

COURSE: HIST 2030 Tennessee History
INSTRUCTOR: Barry Gidcomb
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REQUIRED TEXTS:

Paul H. Bergeron, *Paths of the Past: Tennessee, 1770-1970*
John Seigenthaler, *James K. Polk*

COURSE DESCRIPTION FOR HIST 2030: A survey of Tennessee history and its people from the 18th century with an emphasis on political, economic, and social developments in a regional and national context.

GRADING SCALE: Your final grade will be determined according to the following point system:

First Exam	100 pts	450 – 500 = A
Second Exam	100 pts	400 – 449 = B
Final Exam	100 pts	350 – 399 = C
<i>Polk</i> Book Test	100 pts	300 – 349 = D
Individual Project	75 pts	Below 300 = F
Class Attendance	10 pts	
Group Participation	15 pts	
Total	500 pts	

EXAMS and TESTS will be made up primarily of multiple-choice and short essay questions drawn from in-class lecture material and from the reading assignments.

INDIVIDUAL PROJECT OPTIONS: You must choose from one of the following:

- 1) **Community/Public Service** – Fifteen hours of volunteer service related to local history. I will provide you a list of approved sites from which you may select. An evaluation form will be completed by your supervisor and returned to me.
- 2) **Field Trip Series** – Visits to four historic sites related to Tennessee History. These sites will be chosen from a pre-approved list that I will provide. You must acquire a visitor guide or brochure at each site and have each stamped or signed, and dated, by the tour guide or a curator on duty. You will also write a report on each site/tour (additional guidelines for these reports will be provided with the list of sites).

GROUP PARTICIPATION: The class will be divided into study groups of five students each (depending on number of students in the class one or more groups may have four or six members). The purpose of these groups is to give you, the students, opportunity and incentive to study together, compare notes, discuss questions, and to provide assistance and support to each other when necessary. You may choose to meet regularly in person or to work together through e-mail communication. Your mission is to cooperate; your goal is to succeed in this class and to help each member of your group succeed. And, by the way, I will give each of your **15** points for group participation.

ATTENDANCE: Attendance is required! Roll will be called at the beginning of each class session. Satisfactory attendance will result in **10** points added to your final point total. Attendance will be considered satisfactory if you miss no more than two class meetings. Each absence in excess of two will result in **2** points deducted from the attendance component of your grade. **TARDINESS** will not be tolerated and will result in points deducted from your attendance (**2** tardies will equal **1** absence). Should you arrive to class after roll has been called, it will be your responsibility to see me immediately after class and ask me to change your absence to a tardy.

EXAM MAKE-UP POLICY: Missed exams may only be made up if you have a legitimate excuse and can provide documentation to verify your excuse should I ask for it. It is your responsibility to contact me immediately (before or, at the very least, the day of the exam) to make arrangements for taking a make-up. Again, do this immediately! Do not wait until the next class meeting – by that time it will be too late for you to take an exam that is anything like the one your classmates had. Should you miss an exam and fail to reschedule and take the exam before I return them to the class (I normally do this at the very next class meeting) you will have to wait until the week before final exams and take a fill-in-the-blank and essay make-up.

EXTRA CREDIT: Various programs and performances will be held on campus this semester and, as a way to encourage you to attend, I will allow you to bank **5** points of extra credit for each approved event – up to a maximum of **25** points. I encourage you to take advantage of these opportunities as they are announced. In most cases a brief written review will be required for each event. Should you choose to attend an approved event for extra credit, keep in mind that showing up late and/or leaving early is not acceptable and could result in a forfeiture of points.

STUDENT CONDUCT AND RESPONSIBILITY: I begin each semester under the assumption that each of you are adults and that your conduct in this class will reflect a sense of responsibility, maturity, and integrity. I do not expect, nor will I tolerate, extraneous conversation among two or more students or other disruptions such as beeping beepers and ringing cell phones. Nor will I tolerate cheating of any kind. A student caught cheating on an exam or a project could receive an “F” in the course and face disciplinary action from the college (see the 2004 – 2005 *Catalog and Student Handbook*, pages 84 – 88, for more information).

AMERICANS WITH DISABILITIES ACT: In compliance with ADA, students are encouraged to register with the Office of Counseling/Disability Services for possible assistance with accommodations. It is the student’s responsibility to voluntarily and confidentially provide appropriate documentation regarding the nature and extent of a disability. Students requesting special accommodations are strongly encouraged to contact the Office of Counseling/Disability Services at the beginning of the semester. For more info please contact Dr. Paula Petty-Ward in the Jones Student Center.

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THE INFORMATION PROVIDED ABOVE IS IN THE FORM OF A GENERIC SYLLABUS FOR MY *TENNESSEE HISTORY* COURSE. A MORE SPECIFIC SYLLABUS WITH DATES THAT APPLY TO THE SECTION AND SEMESTER WILL BE DISTRIBUTED ON THE FIRST DAY OF CLASS.