

HIUS 132  
**The Civil War in Popular Culture**  
Spring 2009

Peterson 103 Tu /Th; 2-3:20 PM

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Consultation: HSS 4047; T 12:30-1:30/TH 4-5 or by appointment

Course Description: This course details the background to sectionalism in mid-nineteenth century America, and continues with an evaluation of the era of the Civil War and Reconstruction (1861-1877). During the session, we will trace the racial, economic, political, and social impact of what has been termed the “second” American Revolution. We will also spend some time following the relationship between war and society both in the Confederacy and in the Union. In addition, the course will evaluate the contested meaning of the Civil War for succeeding generations of Americans and scholars. One theme in particular will be the continued state of war in the post-emancipation South, and how Americans of all regions have dealt with the lingering impact of slavery and Jim Crow across time and space.

Reading

Michael Perman, ed. *Major Problems in the Civil War and Reconstruction*

David Blight, *Race and Reunion*

Philip Draw, *At the Hands of Persons Unknown*

Tony Horwitz, *Confederates in the Attic*

Grading and Assignments:

Two midterms and one final- the midterms consist of document analysis; while the final consists of both document analysis and an essay question

Reading Schedule:

March 31- Introduction

*Begin Confederates in the Attic (to be finished by June 4)*

April 2- Background: Unfinished Revolutions, 1620-1820

April 7- Sectional Politics from 1820-1850

*Major Problems in the Civil War and Reconstruction, chapter 1*

April 9- Sectional Politics in the 1850s and the Crisis of 1860

*Major Problems in the Civil War and Reconstruction, chapters 2-3*

April 14- Overview of the War from the General’s Perspective

*Major Problems in the Civil War and Reconstruction, chapter 4*

April 16- Overview of the War from the Soldier's Perspective (Ken Burns' Civil War)

*Major Problems in the Civil War and Reconstruction, chapter 5*

April 21-Midterm 1

April 23- Abraham Lincoln, Women, and the Northern Homefront (Ken Burns' Civil War)

*Major Problems in the Civil War and Reconstruction, chapters 6, 7, & 9*

April 28- Southern Homefront and the Second American Revolution

*Major Problems in the Civil War and Reconstruction, chapters 8, 10*

April 30- Congress' Terms for the Defeated South

*Major Problems in the Civil War and Reconstruction, chapters 11 & 12*

May 5- The End of Reconstruction

*Major Problems, chapter 14*

May 7- The "New South" (Rise and Fall of Jim Crow)

*Race and Reunion, pp.171-299*

May 12- The Culture of Reunion

*Race and Reunion, pp.338-397*

May 14- Midterm 2

May 19- African-American "Nadir" and the "Birth of a Nation" (Birth of a Nation)

*Dray, At the Hands of Persons Unknown, pp.53-214*

May 21- African-American Nationalists v. Southern "Agrarians" (Rise and Fall of Jim Crow)

*Dray, At the Hands of Persons Unknown, pp.215-323*

May 26- Mid-Twentieth Century Interpretations of the Civil War (Gone with the Wind)

May 28- Toward Civil Rights, 1920-1954

*Dray, At the Hands of Persons Unknown, pp.324-405*

June 2- The Mid-Twentieth Century Civil Rights Movement (Eyes on the Prize)

*Dray, At the Hands of Persons Unknown, pp.406-456*

June 4- Ken Burns "Civil War" and the Confederates in the Attic

*Finish Reading Confederates in the Attic*