**Coastal Carolina University**

**Department of History**

**HIST 205 03--American History: Foodways and American History**

**Sections:**

**08: MWF, 10AM-10:50AM: Edwards (EHFA) 257**

Which is taught by me! Who am I, you ask?

Kevin Kokomoor, Ph.D.

kkokomoor@coastal.edu

Office: Brittain 379 (History Department)

Office Hours: MWF, 11-1, more TBD and I’m always available by appointment

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**Course Description:**

This is a course on Foodways and American History. In other words, it looks at American history by investigating food traditions, their context, the formation of the traditions associated with them, their legacies, etc. It is a nontraditional course that is designed around a mix of popular culture multimedia and popular culture readings to do that.

**Course Objectives:**

This is a very unique course that will expose you to American history by exposing you to the unique cultures of food and drink that different groups of immigrants established and spread in what is now America. Food and drink is actually an excellent way to investigate the many different people that came to America and how they influenced the development of an American identity. This course will span American history from the contact period through the 20th century. It will expose you to the different European, African, and Native American peoples that contributed to American history during that expansive period. It will expose you to complex historical processes, like the Columbian Exchange, Race and Ethnicity, the role of the environment, etc. It will use a mix of multimedia and popular culture readings to broaden your food horizons. Some of this might be familiar to you, and some of it might be entirely novel. Hopefully most of it will be enjoyable, but some of it might also make you uncomfortable. You will be exposed to the preparation and consumption of foods, which might include the harvesting of wildlife or the slaughtering of animals. If that is something that upsets you, you should consider whether this course is appropriate for you.

**Student Learning Objectives:**

This class will challenge you to think of the history behind the places and the foods that you may or may not have known existed. It will ask you to embrace multiple perspectives of history and culture. It will challenge you to see history in strange places, and see the current impact of historical trends that originated hundreds of years ago

It will also include a commitment to:

1. Read the United States Constitution in its entirety
2. Read the Declaration of Independence in its entirety
3. Read the Emancipation Proclamation in its entirety
4. Read a minimum of five essays in their entirety from the Federalist Papers as selected by instructor
5. Read one or more documents that are foundational to the African American Freedom struggle

**Evaluation:**

Grades are distributed in this way:

**A**: 90-100; **B+**: 87-89; **B**: 80-86; **C+**: 77-79; **C**: 70-76; **D+**: 67-69; **D**: 60-69; **F**: < 60

**Class Breakdown/Due Dates:**

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| **Sectional Themes:** | **Exam dates:** | **Final Exams:** |
|  |  |  |
| Pre Columbian |  |  |
| Contact/The Columbian Exchange |  |  |
| Sugar/Rum/Puritans | **Test 1: Sunday, 2/27** |  |
| Tobacco |  |  |
| Gullah |  |  |
| The West | **Test 2: Sunday, 3/27** |  |
| Immigration |  |  |
| Prohibition |  |  |
| BBQ | **Test 3: Sunday, 5/5** |  |
|  |  | **Sunday, 5/5** |

**Evaluated Work:**

Here is the basic rubric of graded components:

1. Weekly Assignments: 4-6/week @ 4-6pts each x 15 weeks = 240-540pts
2. Written Response Tests: 3 @ 100pts. = 300pts
3. Final Reflection: 1 @ 50pts. = 50pts

= ~ 590-890pts

**Evaluated Work:**

1. Weekly Assignments:

These will constitute the majority of the weekly work you will do for the class. They might include responses to lectures, chapter readings, online quizzes, preparing responses from online articles, watching short YouTube clips, etc. There will be set due dates and times for this that will be spaced either on Wednesdays, or Sundays.

1. Written Response Tests:

After each section you will be asked to summarize what you’ve learned. Tests will be entirely online, and short answer in nature. They will constitute, for instance, 8-10 questions from which you will choose and answer 4-5 in at least one paragraph. These tests will constitute a massive portion of your grade and will be based overwhelmingly on what you learned IN CLASS! REPEAT, NOT what you learned from your sectional assignments. If you do not pay attention or attend class, you will not do well on these, and if you do not do well on these, you cannot hope to do well in class.

1. Final Reflections:

This is just a reflection on how you felt about the class. We’ll talk about that at the end of class.

**Required Text:**

There are no required texts for this class. For a standard survey text we will use [www.americanyawp.com](http://www.americanyawp.com). Otherwise, assignment material will be taken from all over the internet. Links or scans of required sources for weekly assignments will be provided.

**Class Movies:**

Most streamed and recorded content will be lecture material. HOWEVER, for some classes I will watch videos. If you choose to stream, you will be responsible for watching those videos whether you come to class or not. If you do not choose to come to class on these days, you will have to pay for the video rental or purchase. They are available on YouTube, Amazon, Apple, etc., and are usually $1.99-$2.99/each. You will be responsible for finding this videos and purchasing them if necessary. If you do not, and a video response is required, then you will lose credit for not completing it.

**Assignment Due Dates/Late Work/Extra Credit**

Beginning at the second week of classes, I will not accept late work in almost any circumstance whatsoever. There will be too many assignments swirling around to have people emailing me stuff days after it was due. I will only accept late work in the case of a bona fide, fully-documented medical emergency that absolutely forces me to accept it. Computer issues, Moodle issues, and other related problems WILL NOT constitute acceptable excuses. You will have several days to turn assignments in each week. If you wait until the last minute to do assignments and then your computer crashes, Moodle crashes, an absolute “Act of God” natural disaster hits, etc., and you can’t turn your work in by midnight, that is still your fault! There is an easy to make sure this does not happen to you—don’t wait until the last minute to do you work!

**Academic Integrity:**

The University places the highest value on academic integrity. Work submitted in this course is presented as *your own thought, understanding, and words*. Academic dishonesty undermines the University's purpose and your own education. This course is done almost entirely outside of the classroom and on your own time, and so it carries an elevated risk of dishonest activity, whether intended or not.

EXAMPLES OF ACADEMIC DISHONESTY INCLUDE BUT ARE NOT LIMITED TO: plagiarism, cheating, and unauthorized group work.

Regardless of your intentions, dishonest work will not be tolerated. It is usually obvious, and it will be dealt with IMMEDIATELY AND AT MY DISCRETION. Depending on the severity of the infraction, this may include assigning a failing grade for either the assignment or the course, reporting to the Office of Academic Integrity under the procedures described in the Student Code of Conduct, and even assigning a grade of 'FX' for the course, signaling a failure for an academic violation.

The full text of Code of Student Conduct is located at: [www.coastal.edu/judicialaffairs/codeofconduct.pdf](http://www.coastal.edu/judicialaffairs/codeofconduct.pdf).

I will say additionally, that with his class being taught online there is an increased risk of academic dishonesty, whether intentional or not. Digital learning is only possible if the work you do at home is of the highest quality, reflects real work done, and above all else, is honest and legitimate. I will make assignments very clear and the rules will be even clearer. If you engage in academic dishonesty, you will be held accountable.

**Americans with Disabilities Act:**

Coastal Carolina University, in accordance with the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990 (ADA) and the Federal Rehabilitation Act of 1973, Section 504, will provide reasonable accommodations for eligible students with disabilities. If you require special assistance, please see me privately and seek assistance directly from the Office of Disability Services. You are responsible for initiating arrangements of Accommodations for tests and other assignments in collaboration with the Office of Disability Services and your professors. Please see [www.coastal.edu/counseling/disability.html](http://www.coastal.edu/counseling/disability.html) for more information.

**Religious Holidays/ Excused Absences:**

No student can be compelled to attend class or sit for an examination at a day ortime when he or she would normally be engaged in a religious observance or on a day or time prohibited by his or her religious belief. That being said, you should notify me if you intend to be absent for a class or announced examination, in accordance with this policy, prior to the scheduled meeting.

**Friday Class Policy:**

Friday classes will take place on an as-is basis. This is allowable by university policy, but not guaranteed. We could have no Friday classes for a month, and then have two or three in a row, and you’ll still be responsible for material learned on that day. Having Friday classes off constitutes a privilege, and will be determined on where were are in the class that week. They are not a guaranteed component of this class.

**Syllabus Policy:**

This syllabus is a guide for the course. It is subject to change with advanced notice and I guarantee you that it will change several times over the course of the semester, PARTICULARLY THIS SEMESTER. But that doesn’t mean you can forget about it. It is still the law of the land, so keep an eye on it, and always refer to it before asking me a question about an assignment or a due date.