

HIUS 137: Slavery and Freedom in the United States, 1775-1877

Winter 2008 MWF 2-2:50 CENTR 105
Professor Ryan Jordan
Office Hours: MW 3:30-4:30 HSS 4047

This lecture course will explore the modern American abolitionist movement from the Revolutionary era to the end of Reconstruction. Attention will also be given to the nature of American slavery, as well as to the African-American struggle for freedom and civic equality in a "white man's republic."

Assignments:

One midterm based on primary source documents (30% of grade)
One paper (5 pages) based on the Equiano and Douglass narratives (30% of grade)
One final exam based on primary source documents + cumulative essay question
(40% of grade)

Required Purchases:

Gary Nash, *Race and Revolution* (Rowman and Littlefield, Landham, MD: 2001) ISBN: 0-945612-11-7

Henry Louis Gates, ed., *The Classic Slave Narratives* (Signet Classic, New York, 2002) ISBN 0-451-52824-7

James Oliver Horton, *Free People of Color: Inside the African-American Community* (Smithsonian, Washington, D.C., 1993) ISBN: 1-56098-203-9

Michael Perman, ed. *Major Problems in the Civil War and Reconstruction* (Houghton Mifflin, 1998) ISBN: 0-395-86849-1

Syllabus:

Monday, Jan. 21 is a holiday; Monday, February 18 also a holiday

January 7- Introduction

January 9- The Origins of Slavery in British America

Start reading Narrative of Olaudah Equiano, in Gates, *The Classic Slave Narratives*, pp.14-242

January 11-Slavery Before and During the American Revolution, 1750-1783

January 14- White Revolutionaries and Abolition

Nash, *Race and Revolution*, pp.3-20, chapter 1 documents, pp.91-111

January 16-The Promise and the Reality of Gradual Emancipation

Nash, chapter 1 documents, pp.112- 131; Finish Reading Narrative of Olaudah Equiano in Gates, *Classic Slave Narratives*

January 18- The Failure of Abolitionism, 1787-1800

Nash, pp.25-50; chapter 2 documents, pp.133-165

January 23- Black Americans in a White Republic

Nash, pp.57-83; chapter 3 documents, pp.167-201

January 25- Free Blacks in the early Nineteenth Century

Horton, pp.25-74

January 28- Identity and Consciousness in the Black Community

Horton, pp.122-164

January 30- Midterm Review

February 1- Midterm

February 4- Douglass' Slave Narrative

Gates, Narrative of Frederick Douglass

February 6- White Reformers and the Slave Narrative

Gates, Narrative of Frederick Douglass

February 8- The Means and Ends of Abolition at mid-Century

Horton, pp.76-96

February 11- Sectional Politics in the 1850s

Perman, *Major Problems in the Civil War and Reconstruction*, chapter 2, pp.31-62

February 13-The Secession Crisis

Perman, *Major Problems*, chapter 3, pp.64-88

February 15-Abraham Lincoln as Political and Military Leader

Perman, *Major Problems*, chapter 6, pp.156-185

February 20-The Southern Home Front

Perman, *Major Problems*, chapter 8, pp.215-245

February 22- Emancipation

Perman, *Major Problems*, chapter 10, pp.277-288

February 25- Paper Due

February 27- Who Freed the Slaves?

Perman, *Major Problems*, chapter 10, pp.288-310 & chapter 11, pp.311-321; chapter 11, pp.322-341

February 29- The Promise of Reconstruction in Black Life

Perman, *Major Problems*, chapter 12, pp.344-358

March 3- Meanings of Freedom

Perman, *Major Problems*, chapter 12, pp.359-375

March 5-Freedom and Mobility in and out of the South

Horton, pp.185-200

March 7- Undermining Freedom

Perman, *Major Problems*, chapter 13, pp.378-387; chapter 13, pp.388-399

March 10- The Northern Retreat from Reconstruction

Perman, *Major Problems*, chapter 14, pp.403-409

March 12- Toward 1877

Perman, *Major Problems*, chapter 14, pp.409-430

March 14- Final Review