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:


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

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?

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

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