SOUTHERN POLITICAL HISTORY

Required Reading

Michael Perman, Pursuit of Unity: A Political History of the American South, University of North Carolina Press, 2009

Description

The course will review Southern political history from the 1780s to the present. In the first part of the course, we review the events which transformed the South from a region of progressive nationalism from the 1780s to the 1810s to a region of defensive sectionalism from the 1820s to the 1860s. Touching briefly on the Civil War, we then take up Reconstruction and the agrarian movement of the late 19th century, followed by the period of the “Solid South” in the first half of the 20th century. Next we examine the civil rights movement of the 1950s and 60s, followed by the rise of southern Republicans in the late 20th century.

Exams and Grades

There will be three in-class, multiple-choice exams on the dates noted below. There is no final exam. The first two exams have 35 questions and the last one has 30 questions for a total of 100 points on all three exams. The raw scores on the three exams are added and the total raw scores are then curved to determine your final grade. There is no extra credit. A make-up exam (not multiple-choice) will be given only if an exam is missed for a valid reason. A plus/minus grading system will be used. The grading system is fully explained on Blackboard under “Course Documents.”

Students with disabilities: Students with disabilities may request appropriate academic accommodations from the Division of Diversity and Community Engagement, Services for Students with Disabilities, 471-6259, www.utexas.edu/diversity/ddce/ssp/

Schedule and Assignments

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<th>Date</th>
<th>Topic</th>
<th>Reading</th>
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<tr>
<td>JAN 18</td>
<td>Introduction</td>
<td>[P] pp. 1-7</td>
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<td>JAN 23</td>
<td>Background to the Constitution</td>
<td>[C&amp;T, I] pp. 102-116</td>
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JAN 25  Hamilton’s Vision and the Southern Critique
[C&T, I] pp. 116-133

JAN 30, FEB 1  From Jefferson’s Presidency to the Missouri Crisis

FEB 6  The Age of Jackson

FEB 8  Texas, the Mexican War, and Slavery

FEB 13  From Kansas-Nebraska to Secession and War

FEB 15  Reconstruction

FEB 20  REVIEW

FEB 22  FIRST EXAM

FEB 27  Conservative Rule and the Agrarian Revolt

FEB 29  Jim Crow and the Progressive Era

MAR 5  From Wilson to the 1920s

MAR 7,19  The Great Depression

MAR 21  World War II and Civil Rights

MAR 26,28  The 1960s

APR 2  REVIEW

APR 4  SECOND EXAM

APR 9,11  Mississippi and the Conservative Counterrevolution
[C] pp. 1-278

APR 16,18  The Rise of Southern Republicans

APR 23,25  The 2003 Texas Congressional Redistricting
[B] pp. 1-273
APR 30       REVIEW
MAY 2       THIRD EXAM