings and other Assignments |
| --- | --- |
| **Week 1**  Aug 24 (Mon)  Aug 26 (Wed)  Aug 28 (Fri) | Introduction to Old South  McMillan, p.2-21  Cooper, Chapter 1 |
| **Week 2**  Aug 31 (Mon)  Sep 2 (Wed)  Sep 4 (Fri) | Cooper, Chapter 2  McMillan, Chapter 2, Documents 2,5,6,7,8; and p.42-55  Johnson, Intro and Chapters 1-3; **Term Paper Abstract Due** |
| **Week 3**  Sep 7 (Mon)  Sep 9 (Wed)  Sep 11 (Fri) | **LABOR DAY**  Cooper, Chapter 3; McMillan, Chapter 3, Documents 1-7  Johnson, Chapters, 4-7 and epilogue; **Book Review #1 Due** |
| **Week 4**  Sep 14 (Mon)  Sep 16 (Wed)  Sep 18 (Fri) | Cooper, Chapter 4  McMillan, Chapter 4, Documents 1-7  Bynum, Intro and Chapters 1-2 |
| **Week 5**  Sep 21 (Mon)  Sep 23 (Wed)  Sep 25 (Fri) | Cooper, Chapter 5  McMillan, Chapter 5, Documents 1-7  Bynum, Chapters 3-4 |
| **Week 6**  Sep 28 (Mon)  Sep 30 (Wed)  Oct 2 (Fri) | Cooper, Chapter 6  McMillan, Chapter 6, Documents 1-7  Bynum, Chapters 5-6 and epilogue; **Book Review #2 Due** |
| **Week 7**  Oct 5 (Mon)  Oct 7 (Wed)  Oct 9 (Fri) | Cooper, Chapter 7  McMillan, Chapter 7, Documents 1-7  **MIDTERM** |
| **Week 8**  Oct 12 (Mon)  Oct 14 (Wed)  Oct 16 (Fri) | Cooper, Chapter 8  McMillan, Chapter 8, Documents 1-7  Friend and Glover: “Rethinking Southern Masculinity: An Introduction; and “Refuge of Manhood: Masculinity and the Militia Experience in Kentucky” |
| **Week 9**  Oct 19 (Mon)  Oct 21 (Wed)  Oct 23 (Fri) | Cooper, Chapter 9  McMillan, Chapter 9, Documents 1-7  Friend and Glover: “’Let us Manufacture Men’: Educating Elite Boys in the Early National South”; and “Trying to Look Like Men: Changing Notions of Masculinity Among Choctaw Elites in the early Republic”; **Term Paper Rough Draft Due** |
| **Week 10**  Oct 26 (Mon)  Oct 28 (Wed)  Oct 30 (Fri) | Cooper, Chapter 10  McMillan, Chapter 10, Documents 1-7  Friend and Glover: “Fraternity and Masculine Identity: The Search for Respectability among White and Black Artisans in Petersburg, Virginia”; and “Belles, Benefactors, and the Blacksmith’s Son: Cyrus Stuart and the Enigma of Southern Gentlemanliness” |
| **Week 11**  Nov 2 (Mon)  Nov 4 (Wed)  Nov 6 (Fri) | Cooper, Chapters 11 and 12  McMillan, Chapter 11, Documents 1-7  Friend and Glover: “Being Shifty in a New Country: Southern Humor and the Masculine Ideal”; and “African American Masculinity and Forced Migration to the Antebellum Plantation Frontier” |
| **Week 12**  Nov 9 (Mon)  Nov 11 (Wed)  Nov 13 (Fri) | Cooper, Chapter 13  McMillan, Chapter 12, Documents 1,2,4,5,6,7,8  Friend and Glover: “Stout Chaps Who Can Bear the Distress: Young Men in Antebellum Military Academies” and “Commenced to Think Like A Man: Literacy and Manhood in African American Civil War Regiments”; **Book Review #3 Due** |
| **Week 13**  Nov 16 (Mon)  Nov 18 (Wed)  Nov 20 (Fri) | Cooper, Chapter 14  McMillan, Chapter 13, Documents 1-8  Cooper, Chapter 15; **Film Critique Due** |
| **Week 14**  Nov 23 (Mon)  Nov 25 (Wed)  Nov 27 (Fri) | Cooper, Chapter 16  **THANKSGIVING BREAK**  **THANKSGIVING BREAK** |
| **Week 15**  Nov 30 (Mon)  Dec 2 (Wed)  Dec 4 (Fri) | **Term Paper Final Draft Due**; Zoom Paper Presentations  McMillan, p.454-465; Zoom Paper Presentations  Zoom Paper Presentations |

**Final Exam**: Dec 7 (Mon), 10:30-12:30 P.M.