

HIS 392

Unique # 39693

Wed. 3-6 PM, 1.122 Garrison Hall

Office Hours: Wed. 2-3,  
Thurs., 10-12email: jjones@austin.utexas.edu  
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## READINGS IN NINETEENTH-CENTURY U.S. SOUTHERN HISTORY

This graduate readings seminar focuses on the nineteenth-century South in its various iterations-- as a place defined by geography, politics, conditions of labor and forms of economic and cultural production, and the American imagination. Developments along the border of the North and South (in, for example, Baltimore and Washington, D.C.) suggest the problematic nature of defining the South with any precision. We'll explore multiple ideologies of social difference, including (among others) those based on "race," region, politics, gender, religion, and class. During the first third of the semester we'll examine the processes of sectionalism and militarization that transformed the South from a distinctive region into a would-be new nation. The remainder of the semester considers the Civil War as a military conflict and as a struggle for African-American freedom and citizenship, culminating in the multiple legacies of the war in the last quarter of the century, and the reactionary projects of segregation and disfranchisement.



Virginia Family (of Powhatan and African descent) c. 1900

Required Readings (in order)

Seth Rockman, *Scraping By: Wage Labor, Slavery, and Survival in Early Baltimore* (2009)

Walter Johnson, *Soul by Soul: Life Inside the Antebellum Slave Market* (2000)

Erskine Clarke, *Dwelling Place: A Plantation Epic* (2005)

Manisha Sinha, *The Counterrevolution of Slavery: Politics and Ideology in Antebellum South Carolina* (2000)

Thavolia Glymph, *Out of the House of Bondage: The Transformation of the Plantation Household* (2008)

Jacqueline Jones, *Saving Savannah: The City and the Civil War* (2008) (copies to be provided free of charge by the instructor)

William C. Davis, *Look Away! A History of the Confederate States of America* (2002)

Eric Foner, *The Fiery Trial: Abraham Lincoln and American Slavery* (2010)

Kate Masur, *An Example for All the Land: Emancipation and the Struggle for Equality in Washington, D. C.* (2010)

Jane Dailey, *Before Jim Crow: The Politics of Race in Postemancipation Virginia* (2000)

Edward L. Ayers, *The Promise of the New South: Life After Reconstruction* (1992)

Neil McMillen, *Dark Journey: Black Mississippians in the Age of Jim Crow* (1990)

The University of Texas at Austin provides upon request appropriate academic accommodations for qualified students with disabilities. For more information, contact the Office of the Dean of Students at 471-6259 or 471-6441.

Please note: Academic integrity is central to the mission of the university. Each student is expected to turn in work completed independently, except when assignments specifically authorize collaborative effort. It is not acceptable to use the words or ideas of another person without proper acknowledgement of that source. This means that you must use footnotes and quotation marks to indicate the source of any phrases, sentences, paragraphs, or ideas found in published volumes, on the internet, or created by another student. See [http://www.utexas.edu/cola/depts/history/about/academic\\_integrity/](http://www.utexas.edu/cola/depts/history/about/academic_integrity/)

## Requirements of the Course

Students are expected to attend class regularly and participate actively in class discussion each week.

Written assignments include:

1. A weekly 1-page, single-spaced response paper focused on the book under discussion. Include one paragraph of summary, one paragraph of critical analysis, one paragraph of historical significance.
2. An 8-10 page essay in response to an essay question covering the first half of the semester (due date: Oct. 26).
3. A 12-15 page historiographical essay on a topic of the students' choosing. Sample topics include (due date: Dec. 7):

- Varieties of nineteenth-century religious experience
- Nullification Crisis
- Labor in antebellum southern cities
- Yeoman farmers, tenants, and the wandering poor before the Civil War
- The slave family
- Slavery and the law
- The secession conventions
- Northern "Free labor" experiments in the wartime South
- Native Americans in the nineteenth-century South
- Black political activism, 1865-1900
- Reaction and "Redemption," 1870-1890
- Gender roles among elite southern women in the late nineteenth century
- Southern Populists
- The South in the world, 1890s
- Nineteenth-century southern environmental history
- Segregation

In addition, each student will present to the class an oral 30-minute presentation related to his or her historiographical paper. These presentations will be scheduled for the month of November.

Grading:

Evaluation of students (grades of A, A-, etc.) will be based on commitment to the course (attendance and participation): 20 percent; first paper: 30 percent; oral presentation: 10 percent; final paper: 40 percent

## Due Dates:

- One-page response paper: Weekly
- Topic for historiographical paper: Sept. 14
- First paper: Oct. 26
- In-class oral presentations: Month of November
- Historiographical paper: Dec. 7

Week I (Aug. 24) INTRODUCTION TO THE COURSE: WHICH SOUTH(S)?  
How do we define the South, and what difference does it make?

Week II (Aug. 31) Rockman, *Scraping By*  
What constitutes the border between the North and South?  
The social division of labor  
Racial ideologies: Color, class, history

Recommended

- Stanley Harrold, *Border War: Fighting Over Slavery before the Civil War* (2010)
- Jonathan Daniel Wells, *The Origins of the Southern Middle Class, 1800-1861* (2004)
- Hilary Moss, *Schooling Citizens: The Struggle for African-American Education in Antebellum America* (2009)
- Stephen Aron, *How the West Was Lost: The Transformation of Kentucky from Daniel Boone to Henry Clay* (1996)
- Stanley W. Campbell, *Slave Catchers: Enforcement of the Fugitive Slave Law, 1850-1860* (1968)
- Barbara Jeanne Fields, *Slavery and Freedom on the Middle Ground: Maryland During the Nineteenth Century* (1985)
- Christine Heyrman, *Southern Cross: The Beginnings of the Bible Belt* (1997)
- David Grimsted, *American Mobbing, 1828-1861: Toward Civil War* (1998)
- Stephen Middleton, *The Black Laws: Race and the Legal process in Early Ohio* (2005)
- Stephen T. Whitman, *Challenging Slavery in the Chesapeake: Black and White Resistance to Human Bondage, 1775-1865* (2007)
- James Sidbury, *Ploughshares into Swords: Race, Rebellion, and Identity in Gabriel's Virginia, 1730-1810* (1997)

Week III (Sept. 7) Johnson, *Soul by Soul*  
Slavery and capitalism

Peruse reviews: Eugene Genovese, *Roll, Jordan, Roll: The World the Slaves Made* (1974)

Recommended:

- Brenda Stevenson, *Life in Black and White: Family and Community in the Slave South* (1996)
- Steven Deyle, *Carry Me Back: The Domestic Slave Trade in American Life* (2005)
- Jacqueline Jones, *Labor of Love, Labor of Sorrow: Black Women, Work and the Family from Slavery to the Present* (2<sup>nd</sup> ed., 2010)
- Robert H. Gudmestad, *A Troublesome Commerce: The Transformation of the Interstate Slave Trade* (2003)

James L. Huston, *Calculating the Value of the Union: Slavery, Property Rights, and the Economic Origins of the Civil War* (2003)

Carol Wilson, *Freedom at Risk: The Kidnapping of Free Blacks in America, 1780-1865* (1994)

Bertram Wyatt-Brown, *Southern Honor: Ethics and Behavior in the Old South* (1982)

Herbert Gutman, *The Black Family in Slavery and Freedom, 1750-1925* (1976)

Week IV (Sept. 14) Sinha, *Counterrevolution of Slavery*

Planter politics

The power and limits of political ideology in the era of slavery

Peruse reviews: Eric Foner, *Free Soil, Free Labor, Free Men: The Ideology of the Republican Party before the Civil War* (1970)

Recommended:

William E. Gienapp, *The Origins of the Republican Party, 1852-1856* (1987)

Bradley G. Bond, *Political Culture in the Nineteenth Century South: Mississippi, 1830-1890* (1995)

Christopher Morris, *Becoming Southern: Warren County and Vicksburg, Mississippi, 1760-1860* (1994)

Stephanie McCurry, *Masters of Small Worlds: Yeoman Households, Gender Relations, and the Political Culture of the Antebellum South* (1995)

Nicole Etcheson, *The Emerging Midwest: Upland Southerners and the Political Culture of the Old Northwest, 1787-1861* (1996)

Kenneth S. Greenberg, *Masters and Statesmen: The Political Culture of American Slavery* (1985)

Michael F. Holt, *The Rise and Fall of the American Whig Party: Jacksonian Politics and the Onset of the Civil War* (1993)

Lacy K. Ford, *Deliver Us From Evil: The Slavery Question in the Old South* (2009)

William A. Link, *Roots of Secession: Slavery and Politics in Antebellum Virginia* (2003)

Leonard R. Richards, *The Slave Power: The Free North and Southern Domination, 1780-1860* (2000)

Bertram Wyatt-Brown, *Honor and Violence in the Old South* (1986)

Week V (Sept. 21) Clark, *Dwelling Place*

Plantation households I: Families, black and white?

The geography of slavery: Regional variations

Telling a good (hi)story

Peruse reviews: Charles B. Dew, *Bond of Iron: Master and Slave at Buffalo Forge* (1994)

Recommended:

Mart Stewart, *'What Nature Suffers to Groe': Life, Labor, and Landscape on the Georgia Coast, 1680-1920* (1996)

Margaret Creel, *'A Peculiar People': Slave Religion and Community-Culture Among the Gullahs* (1988)

Daina Berry, *'Swing the Sickle for the Harvest is Ripe': Gender and Slavery in Antebellum Georgia* (2007)

William Dusinger, *Them Dark Days: Slavery in the American Rice Swamps* (2000)  
 Ira Berlin, *Slaves without Masters: The Free Negro in the Antebellum South* (1974)  
 Sharla M. Fett, *Working Cures: Healing, Health, and Power on Southern Slave Plantations* (2002)  
 Charles W. Joyner, *Down by the Riverside: A South Carolina Slave Community* (1984)  
 Stephanie M. H. Camp, *Closer to Freedom: Enslaved Women and Everyday Resistance in the Plantation South* (2004)

Week VI (Sept. 28) Glymph, *Out of the House of Bondage*

Plantation households II

Perils of feminist analysis for the historian

Peruse reviews: Dylan C. Penningroth, *The Claims of Kinfolk: African American Property and Community in the Nineteenth-Century South* (2003)

Recommended:

Marie Jenkins Schwartz, *Birth of a Slave: Motherhood and Medicine in the Antebellum South* (2006)

Christine Jacobson Carter, *Southern Single Blessedness: Unmarried Women in the Urban South, 1800-1865* (2006)

Jeff Forret, *Race Relations at the Margins: Slaves and Poor Whites in the Antebellum Southern Countryside* (2006)

Deborah Gray White, *Ar'n't I a Woman? Female Slaves in the Plantation South* (1985)

Heather Williams, *Self-Taught: African-American Education in Slavery and Freedom* (2005)

Peter Kolchin, *Unfree Labor: American Slavery and Russian Serfdom* (1997)

Victoria Bynum, *Unruly Women: The Politics of Social and Sexual Control in the Old South* (1992)

Jacqueline Jones, *Labor of Love, Labor of Sorrow: Black Women, Work and the Family from Slavery to the Present* (2<sup>nd</sup> ed., 2010)

Week VII (Oct. 5) Davis, *Look Away!*

The ironies of the Confederacy

Peruse reviews: Clarence Mohr, *On the Threshold of Freedom: Masters and Slaves in Civil War Georgia* (1986)

Recommended:

Mark Grimsley, *The Hard Hand of War: Union Military Policy toward Southern Civilians, 1861-1865* (1995)

Stephanie McCurry, *Confederate Reckoning: Powers and Politics in the Civil-War South* (2010)

Willie Lee Rose, *Rehearsal for Reconstruction: The Port Royal Experiment* (1964)

Robert Tracy McKenzie, *One South or Many? Plantation Belt and Upcountry in Civil War-Era Tennessee* (1994)

Gary Gallagher, *The Confederate War: How Popular Will, Nationalism, and Military Strategy Could Not Stave Off Defeat* (1999)

Edward L. Ayers, *In the Presence of Mine Enemies: War in the Heart of America, 1859-1863* (2003)

William W. Freehling, *The South vs. the South: How Anti-Confederate Southerners Shaped the Course of the Civil War* (2001)

George C. Rable, *Civil Wars: Women and the Crisis of Southern Nationalism* (1992)

LeeAnn Whites, *The Civil War as a Crisis in Gender: Augusta, Georgia, 1860-1890* (1995)

Week VIII (Oct. 12) Jones, *Saving Savannah*

The war *qua* African-American freedom struggle

Peruse reviews: J. William Harris, *Plain Folk and Gentry in a Slave Society: White Liberty and Black Slavery in Augusta's Hinterlands* (1985)

Recommended:

James McPherson, *Battle Cry of Freedom: The Civil War Era* (1988)

Ralph A. Wooster, *the Secession Conventions of the South* (1976)

Charles B. Dew, *Apostles of Disunion: Southern Secession Commissioners and the Causes of the Civil War* (2001)

Frank Towers, *The Urban South and the Coming of the Civil War* (2004)

Timothy Lockley, *Lines in the Sand: Race and Class in Lowcountry Georgia, 1750-1860* (2001)

Michael P. Johnson, *Toward a Patriarchal Republic: The Secession of Georgia* (1977)

William H. Freehling, *The Road to Disunion, Vol. 2: Secessionists Triumphant, 1854-1861* (2007)

David T. Gleeson, *The Irish in the South, 1815-1877* (2001)

Wayne Flynt, *Dixie's Forgotten People: The South's Poor Whites* (1979)

Week IX (Oct. 19) Research and paper assignment

Week X (Oct. 26) Foner, *The Fiery Trial*

The Republican Project

Peruse reviews: Chandra Manning, *What this Cruel War Was Over: Soldiers, Slavery, and the Civil War* (2007)

Recommended:

Wallace Hettle, *The Peculiar Democracy: Southern Democrats in Peace and Civil War* (2001)

Jonathan M. Wiener, *Social Origins of the New South: Alabama, 1860-1885* (1978)

Drew Gilpin Faust, *This Republic of Suffering: Death and the American Civil War* (2008)

James M. McPherson, *For Cause and Comrades: Why Men Fought in the Civil War* (1977)

George Forgie, *Pride in the House Divided: A Psychological Interpretation of Lincoln and His Age* (1979)

George C. Rable, *God's Almost Chosen Peoples: A Religious History of the American Civil War* (2010)

Howard Jones, *Blue and Gray Diplomacy: A History of Union and Confederate foreign Relations* (2010)

Richard E. Beringer, et al., *Why the South Lost the Civil War* (1986)

Amy Dru Stanley, *From Bondage to Contract: Wage Labor, Marriage, and the Market in the Age of Slave Emancipation* (1998)

Week XI (Nov. 2) Masur, *An Example for All the Land*  
How “Draconian” was Reconstruction?

Peruse reviews: Eric Foner, *Reconstruction: America’s Unfinished Revolution, 1863-1877* (1988)

### Presentations

#### Recommended:

Dan T. Carter, *When the War Was Over: The Failure of Self-Reconstruction in the South, 1865-1867* (1985)

Paul A. Cimbal, *Under the Guardianship of the Nation: The Freedmen’s Bureau and the Reconstruction of Georgia, 1865-1870* (1997)

James Keith Hogue, *Uncivil War: Five New Orleans Street Battles and the Rise and Fall of Radical Reconstruction* (2006)

Jacqueline Jones, *Soldiers of Light and Love: Northern Teachers and Georgia Blacks, 1865-1873* (1980)

Susan E. O’Donovan, *Becoming Free in the Cotton South* (2007)

Julie Saville, *The Work of Reconstruction: From Slave to Wage Laborer in South Carolina, 1860-1870* (1994)

Leslie A. Schwalm, *A Hard Fight for We: Women’s Transition from Slavery to Freedom in South Carolina* (1997)

James D. Anderson, *The Education of Blacks in the South, 1860-1935* (1988)

Tera Hunter, *To ‘Joy My Freedom: Southern Black Women’s Lives and Labors After the Civil War* (1997)

William E. Montgomery, *Under Their Own Vine and fig Tree: The African-American Church in the South, 1865-1900* (1993)

Mark W. Geiger, *Financial Fraud and Guerilla violence in Missouri’s Civil War* (2010)

Allen W. Trelease, *White Terror: The Ku Klux Klan Conspiracy and Southern Reconstruction* (1971)

Week XII (Nov. 9) Dailey, *Before Jim Crow*

Republicans, Independents, and Third Parties before the “Solid South”

Peruse reviews: Michael Perman: *Struggle for Mastery: Disfranchisement in the South, 1888-1908* (2001)

### Presentations

#### Recommended:

J. Morgan Kousser, *The Shaping of Southern Politics: Suffrage Restriction and the Establishment of the One-Party South, 1880-1910* (1974)

Barton C. Shaw, *The Wool-Hat Boys: Georgia’s Populist Party* (1984)

Nell Irvin Painter, *The Exodusters: Black Migration to Kansas after Reconstruction* (1977)

Steven Hahn, *A Nation Under Our Feet: Black Political Struggles in the Rural South, from Slavery to the Great Migration* (2003)



Allison Dorsey, *To Build Our Lives Together: Community Formation in Black Atlanta, 1875-1906* (2004)

David Oshinsky, *Worse than Slavery: Parchman Farm and the Ordeal of Jim Crow Justice* (1996)

Edward L. Ayers, *Vengeance and Justice: Crime and Punishment in the Nineteenth-Century American South* (1984)

Ted Ownby, *Subduing Satan: Religion, Recreation, and Manhood in the Rural South, 1865-1920* (1990)

Week XIII (Nov. 16) Ayers, *Promise of the New South*

How “New” was the New South?

The problem of “race relations”

Peruse reviews: C. Vann Woodward, *Origins of the New South, 1877-1913* (1951)

### Presentations

### Recommended:

Steven Hahn, *The Roots of Southern Populism: Yeoman Farmers and the Transformation of the Georgia Upcountry, 1850-1890* (1983)

James B. Bennett, *Religion and the Rise of Jim Crow in New Orleans* (2005)

Leslie Brown, *Upbuilding Black Durham: Gender, Class and Black Community Development in the Jim Crow South* (2008)

Theda Perdue, *Race and the Cotton States Exposition of 1895* (2010)

Karin A. Shapiro, *A New South Rebellion: The Battle Against Convict Labor in the Tennessee Coalfields, 1871-1896* (1998)

Amy Louise Wood, *Lynching and Spectacle: Witnessing Racial Violence in America, 1890-1940* (2009)

Patrick J. Hearden, *Independence and Empire: The New South Cotton Mill Campaign, 1865-1901* (1982)

David L. Carlton, *Mill and Town in South Carolina, 1880-1920* (1982)

Jacqueline Jones, *The Dispossessed: America's Underclasses from the Civil War to the Present* (1992)

Stephanie Shaw, *What a Woman Ought to Be and to Do: Black Professional Women Workers during the Jim Crow Era* (1995)

Marjorie Spruill Wheeler, *New Women of the New South: The Leaders of the Woman Suffrage Movement in the Southern States* (1993)

[Week XIV: no class Nov. 23]

Week XV (Nov. 30) McMillen, *Dark Journey*

“Jim Crow” and other Euphemisms

Peruse reviews: Grace Elizabeth Hale, *Making Whiteness: The Culture of Segregation in the South, 1890-1940* (1998)

## Presentations

### Recommended:

J. William Harris, *Deep Souths: Delta, Piedmont, and Sea Island Society in the Age of Segregation* (2001)

David Blight, *Race and Reunion: The Civil War in American Memory* (2001)

Gaines M. Foster, *Ghosts of the Confederacy: Defeat, the Lost Cause, and the Emergence of the New South, 1865 to 1913* (1987)

W. Fitzhugh Brundage, *The Southern Past: A Clash of Race and Memory* (2005)

James Oliver Horton and Lois E. Horton, eds., *Slavery and Public Memory: The Tough Stuff of American Memory* (2006)

Leon F. Litwak, *Trouble in Mind: Black Southerners in the Age of Jim Crow* (1998)

Glenda E. Gilmore, *Gender and Jim Crow: Women and the Politics of White Supremacy in North Carolina, 1896-1920* (1992)

Paula Giddings, *A Sword Among Lions: Ida B. Wells and the Campaign Against Lynching* (2008)

Lawrence Goodwyn, *Democratic Promise: The Populist Moment in America* (1976)

Charles Postel, *The Populist Vision* (2007)

Final paper due: Dec. 7