

COPY

William L. Barney
Spring 2008
Phone: 962-5584

HISTORY 565

Office: Hamilton 462
Office Hours: M 12-1
Tu 11-12

Outline:

This course will explore how the Civil War redefined the American republic between 1848 and 1877. The first stage of this redefinition involved the permanency of the Union itself and was settled militarily by the Civil War. The second stage revolved around the definition of the new Union and centered on the issue of whether African-Americans, the ex-slaves, were to be granted equality in the preserved Union and shaped the crisis of Reconstruction from 1865 to 1877. We'll explore these questions through lectures, discussion, slides, and some videos.

Texts: Two texts are required:
William Barney, The Making of a Confederate
Robert Cook, Civil War America

Evaluation: 1. an exam on the causes of the war, weighted 30%
2. a mid-term exam on the war, weighted 30%
3. a final exam on Reconstruction, weighted 40%

Class Schedule:

Topic I -- The Coming of the War

Week of Jan 9	Slavery in the Early Republic
Jan 14	Abolitionism and Antislavery Politics
Jan 23	Kansas-Nebraska and the Republican Party
Jan 28	Sectionalization of the Democrats
Feb 4	Lincoln's Election and Secession
Feb 8	First Exam

Readings for 1st Exam: Civil War America, pgs 1-126

Topic II -- The Civil War

Week of Feb 11	Defining the War's Nature and Assessing the Odds
Feb 18	The North's Strategy of Constitutional Unionism
Feb 25 & Mar 3	Emancipation and a New Kind of War
Mar 17	The Union Gains the Edge
Mar 24	The Beleaguered Confederacy and the Final Campaigns
Mar 28	Second Exam

Readings for 2nd Exam: Civil War America, pgs 126-228

Topic III -- Reconstruction

Week of Mar 31	Presidential Reconstruction
Apr 7	The Shift to Congressional Control
Apr 14	Radical Reconstruction and its Inherent Limitations
Apr 21	Class Politics and the End of Reconstruction
May 5	Final at 12pm

Readings for the Final: Civil War America, Chpts. 7-9
The Making of a Confederate