

Dr. Daniel Meaders
Syllabus

The course syllabus, a concise statement of the main points of the course is the official document of the class. Read it carefully.

The History of the Civil Rights Movement
354.80

Meaders@wpunj.edu

Office Hours Appointments and drop-in visits are welcome. Better to call me to check if I am in my room. Leave a note on or under my door if you cannot find me. If you call me please talk slowly and clearly and leave a telephone number so I can call you back.

Avoid Plagiarism

If you deliberately or inadvertently use someone else's actual words or even ideas without attribution, as if they were your own, that is plagiarism. Do not steal someone's ideas and present them as your own. WPU has clearly stated in your *Student Handbook* that this practice is a serious offense. You must write your own paper; your friend or tutor must not write it for you.

Grading Policy

50%-papers, quizzes and research paper

50%-Final-100 questions

No midterm

Course Objectives

- Appreciate the important role that Blacks as well as whites played in the Civil Rights Movement.
- Understand the role of Civil Rights in shaping American history
- Demonstrate how film or visual effects can help one increase their understanding of the Civil Rights movement
- Show how America's position on Civil Rights undermine its role as the leader of the free world
- Show how African Americans struggle for Civil Rights helped restored America's image as a beacon of democracy and freedom in the world

- Demonstrate a familiarity with the principle events of the civil rights period.
- Demonstrate the importance of a Civil Rights time line

Attendance is mandatory Failing to attend four class will invariably result in receiving a failing grade. Please present a doctor's note if you are seriously ill causing you to miss four classes. If you missed the Final you will failed the course unless you present a doctor's note.

Required Books

Taylor Branch, **Parting of the Waters**

James Haskins, **Rosa Parks**

Malcolm X **Autobiography of Malcolm X**

Douglas Brinkley, **Rosa Parks**

James T. Patterson, **Brown v. Board of Education**

Mamie Till-Mobley, **Death of Innocence**

Martin Luther King, **Why We Can't Wait?**

William Chafe, **Remembering Jim Crow**

See BlackBoard-**course documents**- for required documentary sources. Please use your user name and password or student ID to get access to these sources.

Photographs-Journal

Purchase a large notebook or put one together so you can keep a blow by blow account of your reaction to a lecture or a film or a student's stance on a topic. Set aside a section of the journal for photographs. I need pictures of every president from McKinley to Nixon, pictures of every Arkansas and Alabama governor beginning with the year 1954-1970, pictures of every Alabama senator from 1950-1970, pictures of a Klan rally, and lastly pictures of a church bombing. Go to the computer web page for the photographs.

Films-Eyes on the Prize Series

Please do not check these films out or take them out of the library. They are on reserve. View the films in the library. The audio-visual staff might want

you to know the volume number before you use them in the library. These films are an integral part of this course. You will have to write a two-page summary of the film and answer my written questions about the film. The summary must include the main ideas of the film. Take as stand on the issues put forth in the film. Place all summaries and answers to my written questions on your own disk. Do not hand in your original copy. Give me the hard copy. Do not hand in summaries or answer to my written questions in script. Please type out all papers. Spell check and proof read your final copy with great care. Use 12 font. Put title, section, date and name on your papers before you submit them to me. You might be asked to go to the writing center in the Atrium to get feedback about style, sentence structure, word choice, and accuracy.

- Awakenings
- Fighting Back
- Soldier's Story
- Ain't Scared of your Jails
- No Easy Walk
- Mississippi: Is this America?
- Bridge to Freedom
- Two Societies
- Interview with Malcolm

Research Paper A five-page summary will be required for the following.

Why would the FBI take note of or show a keen interest in these figures?

Why were they investigated by FBI head J. Edgar Hoover? What specific acts or actions did the Civil Rights activist engaged in that arouse the interest of the FBI? To document your sources of information, you must rely solely on the Freedom of Information archives. Please the use style of the Modern Language Association (MLA). Again you must include photographs of each and every activist listed below.

- Viola Luis
- Thurgood Marshal
- Ralph Abernathy
- Malcolm X
- James Baldwin
- Andrew Young
- Martin Luther King
- Jessie Jackson
- Harry Belafonte

- Diane Nash
- Dick Gregory
- Angela Davis
- Roy Wilkins
- Bayard Rustin
- Andrew Young
- Medgar Evers
- John Lewis
- Wyatt Walker