

Andrews University

HIST 437-001

TOPICS: TRANSFORMATION OF RURAL LIFE

SPRING SEMESTER 2016

BULLER 149

TR 12:30 PM – 1:45 PM

CREDITS: 3.0

Instructor: Stephanie A. Carpenter, PhD
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Office location: Buller 126
Office hours: by appointment

Course Description: A study of selected topics in history as announced in the class schedule. May be repeated with different topics. Spring 2016: An exploration of the historical development of rural America from colonial times to the present. Emphasis will be placed on the impact of different crops on regional economic growth, organizational and technological changes in farming, urban-rural relationships, the role of government in agriculture, and the rural community in modern America.

Course Materials:

Blassingame, John. *The Slave Community: Plantation Life in the Antebellum South*, 2nd edition. Oxford University Press, 1979. ISBN 978-0195025637.

Fitzgerald, Deborah. *Every Farm a Factory*. Yale University Press, 2003. ISBN 978-0300111286.

Hurt, R. Douglas. *American Agriculture: A Brief History*. Purdue University Press, 2002. ISBN 978-1557532817.

Knight, Richard L., Wendell Gilgert, and Ed Marston, eds. *Ranching West of the 100th Meridian: Culture, Ecology, and Economics*. Island Press, 2002. ISBN 978-1559638272.

Randall, Isabel F. *A Lady's Ranch Life in Montana*. Edited by Richard L. Saunders. University of Oklahoma Press, 2004. ISBN 978-0806136400

Other readings as assigned.

Course Outline: **Syllabus subject to change.** The information included below is a general course outline. Inasmuch as deviation from it may be necessary to meet the needs of the class, the right is reserved to make adjustments where necessary. Adjustments made will be based on reasonable discretion and consistent with fundamental fairness.

1. Pre-European contact and colonial agriculture (pre-1500s-1770s):

Hurt, *American Agriculture*, chapters 1, 2, and "Agrarianism."

Blassingame, *The Slave Community*, chapters 1 and 2.

Other readings as assigned.

2. New nation and expansion (1780s-1820s/1830s):

Hurt, *American Agriculture*, chapter 3.

Blassingame, *The Slave Community*, chapters 3 and 4.

Other readings as assigned.

3. Antebellum and Mid-century agriculture (1820s/1830s-1860s):

Hurt, *American Agriculture*, chapter 4 and "The Civil War."

Blassingame, *The Slave Community*, chapters 5-8.

Other readings as assigned.

Hourly Exam: 4 February 2016

4. Gilded Age (1870s-1890s):

Hurt, *American Agriculture*, chapter 5.
Knight, Gilgert, Marston, *Ranching West of the 100th Meridian*,
Randall, *A Lady's Ranch Life in Montana*
Other readings as assigned.

5. Age of Prosperity (1900-1929):

Hurt, *American Agriculture*, chapter 6.
Knight, Gilgert, Marston, *Ranching West of the 100th Meridian*
Other readings as assigned.

Hourly Exam: 10 March 2016

6. Troubled Times (1929-1940s):

Hurt, *American Agriculture*, chapter 7.
Fitzgerald, *Every Farm a Factory*.
Knight, Gilgert, Marston, *Ranching West of the 100th Meridian*
Other readings as assigned.

7. Days of Uncertainty (1950s-1990s):

Hurt, *American Agriculture*, chapters 8 and 9.
Knight, Gilgert, Marston, *Ranching West of the 100th Meridian*
Fitzgerald, *Every Farm a Factory*.
Other readings as assigned.

Final Exam: 26 April 2016, Tuesday, 1:30-3:30 pm

Course Objectives: Upon completion of the course, students will:

- Understand American rural life and the transformation that occurred from colonial to present.
- Understand the importance that agriculture has played in American politics, especially in the 20th century.
- Analyze primary and secondary source materials through discussion, exams, and a paper.
- Present their research and final paper at the end of the semester.

Grading: Grades will follow the A-B-C-D-F (100-90-80-70-60) scale and will not be curved. Passing grade in this course is 60 percent (D). Students must complete all components of course to receive a passing grade.

Course requirements:

Discussion (20 percent): class discussion (formal/informal) will occur each class. Students should be prepared through assigned readings in the text and articles on LearningHub or handed out in class.

Exams (20 percent each): Two hourly exams will include identifications, short answer, and essay questions. First exam will be given **4 February 2016** and the second **10 March 2016**. **Make-up exams will follow the final exam.**

Final exam (20 percent): The final exam will follow the same format as the hour exams. Final is scheduled for **26 April 2016 at 1:30 pm**. No exceptions.

Paper (20 percent): 20 percent) will be due **15 April 2016**. To complete the paper, students will turn in a research proposal and working bibliography by **28 January 2016**; first draft by **1 March 2016**, and final paper with bibliographic essay by **15 April**. **Students must meet each deadline; No late submissions will be accepted.** Choose a topic that interests you; the paper will be based on primary documents, with limited commentary from secondary sources. Each paper should be clear, coherent, and precise as possible; as well as typed, double-spaced, and spell-checked. Constructive comments should be incorporated into the final copy. Citations will be in standard historical format; see, *The Chicago Manual of*

Style, Turabian, A Manual for Writers of Term Papers, Theses, and Dissertations, or examples on LearningHub for citation format. Additional paper guidelines will be placed on LearningHub.

Attendance Policy: Attendance is required. Unexcused absences will affect grade—4 will reduce student grade one letter; 8 will result in automatic failure.

Class Policies:

Student Responsibility: Email is the official form of communication at Andrews University. Students are responsible for checking their Andrews University email, Moodle, and iVue alerts regularly.

Professionalism: To prepare students for the professional world, certain behaviors/activities are not allowed in the classroom.

- Cell Phones, Personal Laptops, and Recording devices: **Cell phones should be turned off before entering the classroom.** Students who choose to text during class will be marked absent for the day. Picture-taking during class is not allowed. Recording devices are allowed only if pre-approved by instructor, and if approved, under no circumstance are recordings—visual or verbal—to be posted on a public website.
- Laptops should not be used for surfing the web or watching movies during class. It is disrespectful and unprofessional to use these devices inappropriately during class.
- Late Assignments are unacceptable unless prearranged with instructor.
- Tardiness; is disruptive and disrespectful to the class and instructor.
- Please do not bring food or beverages to class. Water is permitted.

Additional Policies: CHEATING in any form (including plagiarism) is not allowed. Plagiarism is a serious matter and cause for an F in the course. Cheating, plagiarism, or doing work for another person which will receive academic credit are all impermissible. This includes the use of unauthorized books, notebooks, or other sources in order to secure or give help during an examination, the unauthorized copying of examinations, assignments, reports, or term papers, or the presentation of unacknowledged material as if it were the student's own work.

Disability Accommodations: If you qualify for accommodation under the American Disabilities Act, please contact Student Success in Nethery Hall 100 (disabilities@andrews.edu or 269-471-6096) as soon as possible so that accommodations can be arranged.

Academic Integrity: In harmony with the mission statement, Andrews University expects that students will demonstrate the ability to think clearly for themselves and exhibit personal and moral integrity in every sphere of life. Thus, students are expected to display honesty in all academic matters.

Academic dishonesty includes (but is not limited to) the following:

- Falsifying or presenting falsified documents
- Plagiarizing: misquoting, copying, lack of citations, or using another's work as your own
- Misusing copyrighted material and/or violating licensing agreements
- Using media from any source or device including the internet in ways that mislead, deceive, or defraud
- Using materials other than those specifically allowed by the instructor/program during a quiz or exam
- Stealing, accepting, or studying from stolen quizzes or examination materials
- Obtaining information from another student or any other source during a regular or take home test or quiz
- Assisting others in acts of academic dishonesty such as falsifying attendance records or providing unauthorized course materials"

Emergency Protocol: Andrews University takes the safety of its student seriously. Signs identifying emergency protocol are posted throughout buildings. Instructors will provide guidance and direction to students in the classroom in the event of an emergency affecting that specific location. It is important that you follow these instructions and stay with your instructor during any evacuation or sheltering emergency.