

HISTORY 655 (A LOUISIANA HISTORY PRACTICUM) SYLLABUS

THE COURSE: A documentary film-viewing and readings-format practicum class focused on enhancing content knowledge and presentation skills necessary to effectively teach Louisiana History.

YOUR INSTRUCTORS: Dr. Keith Finley; Fayard 355F; Office Phone: (985) 549-5523; E-mail: Keith.Finley@selu.edu and Mr. Charles Elliott; Office: Fayard 350; Office Phone: (985) 549-5689; Home: (225) 343-7896; E-mail: cneliott@selu.edu ;Office Hours by appointment.

REQUIRED TEXTS: 1) LPB's *Louisiana: A History*, six part documentary film presentation w/ companion text; 2) Samuel C. Hyde, Jr., C. Howard Nichols and Charles N. Elliott, *Carnivals and Conflicts: A Louisiana History Reader: Selected Scholarly Articles and Primary Documents Complementing the Study of a Unique and Colorful State*.

READING ASSIGNMENTS: Viewing and reading assignments begin on the first day of class and combine relevant sections in all texts and supplements.

SUPPLEMENTAL READINGS & AIDS: Students may refer to Bennett H. Wall, *Louisiana: A History*, the standard text used in History 321 (Louisiana History). To supplement the required and recommended texts, students may be assigned certain additional (and announced) journal articles placed on reserve under the instructor's name in the library. A state map is provided.

FILMS: Five thematically appropriate films are recommended to help deepen appreciation and define relevant issues in Louisiana History: *Black Robe* (1991); *Vatel* (2000) starring Gerard Depardieu; *Solomon Northrup's Odyssey* (1994); *Gettysburg* (1993); *Huey Long* (1985) from Ken Burns' *America* film series. The first four films are available from local and national rental companies, with the last being available as well through the Southeastern university library's Media Department, 2nd floor.

RESEARCHING LOUISIANA HISTORY: Southeastern librarians Mary Frances Marx and Kelly Duncan have created a special resources page *Louisiana History Subject Guide* assessable through the Sims Memorial Library's website. Please consult this valuable study aid for your general and specific research.

ATTENDANCE: Students are expected to attend class without fail. When grades are awarded at the end of the semester, attendance will be considered should there be a need for professorial generosity.

ACADEMIC HONESTY & CLASSROOM BEHAVIOR: The university maintains strict standards of academic honesty. This class is no different. Plagiarism of any kind will result in an immediate failing grade on the project and in the class. Classroom behavior that interferes with either the instructor's ability to conduct the class or the ability of students to benefit from the instruction and discussions is not acceptable. Behavior determined inappropriate and unresolvable may be referred to the administration for disciplinary review.

GRADING SYSTEM: Grades will be based on your performance on the following factors:

Writing Assignment I: 50%

Writing Assignment II: 50%

We operate on the traditional ten point scale. Grades in the 90s are As; 80s, Bs; 70s, Cs; 60s, Ds; below 60, Fs.

ENRICHMENT PRESENTATION PROJECT: Each student must complete and submit two class-relevant research and writing projects. These *Enrichment Presentation Projects* can cover any topic, theme, subject or approach chosen by the student and approved by the instructors. These might include historical incidents, places, biographies, cultural events, folkways, foodways, field trip plans or working bibliographies whose presentation would generally and specifically enrich classroom teaching on a primary or secondary level. These EPPs, which must address need, interest, scholarship, showmanship and practicality, will possibly be shared with other students and teachers of Louisiana History. History 655 students should be prepared to sign a release form for any future academic use of their EPPs deemed appropriate by the Department of History and Southeastern Louisiana University.

You must submit two EPPs in the class. The first on 19 October 2005 should cover a theme, issue, etc. from the first three LPB videos. The second due on 30 November should address a theme discussed in the final three videos of the LPB series. All papers are to be properly documented and carefully proofread. No handwritten papers will be accepted. Please use a letter-quality printer or typewriter. Watch your grammar and spelling! Please use your spell-check! Papers failing to meet these specifications will be returned unread and ungraded.

Your EPPs are valued at **100 points** each and serve as the mid-term and final exams. Papers are to be e-mailed as an attachment or hand-delivered to the instructors. It is your responsibility to ensure that we receive your paper. Computer troubles are not an acceptable excuse for late

papers. Work not submitted by 5 PM on the due date will receive an F. You must submit both of your Enrichment Presentation Projects in order to receive a passing grade.

The History & Political Science Office is bound by the provisions of the 1974 Federal Privacy Act and cannot reveal grades to anyone over the telephone or e-mail. Do not ask the Department chairman or secretary and do not call the Instructors about your grades.

STUDENTS WITH DISABILITIES: If you are a qualified student seeking accommodations under the Americans with Disabilities Act, you are required to self-identify with the Office of Student Life, Room 203, Student Union. Please make your situation know to your instructor.

TENTATIVE SCHEDULE FOR FALL SEMESTER 2005

August 24 Introduction: Problem(s), Perception(s) and a Sense of Place

August 31 Native American Nations *Black Robe*

September 7 French Louisiana *Vatel*

September 14 Spanish Louisiana

September 21 British West Florida

September 28 Louisiana Purchased

October 5 Americanizing Louisiana

October 12 Plantations and Peculiar Institutions *Solomon Northup's Odyssey*

October 19 Plain Folk **1st Enrichment Presentation Project Due**

Friday, October 21st is the last day to resign from the university or withdraw from class.

October 26 Destruction and Reconstruction *Gettysburg*

November 2 Backwoods Rebellion: Populism

November 9 Huey Long *Huey Long*

November 16 *Brown, black, white and beyond*

November 23 **Thanksgiving Vacation**

November 30 Contemporary Louisiana 2nd Enrichment Presentation Project Due