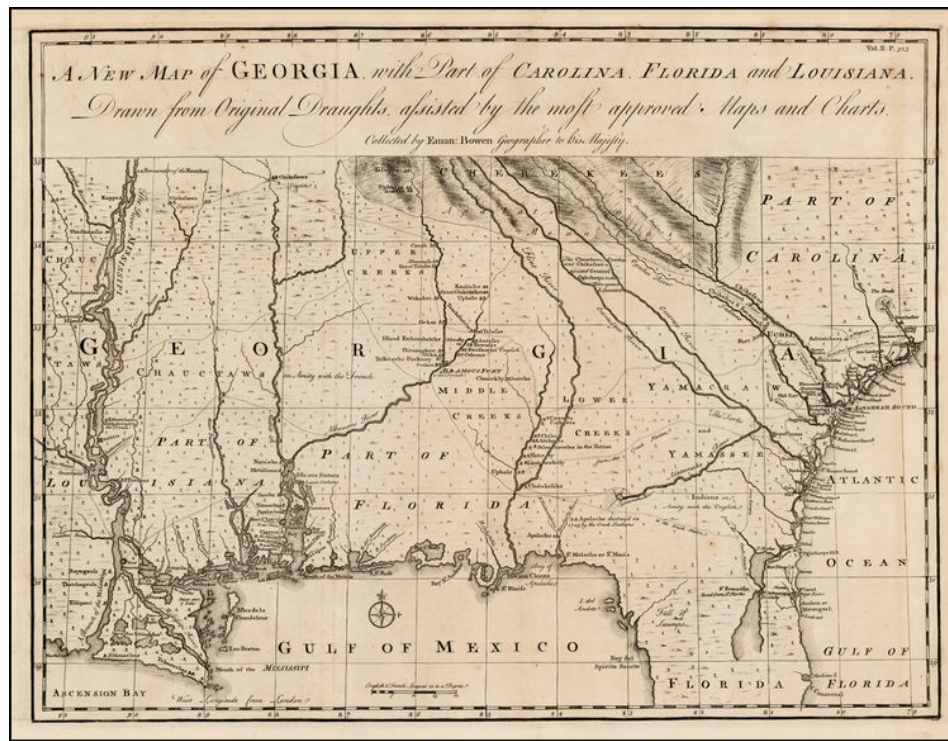


Carla Gerona
Seminar in U.S. History
Georgia, The Borderlands, and Early America

HTS 4001 B, Fall 2014, Tuesday 3:00-6:00, Old CE 104

Office Hours: Tuesday 1:00-2:50

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Seminar Topic:

At first glance, Bowen Emanuel's 1748 *New Map of Georgia, with part of Carolina, Florida, and Louisiana* suggests that Georgia extended from the Atlantic Ocean to the western banks of the Mississippi. This was, of course, wishful thinking; the English colony of Georgia could make no such claims. Indeed, as the map also suggests, the powerful Creek, Choctaw, and Cherokee Confederacies still dominated most of the territory that is considered part of today's state of Georgia. Additionally, Spanish Florida and French Louisiana surrounded the small British colony on the Atlantic. Georgia was thus a quintessential early American borderland: a place where European, African, and American peoples communicated with each other, traded goods and services, and fought over labor and resources.

The fact that no one group could claim complete control of the region -- but many hoped to do so -- provides the central theme for this seminar. From the first moment of contact to the American Revolution and beyond, early America was a contested place. This seminar will explore this new way of looking at early American history in a class that combines readings, discussions, and field trips, as you produce an independent research project about any aspect of early American history up to the Civil War. Our discussions will begin with the larger canvas of early American history, but we will also focus in on the Cherokee towns, Spanish missions, and British settlements of Georgia. This approach will allow us to explore early American history close to home, in a place that was a contested borderland up until the early nineteenth century.

Seminar outcomes (what you should get out of this class):

- You will become acquainted with key scholarly themes in Georgia, Borderlands, and Early American History.
- You will have opportunities to explore early America in books, articles, and in public historical sites.
- You will develop your analytical skills through research, discussions, presentations, and writing.
- You will learn to develop and complete your own complex research project.

Required Readings:

All books are available at Engineers Bookstore. Please support our campus bookstore; they provide a valuable service to our community and their prices are competitive with other web outlets!

Alan Galloway, *Colonial and Revolutionary America: Texts and Documents* (Pearson, 2011)

Buddy Sullivan: *Georgia: A State* (Arcadia, 2003)

Steven C. Hahn, *The Life and Times of Mary Musgrove* (University Press of Florida, 2012)

William Kelleher Storey, *Writing History: A Guide for Students* (Oxford University Press, 2012) Fourth Edition.

Selected Borderlands Essays (These will be available in class or on T-Square)

Voluntary field trips

- “Kongo Across the Waters,” Jimmy Carter Center (Museum open till 4:45)
- Atlanta History Museum, (Museum open till 5:30)
- Emory Library

These trips are not required – an alternative assignment will be assigned if a student does not wish to go

Requirements and grading:

- Weekly assignments -- brief synopsis, comments, reviews, and discussion questions based on readings and field trips – including library visit (10%)
- Class discussion and attendance (20%)
- Annotated bibliographies and outline (10%)
- Presentation (10%)
- Rough Draft (10%)
- Final Project (40%)
- All assignments must be your own original work.
- Note: Your research project can be about any topic of early America, the borderlands, or early Georgia history (up to the Civil War). Most research projects will consist of a twenty-page paper. But if anyone is especially interested in public history, you might consider doing a museum-based project (this would consist of a research report coupled with a web-based exhibit or museum plan). There are many ways to be a historian, do historical research, and present the past. Regardless of which you choose, you will see that they require careful engagement with primary sources, historiography, and audiences.

Class Schedule (this is a rough idea – it might change as we go along):

Date	Class Topic	Meeting site	Reading	Assignment due
August 19	Introductions and overview	Seminar room	No readings	
August 26	Focus on the Sixteenth and Seventeenth Centuries	Seminar room	Alan Gallay, <i>Colonial and Revolutionary America: Texts and Document</i>	
September 2	Focus on the Eighteenth Century	Seminar room	Alan Gallay, <i>Colonial and Revolutionary America: Texts and Document</i>	
September 9	Focus on Georgia	Seminar room	Buddy Sullivan: <i>Georgia: A State</i>	Preliminary topics due
September 16	Focus on Early American Borderlands: Europeans, Africans, and Indians	Field trip 1 – “Kongo Across the Waters,” Jimmy Carter Museum (closes Sept 21, 2014)	Steven C. Hahn, <i>The Life and Times of Mary Musgrove</i>	
September 23	Initial research for individual topics	Library and Seminar Room	Storey, Chapter 1, “Getting Started” (two essays)	Final topics due
September 30	Advance research and staying organized	Seminar room	Storey, Chapter 2, “Interpreting Source Materials”	First set of research notes due
October 7	Focus on different ways of presenting history	Seminar room	Storey, Chapter 3, “Writing History Faithfully”	Annotated bibliography and final draft proposal is due
Oct 14	Fall Break -- No class			
October 21	Notes and things	Seminar room	Storey, Chapter 4, “Use Sources to Make Inferences”	Present on an essay of your choice Sharing of notes

October 28	Get creative	Seminar room	Storey, Chapter 5, Get Organized. Get Writing! and Chapter 6, “Narrative Techniques for Historians”	Present on a book of your choice
November 4	Locating sources	Field Trip: Emory University Library		
November 11	The Big Themes in Early American History	Seminar room	Chapter 7 Storey, Chapter 7, “Writing Sentences in History” and Chapter 8, “Choose Precise Words”	
November 18	Presentations of work in progress	Atlanta History Center?	Storey, Chapter 9, “Revising and Editing”	Power point or poster board presentations
November 25	Presentations of work in progress and discussion of drafts			Rough drafts due
December 2	Dinner with Dr. Gerona	At Dr. Gerona’s house		Final papers due