

AMH 3931-10352 (Fall 2021)
Rivers of America
MWF 5 (11:45-12:35) Flint 119

Professor Jack E. Davis

(he, him, his)

Website: people.clas.ufl.edu/davisjac/

Fall 2021 davisjac@ufl.edu (best means for communicating with the prof)

Ofc. Flint 235

Ofc. Hrs.: MWF 12:40-1:40 (held on campus)

352-273-3398

This course is a cultural and natural history of the American relationship with rivers, from the indigenous period to the present. It explores how rivers, as geographic and ecological entities, shaped exploration, settlement, commerce, politics, culture, group identities, and more in the US, and how and why the US reshaped rivers.

Students should finish this course with an expanded knowledge of the integral place of the rivers in American history. A principal ambition of the course is to provide a more comprehensive understanding of the American experience. If we incorporate the human relationship with the environment into our study of the past, we gain clearer insight into the identity, beliefs, and values of human groups and how each defined its relationship with others.

Course Objectives:

- * Expanding one's knowledge of the cultural and ecological history of rivers and their place in the larger American experience.
- * Expanding one's knowledge of how the non-human world has sustained human life and influenced the course of human history.
- * Promoting critical thinking and developing research and writing skills.

Course Requirements:

Class participation: 10% of the course grade

- * You must participate in the class and the class project, a grade in itself. Each absence after two freebies will result in a deduction from your class-participation grade.

(See assignment descriptions at the end of the syllabus; **each assignment--except the Grammar and Style Guide Exercise--is worth 15% of the course grade**)

- * Course group Project: A human and natural history of the Suwanee River
- * Grammar and Style Guide
- * Human History and Rivers paper

- * Key Events, People and Places paper 1
- * Key Events, People, and Places paper 2
- * Who Was John Wesley Powell paper

Course Grading Scale (see the UF grading scale at the end of syllabus):

A+ =97-100
A =94-96
A- =90-93
B+ =87-89
B =84-86
B- =80-83
C+ =77-79
C =74-76
C- =70-73
D =65-69

Assignments not completed earn a 0

Plagiarized assignment (see plagiarism section below) earn a 0

Assignments not turned in before or by stated due date will not be accepted. All assignments must be made available in hard copy. Emailed assignments cannot be accepted.

Assigned Texts:

George W. Aguilar, *When the River Ran Wild! Indian Traditions on the Mid-Columbia* (U of Washington Press, 2005) 0295984848

Bill Belleville, *River of Lakes: A Journey on Florida's St. Johns River* (UGA Press 2001) 0820323446

Martin Doyle, *The Source: How Rivers Made America and America Remade Rivers* (W W Norton 2019) 0393356612

Week I (Aug 23): Introduction: Rivers and Humanity
(No class August 27)

Readings:

Doyle, *The Source*, introduction

Aguilar, *When the River Ran Wild!*, introduction

Week II (Aug 30): Native and American

Readings:

Aguilar, *When the River Ran Wild!*, chapter 1; "Dolly Varden," 226; "Salmon," 228

Doyle, *The Source*, chapter 1

Suwannee River class project review

Week III (Sept 6): Human History and Rivers paper due (discussion).

(Monday September 6, Labor Day Holiday)

Grammar and Style Guide Exercise Due Friday (September 10)

Week IV (Sept 13): A Florida River View

Readings:

Bellville, *River of Lakes*, chapters 1-5

Week V (Sept 20): Keeping on Down the Saint Johns

****Meet at the Harn Museum of Art on September 22****

Readings: Belleville, *River of Lakes*, chapters 6-10

Week VI (Sept 27): Tying up Down on the Saint Johns

Discussion of sources for Suwannee River project

Readings: *River of Lakes* wrap-up

Week VII (Oct 4): River of Fish

Key Events, People, and Places 1 due (Oct 4) (discussion)

(Homecoming Oct 8)

Readings:

Aguilar, *When the River Ran Wild!*, 90-100, chapter 6

Week VIII (Oct 11): River of Fish cont.

Readings: Aguilar, *When the River Ran Wild!*, 90-100, chapter 6

Week IX (Oct 18): Taking Control

(No class Oct 22)

Readings:

Doyle, *The Source*, chapters 2-4

Week X (Oct 25): Taking Control cont.

Key Events, People, and Places 2 due (Oct 25) (discussion)

Readings:

Doyle, *The Source*, chapters 2-4, and 5 and 6.

Week XI (Nov 1): Who Owns the Water

Readings:

Doyle, *The Source*, chapters 5 and 6.

Film: *Cadillac Desert: An American Nile*

Week XII (Nov 8): Waste Not

Who is John Wesley Powell paper due (discussion)

Readings:

Doyle, *The Source*, chapters 7 and 8.

Week XIII (Nov 15): Playing Nature; Harnessing Nature

Readings:

Doyle, *The Source*, chapters 9 and 10.

**Week XIV (Nov 22): Suwannee River Project Update
(Thanksgiving Nov 24-26)**

Week XV (Nov 29): Backpaddling

Reading: Doyle, *The Source*, chapters 11 and 12.

Week XVI (Dec 6)

(Last class December 8)

Presenting your research on the Suwannee River

Final Exam Day (You have no in-class exams in this course.)

Course Requirements Descriptions:

All written work for the course must be typed or computer generated and in 12-point double-spaced print. Your work must also be presented in third-person language.

Class participation means that students must come to class prepared to participate in discussions. Classes will be conducted in both a lecture and seminar format. Attendance is required. In general, acceptable reasons for absence from or failure to participate in class include illness, serious family emergencies, special curricular requirements (e.g., judging trips, field trips, professional conferences), military obligation, severe weather conditions, religious holidays, and participation in official university activities such as music performances, court-imposed legal obligations (e.g., jury duty or subpoena), athletic competition or debate. Students should inform the professor in advance of any absences except those related to illness.

Beyond two absences, each additional absence occurring will result in one point deducted from your class-participation percentage.

Grammar and Style Guide exercise can be found on my Canvas site. Download and answer the questions by highlighting that which you believe to be the correct response. You will be required to follow the rules of the guide in all writing assignments for the course. If you fail to show proof of having completed the guide before any one of the writing assignments is due, you will lose 5 points from the assignment grade. If you fail to follow the standards laid out in the guide, up to 5 points will be deducted from your assignment grade.

All assignments must draw from printed materials or digitized printed materials. Do not use Internet sources, especially Wikipedia, unless they are Internet databases (such as Proquest or Jstor) from which you can access primary sources or scholarly materials. Newspaper on-line are also fine. For hard-copy sources, use original documents or published works. **Restrict yourself to the page-length limit noted for each assignment.** All papers should be double spaced, computer generated, using default margin and header and footer setting, and 12-point font. Comply with the rules outlined in the Grammar and Style-Guide Exercise. Noncompliance will result in a lower grade for your assignment. Cite all your sources at the end of the paper.

Suwannee River class project involves the class working as a team to discover and examine the natural and human history of the Suwannee. The class will divide itself into subgroups, with one focusing on the natural history (including the geological history of the aquifer and its ecological significance) and the other focusing on the human history (social, cultural, and political history). Each group will gather research materials, online and archival, present it to and discuss it with the rest of the class, and write a paper using those materials and presenting a historical narrative of the river.

Human History and Rivers Write a one-page paper identifying key ideas one might employ in understanding the role rivers have played in the course of human history and why it is important to think of them as a historical agent.

Key Events, People, and Places I The prompts for this assignment will be posted on Canvas. In short, you are asked to define the individual terms writing no more than three sentences for each.

Identify the larger historical significance of the event while keeping in mind the central theme of this course. Cite your sources.

Key Events, People, Places 2 The same as the above assignment.

Who Was John Wesley Powell Write a one-page brief biography of Powell, what he did to become a national figure related to rivers. For example, do not focus on his Civil War record.

Again, following the rules of the Grammar and Style Guide exercise is imperative to completing work of full potential.

Other Business:

Plagiarism and Honesty Code:

Keep in mind that your written assignments must represent original work. You cannot copy the words, phrases, arguments, ideas, and conclusions of someone else or of another source (including Internet sources) without giving proper credit to the person or source by using both **quotation marks** and a **footnote**. Do not cobble together paragraphs or passages of separate texts and then try to claim that you have done original and legitimate work. You must write with your own ideas and in your own words. If you copy the words of someone else without putting those words in quotation marks, **REGARDLESS OF CITING THE SOURCE**, you are plagiarizing. Plagiarism is theft, and it is academic dishonesty. You can be reported to the Dean of Students office for plagiarism, and the incident may then become a permanent part of your academic record. Plagiarism **will** earn you a failing grade in the course, a grade that is final and that cannot be made up. If you have any questions about how you are citing or using sources, come to me for the answers.

UF students are bound by The Honor Pledge which states, “We, the members of the University of Florida community, pledge to hold ourselves and our peers to the highest standards of honor and integrity by abiding by the Honor Code. On all work submitted for credit by students at the University of Florida, the following pledge is either required or implied: “On my honor, I have neither given nor received unauthorized aid in doing this assignment.” The Conduct Code specifies a number of behaviors that are in violation of this code and the possible sanctions.

<https://sccr.dso.ufl.edu/process/student-conduct-code/>

Again, please consult with me if you have any questions or concerns.

In-Class Recording:

Students are allowed to record video or audio of class lectures. However, the purposes for which these recordings may be used are strictly controlled. The only allowable purposes are (1) for personal educational use, (2) in connection with a complaint to the university, or (3) as evidence in, or in preparation for, a criminal or civil proceeding. All other purposes are prohibited. Specifically, students may not publish recorded lectures without the written consent of the instructor. A “class lecture” is an educational presentation intended to inform or teach enrolled

students about a particular subject, including any instructor-led discussions that form part of the presentation, and delivered by any instructor hired or appointed by the University, or by a guest instructor, as part of a University of Florida course. A class lecture does not include lab sessions, student presentations, clinical presentations such as patient history, academic exercises involving solely student participation, assessments (quizzes, tests, exams), field trips, private conversations between students in the class or between a student and the faculty or lecturer during a class session. Publication without permission of the instructor is prohibited. To “publish” means to share, transmit, circulate, distribute, or provide access to a recording, regardless of format or medium, to another person (or persons), including but not limited to another student within the same class section. Additionally, a recording, or transcript of a recording, is considered published if it is posted on or uploaded to, in whole or in part, any media platform, including but not limited to social media, book, magazine, newspaper, leaflet, or third party note/tutoring services. A student who publishes a recording without written consent may be subject to a civil cause of action instituted by a person injured by the publication and/or discipline under UF Regulation 4.040 Student

Classroom Assistance:

Please do not hesitate to contact the instructor during the semester if you have any individual concerns or issues that need to be discussed. Students with disabilities who experience learning barriers and would like to request academic accommodations should connect with the Disability Resource Center. Click here (<https://disability.ufl.edu/get-started/>) to get started with the Disability Resource Center. It is important for students to share their accommodation letter with their instructor and discuss their access needs, as early as possible in the semester.

Health Considerations in the Classroom

In response to COVID-19, the following practices are in place to maintain your learning environment, to enhance the safety of our in-classroom interactions, and to further the health and safety of ourselves, our neighbors, and our loved ones.

* If you are not vaccinated, get vaccinated. Vaccines are readily available at no cost and have been demonstrated to be safe and effective against the COVID-19 virus. Visit this link for details on where to get your shot, including options that do not require an appointment: <https://coronavirus.uflhealth.org/vaccinations/vaccine-availability/>. Students who receive the first dose of the vaccine somewhere off-campus and/or outside of Gainesville can still receive their second dose on campus.

* You are expected to wear approved face coverings at all times during class and within buildings even if you are vaccinated. Please continue to follow healthy habits, including best practices like frequent hand washing. Following these practices is our responsibility as Gators.

* Sanitizing supplies are available in the classroom if you wish to wipe down your desks prior to sitting down and at the end of the class.

* Hand sanitizing stations will be located in every classroom.

* If you are sick, stay home and self-quarantine. Please visit the UF Health Screen, Test & Protect website about next steps, retake the questionnaire and schedule your test for no sooner than 24 hours after your symptoms began. Please call your primary care provider if you are ill and need immediate care or the UF Student Health Care Center at 352-392-1161 (or email covid@shcc.ufl.edu<<mailto:covid@shcc.ufl.edu>>) to be evaluated for testing and to receive further instructions about returning to campus. UF Health Screen, Test & Protect offers guidance when you are sick, have been exposed to someone who has tested positive or have tested positive yourself. Visit the UF Health Screen, Test & Protect website<<https://click.info.gator360.ufl.edu/?qs=8f0d5e01a3f7385148f144e2089093522a358a8d85cb9db73c31675d3c5e5c0d27748d40c212f544822551342f1912ea5b4f2b890d5952e8>> for more information.

* Course materials will be provided to you with an excused absence, and you will be given a reasonable amount of time to make up work.

* If you are withheld from campus by the Department of Health through Screen, Test & Protect you are not permitted to use any on campus facilities. Students attempting to attend campus activities when withheld from campus will be referred to the Dean of Students Office.

* Continue to regularly visit coronavirus.UFHealth.org and coronavirus.ufl.edu for up-to-date information about COVID-19 and vaccination.

Online Course Evaluation:

Students are expected to provide professional and respectful feedback on the quality of instruction in this course by completing course evaluations online via GatorEvals. Guidance on how to give feedback in a professional and respectful manner is available at <https://gatorevals.ua.ufl.edu/students/>. Students will be notified when the evaluation period opens, and can complete evaluations through the email they receive from GatorEvals, in their Canvas course menu under GatorEvals, or via <https://ufl.bluera.com/ufl/>. Summaries of course evaluation results are available to students at <https://gatorevals.ua.ufl.edu/public-results/>.

Academic Resources Information:

E-learning technical support: Contact the UF Computing Help Desk at 352-392-4357 or via e-mail at helpdesk@ufl.edu.

Career Connections Center: Reitz Union Suite 1300, 352-392-1601.

Career assistance and counseling services.

Library Support: Various ways to receive assistance with respect to using the libraries or finding

resources.

Teaching Center: Broward Hall, 352-392-2010 or to make an appointment 352- 392-6420.

General study skills and tutoring. Writing Studio: 2215 Turlington Hall, 352-846-1138.

Help brainstorming, formatting, and writing papers.

Student Complaints On-Campus: Visit the Student Honor Code and Student Conduct Code webpage for more information.

On-Line Students Complaints: View the Distance Learning Student Complaint Process.

History Majors:

If you are a history major or minor and wish to receive important announcements on courses, scholarships, awards, and the Phi Alpha Theta Honor Society, please sign on to the history department listserv. Compose a message to: majordomo@clas.ufl.edu. In the text of the message, type the following: subscribe hist-ba@history.ufl.edu

Alpata: A Journal of History

Keep in mind that the undergraduate- and graduate-student members of Phi Alpha Theta History Honor Society at the University of Florida publish an academic journal each spring. In the fall, the journal editors will be sending out a call for submissions (articles and book reviews) to the journal. The journal is also looking for talented students who would like to serve on the editorial board. Please contact me if you're interested.

UF Grading Scale

Please note UF's new grading scale with the addition of minuses.

A = 4.0

A- = 3.67

B+ = 3.33

B = 3.0

B- = 2.67

C+ = 2.33

C = 2.0

C- = 1.67

D+ = 1.33

D = 1.0

D- = 0.67

E = 0.0

E1 = 0.0 Stopped attending or participating prior to end of class

I (incomplete) = 0.0

