

Black/Hispanic History

Spring, 2019, HIS 3942.14601

Professor Paul Ortiz

Department of History, University of Florida

[352-392-7168/portiz@ufl.edu](mailto:portiz@ufl.edu)

Tuesday, 10:40 am to 11:30

Thursday, 10:40 am to 12:35 pm

Location: Keene-Flint, 111

Course Description:

How does United States history look when African American and Latina/o histories are placed at the center of the national narrative? This course is a comparative exploration of Black and Hispanic experiences from the early 19th century to the present. The central theme of the course is comparative race and ethnicity, freedom movements, liberation struggles and revolutions. We will use newspapers, memoirs, podcasts, music, and oral histories from UF Special Collections as well as secondary sources to explore Black and Hispanic resistance to slavery as well as the Jim Crow/Juan Crow systems of discrimination that blossomed into full-scale social movements in the 20th and 21st centuries.

Course Objectives/Student Learning Outcomes: *The History Practicum* is designed to give students essential training on how to become successful history majors at one of the finest public universities in the United States. We will explore the foundations of the historical craft. We will learn the critical reading of sources (primary and secondary); library research skills and the goals of historical study. We will practice skills necessary for historical research, analysis, and writing.

Contact Information:

Paul Ortiz: portiz@ufl.edu. Office Hours: Tuesdays noon to 1:30 and Thursdays, 1:30 to 3 pm at my office in 241 Pugh Hall, Samuel Proctor Oral History Program. I am available to meet outside of these times by appointment. Office phone, 392-7168. Cell Phone, 831-334-0131.

Brittany Sealey, Graduate Course Grader, b.sealey13@ufl.edu (Office Hours, Wednesdays, 12:50 to 1:40 pm, Keene-Flint, room 9.

Policy Regarding the Use of Electronic Equipment: You may not use your laptops or cell phones in the classroom, nor may you text. Students doing so will be marked absent.

Attendance Policy: Because this is a skill learning seminar of utmost importance to your future as a UF history major, attendance will be taken every class session. You are permitted unexcused two absences without penalty but on the third and each subsequent absence, your final grade for the course will be reduced by a third of a letter grade (i.e., from an A to an A- to a B+, etc.). A medical certificate is needed to excuse absences. If you miss a class, you are responsible for getting notes and/or assignment instructions from one of your peers or instructor during regular office hours.

Academic Honesty: Students are required to be honest in their coursework and must properly cite all sources that they have consulted for their projects. Any act of academic dishonesty may result in failure of the assignment in question and/or the course. Review the UF Honor Code at: <https://www.law.ufl.edu/life-at-uf-law/office-of-student-affairs/additional-information/honor-code-and-committee/honor-code-violations>

Accommodations for Students with Disabilities: Students with disabilities requesting accommodations should first register with the Disability Resource Center (352-392-8565, www.dso.ufl.edu/drc/) by providing appropriate documentation. Once registered, students will receive an accommodation letter which must be presented to the instructor when requesting accommodation. Students with disabilities should follow this procedure as early as possible in the semester.

Counseling and Mental Health Resources: Students facing difficulties completing the course or who are in need of counseling or urgent help should call the on-campus Counseling and Wellness Center (352-392-1575; <http://www.counseling.ufl.edu/cwc/>).

Review Current UF Grading Policy: <https://catalog.ufl.edu/ugrad/current/regulations/info/grades.aspx>

Grades will be assigned according to the following scale:

	A	93-100	A-	90-92	
B+	87-89	B	83-86	B-	80-82
C+	77-79	C	73-76	C-	70-72
D+	68-69	D	66-67	D-	64-65
F	<64				

Canvas Site: Check our Canvas site regularly for course updates, and study guides for papers & exams.

COURSE FORMAT

In general, our Tuesday sessions will be devoted to methodology and content lectures that will help students gain a sense of the theory and practice of comparative race and ethnicity as well as African American and Latinx histories as they have evolved in academic and extra-institutional settings.

Thursday sessions will generally be more “hands on” and participatory in approach. These may involve workshops, guest lectures, group discussions, as well as visits to various parts of Smathers Libraries—a knowledge of which will be crucial for your success in the course.

Class Participation: includes attendance, participation in seminar discussions, hands-on research exercises and engagement with guest lecturers and workshop leaders. **(20% of final grade)**

Response Essays: 2-3 page essays on selected topics to be elaborated on. (First response essay: What is plagiarism and how does one avoid it? Due January 25.) (2nd response essay, draft of research prospectus proposal, due Friday, February 22.) (3rd response essay: reflections on UF African American History Symposium, due Friday, March 20.) **(3 papers = 30% of final grade)**

Analytical Essays: Two five-page Review Essays of: 1) *An African American and Latinx History of the United States*, due Monday, February 11 (10%); 2) Review Essay of *Emancipation Betrayed*, due Friday, March 15 (10%) **(2 papers = 20 percent of final grade).**

Final Project: Write a prospectus (1,000-word maximum) on a Hispanic/Black History topic that would result in a 20-page research paper or (thinking big!), a history senior thesis based on primary and secondary sources.

Include an annotated bibliography that includes the following: Five (5) relevant books, five (3) peer-reviewed articles or book chapters, and three (3) types of primary sources, with specific examples, that you will use in this research paper. **(Final project = 30% of final grade.)**

Pop-Quizzes: I reserve the right to assign in-class pop quizzes as needed. These would cover mechanics of history writing and research. Quiz grades will be factored into overall class participation grade.

Grading: Class participation, including discussion (20%); Response Essays (30%); Five-Page Review Essay of *An African American and Latinx History of the United States* (10%) 5-Page Review Essay of *Emancipation Betrayed* (10%) Final Project (30%)

Required Event: Each student will attend at least three panels at the: UF *From Segregation to Black Lives Matter*. A Symposium and Celebration of the Opening of the Joel Buchanan Archive of African American Oral History at the University of Florida, March 21-23. (Details to follow.) Each student write a 2-3 page response essay on academic history and civic engagement.

Email: Check our Canvas site on a regular basis for reading questions and periodic course updates.

Required Texts (Available at Library West Reserves.) Paul Ortiz, *An African American and Latinx History of the United States* and *Emancipation Betrayed: The Hidden History of Black Organizing and White Violence in Florida from Reconstruction to the Bloody Election of 1920*; William Storey, *Writing History: A Guide for Students*

Syllabus & Reading List

Week of January 8: An Introduction to Becoming a History Major

Tuesday: Introductions; syllabus review

Thursday: Meet at Entrance to Library West, *Library Research Scavenger Hunt, Lightning Round, I*

Reading Discussion: William Storey, *Writing History: A Guide for Students*, 1-36.

Week of January 15: Sources, Hypotheses, Citations and Plagiarism (Oh my!) (Why be a historian at all?)

Tuesday: Course lecture: An introduction to comparative race and ethnicity in the Americas

Reading: Ortiz, "Author's Note," and Introduction, *An African American and Latinx*,

Thursday: *class discussion on hypotheses, sources and citations, plagiarism in Writing History*

Reading Discussion: William Storey, *Writing History: A Guide for Students*, 1-64.

Week of January 22: The Mexican War of Independence vs. Slavery and "Manifest Destiny"

Tuesday: Course Lecture: The Haitian Revolution, the Mexican War of Independence, and US History

Reading: Ortiz, *An African American and Latinx*, chapters 1 and 2.

Thursday: Meet at Library West for computer lab research workshop with Stephanie Birch, UF African American Studies Librarian, Library West, 211. (Bring a pen and paper.)

“What is plagiarism and how does one avoid it?” 2-3 Page Response Essay Due January 25.

January 29 Getting Started in UF’s Latin American and Caribbean Archives Collections

Tuesday: Meeting at Smathers Libraries East: Latin American and Caribbean Special Collections Multipurpose Room (arrive five minutes early.) Workshop presented by, Dr. Margarita Vargas-Betancourt, Latin American and Caribbean Special Collections Librarian: “How to Get Started in the Archives,”

Thursday: Content Lecture: Abolition, Slavery, and Reconstruction from an Internationalist Perspective

Reading Discussion: An African American and Latinx History, Chapter 3 and 4.

Week of February 5: History and Truth Commissions

Tuesday: Content Lecture: The Making of Jim Crow/Juan Crow America

Samuel DeWitt Proctor Conference, Elaine [Arkansas] Truth Telling Commission Hearing. Ortiz testimony, invitation to participate.

Reading: An African American and Latinx History of the United States, Chapters 5 and 6

Thursday: Library Research Workshop led by Drs. Flo Turcotte and Diedre Houchen, co-curators of “Black Educators: Florida Secret Social Justice Advocates,”

Reading: An African American and Latinx History of the United States, Chapter 7 through conclusion.

Week of February 12: Building an Argument

Analytical essay due, Monday, February 11, *An African American and Latinx History of the United States.*

Tuesday: Content Lecture: African American History in Florida

Reading: William Storey, Writing History: A Guide for Students, 65-108

Ortiz, *Emancipation Betrayed*, Preface, Prologue and chapter 1:

Thursday: Class Discussion and writing exercise (*Drawing on Storey*)

Week of February 19: African American History in Florida

Tuesday: Content Lecture: The Struggle to Save Democracy in Florida

Reading: Emancipation Betrayed, chaps. 2 through 5.

Thursday: Library Scavenger Hunt, *Lightening Round, II* (Meet at Entrance to Library West)

Reading: Emancipation Betrayed, chapter. 7.

Friday: February 22: Response Essay with Prospectus Research Hypothesis and Methods (2-3 pages)

Week of February 26: Ocoee and US

Tuesday: Content Lecture: “A Town Called Ocoee”

Thursday: *Class Discussion: What does Ocoee, Florida mean to us today? What is the historian’s responsibility in writing on racial pogroms and other historical traumas?*

Readings: Paul Ortiz, “Remembering ‘the single bloodiest day in modern U.S. Political History,’” *Facing South*, May 14, 2010, <https://www.facingsouth.org/2010/05/ocoee-florida-remembering-the-single-bloodiest-day-in-modern-us-political-history.html>

Andrew Maraniss, “Legacy of Bloody Election Day Lingers in Florida Town, *The Undeclared*, November 4, 2016, <https://theundefeated.com/features/legacy-of-bloody-election-day-lingers-in-ocoee-florida/>

City of Ocoee, Florida, 2018 Proclamation Recognizing the Ocoee 1920 Election

Richard Luscombe, “The Sunrise City”: Florida Community Reconciles with History of 1920s Race Riot,” *The London Guardian*, January 3, 2019, <https://www.theguardian.com/us-news/2019/jan/03/the-sunrise-city-florida-community-honors-victims-of-1920-race-riot>

Week of March 5: Spring Break (Keep Learning!)

Week of March 12: The Future in the Past?

Tuesday: Content Lecture: The Florida Voter Registration Movement and the Decline of Democracy in the US

Ortiz, *Emancipation Betrayed*, Chaps. 8, 9 and conclusion

Thursday: Library Workshop on Newspaper Sources (Meet at Entrance to Library West)

Analytical Essay on Emancipation Betrayed, due Friday, March 15.

Week of March 19: UF African American History Symposium Week (No new reading)

No Regularly scheduled class. Attend at least three panels/events at the UF African American History Symposium, March 21-23.

Week of March 26: Reflection on the Intersections of Public and Academic History

Tuesday: Course Content: Feedback discussion on symposium

Thursday: Review: *Storey*, *Writing Guide*.

Friday, March 29 Response Essay on UF African American History Symposium due

Week of April 3: Framing the Research Prospectus

Tuesday: Library day: work on drafts of prospectuses in preparation for:

Reading: (TBD)

Thursday Prospectus Roundtable: The Nuts and Bolts of Creating and Exciting Research Project, UF History PhD Candidates: Kevin Bird, Raja Rahim, and Matt Simmons

Reading: (TBD)

Week of April 9: How Do Your Citations Look Now?

Tuesday: Content Lecture: Citations, Citations, Citations (class exercise)

Thursday: Professor Sharon Austin, Director, UF African American Studies: “Building African American Studies in the 21st Century.”

Week of April 16: Incorporating Oral History Into Your Research Project

Tuesday: Library Research Day.

Thursday: “Incorporating Oral History Into Your Research Project,” Deborah Hendrix, Kendriana Drayton, Juanita Duque, Juliette Barbera, Samuel Proctor Oral History Program

Week of April 23: Wrapping it All Up

Tuesday: *Lightening Round Check in on Final Projects, questions, questions.*

(April 24, Last Day of Classes)

Week of April 29: Finals Week

Prospectus Narratives due: Wednesday, May 1, 5 pm. My office, Pugh Hall.

About the Instructor

Paul Ortiz is a third-generation military veteran and a first-generation college graduate. He is the director of the Samuel Proctor Oral History Program and associate professor of history at the University of Florida. Under his leadership, the Proctor Program has earned three national academic awards. SPOHP has sustained student oral history field work in African American History, the Latinx Diaspora, World War II, Entrepreneurship, Native American cultures, Jewish communities in Latin America, Women’s activism, the civil rights movement in the Mississippi, fisherfolk in the Virginia Tidewater and many other topics.

Professor Ortiz was president of the Oral History Association for the 2014-2015 term.

Paul’s publications include the *Emancipation Betrayed* (University of California Press) a history of the Black Freedom struggle in Florida, and the co-edited volume, *Remembering Jim Crow: African Americans Tell About Life in the Jim Crow South* which recently went into its 4th printing (New Press).

Professor Ortiz’s latest book, *An African American and Latinx History of the United States* was published by Beacon Press in January, 2018 as part of its *Revisioning American History* series. The book has already received several accolades including a starred review in Kirkus Reviews. *An African American and Latinx History* was named by the World Economic Forum as one of its “7 Books for Black History Month,” while *Bustle* identified the book as one of “Ten Books About Race to Read Instead of Asking a Person of Color to Explain Things to You.” The book recently received the 2018 PEN Oakland Josephine Miles Award for Literary Excellence.

Paul received his Ph.D. in history from Duke University in 2000. He earned his BA from the Evergreen State College in 1990 in history and political economy after transferring from Olympic Community College. He taught in the Department of Community Studies at UC-Santa Cruz from 2001 to 2008 where he earned the Excellence in Teaching Award by the UC-Santa Cruz Academic Senate. Professor Ortiz received the 2017 Mort Wolfson Faculty Service Award for Advising and Teaching, from University of Florida's Division of Student Affairs in October, 2017.

He is vice president of the United Faculty of Florida's University of Florida union chapter. He was awarded the 2013 César E. Chávez Action and Commitment Award, by the Florida Education Association, AFL-CIO.

Ortiz served in the United States Army from 1982 to 1986 with the 82nd Airborne Division and 7th Special Forces Group in Latin America where he was a radio operator and instructor for mobile training teams in multiple combat zones. He received the US Armed Forces' Humanitarian Service Medal for meritorious action in the wake of the eruption of the *Nevado del Ruiz* stratovolcano in Tolima, Colombia in 1985. He attained the rank of sergeant E-5, and received an honorable discharge in November, 1986.