

University of Houston
History 3305--The Old South

Syllabus

Instructor: Eric H. Walther
Office: AH-531
Phone: 743-3101
Office hours: MW 11:00-12:30pm and by appointment

Fall 2006
Room: SR 138
Time: MW 2:30-4pm
Section 05501

Required Readings:

Cooper & Terrill, *The American South: A History*, vol. I, third ed. (text)
Lorena Walsh, *From Calabar to Carter's Grove: The History of A Virginia Slave Community*
(Walsh)
Melton McLaurin, *Celia, A Slave* (McLaurin)
Kenneth Greenberg, *Honor and Slavery* (Greenberg)
Eric Walther, "Southerners' Honors," *Southern Studies*
Eric Walther, *The Fire-Eaters* (Walther)

Recommended Readings:

Randolph Campbell, *An Empire for Slavery: The Peculiar Institution in Texas, 1821-1835* (RC)

Course Description:

This course is designed to introduce students to the study of the American South to the end of the Civil War. We will examine European settlement, the development of African slavery, creations of new cultures, societies, and political structures and ideals, and trace the evolution of these over time.

Course Requirements:

I expect students to be prepared daily for class by following the schedule (below) and to attend regularly and on time. If you are chronically late or leave early, I will ask you to withdraw. Your grade will be determined by performance on a mid-term (45%), a final (45%); the remaining 10% comes from response papers, which I will assign periodically throughout the semester. I will provide a short topic or question in class, over readings and/or lectures, and each student must turn in a typed paper of no more than one, double-spaced page by the next class day.

Schedule:

Aug. 21: Course introduction and Historiography of Slavery
Aug. 22: The Atlantic Slave Trade

readings:

Walsh, chs.1 & 2; text, pp. 46-48
Aug. 28: Southern Colonies text, 1
Colonial/Revolutionary Virginia: <http://www.ohlone.palo-alto.ca.us/Williamsburg/index.htm>
Aug. 30: Origins of Anglo-American Slavery text, 1-2; Walsh, 3-6
Sep. 4: Labor Day Holiday
Sep. 6: Plantation Organization text, 9 &10; RC 6-8

- Recommended: Levi Jordan Plantation: <http://www.webarchaeology.com/html/history.htm>
 Varner-Hogg Plantation: <http://www.tpwd.state.tx.us/park/varner/slavery/index.htm>
 George Ranch: <http://www.georgeranch.org/index.html>
 Kingsley Plantation, FL: <http://fcit.usf.edu/florida/photos/historic/kingsl/kingsl.htm>
- Sep. 11: The Slave Economy text, 8; Walsh, 7; RC 4
 Sep. 13: Rejection of Slavery RC, 9
 Sep. 18: Slave Management and Profitability
 Sep. 20: Slave Law McLaurin, entire; RC, ch. 5
 Sep. 25: Maturation of English Colonies text, 3, pp.54-62
 Sep. 27: The South in the Revolution text, 4
 Oct. 2: The South in the New Nation text, 5, and 6 to p. 128
 Oct. 4: Jefferson & Slavery
 Recommended: <http://www.monticello.org/> Also see:
 <http://www.monticello.org/jefferson/dayinlife/plantation/home.html>, and
 http://www.monticello.org/plantation/hemingscontro/hemings_resource.html
- Oct. 9: Free Blacks text, pp. 272-275
 Oct. 11: **MID-TERM Examination**
- Oct. 16: White Class Structure text, 12, pp. 254-62; RC, 10
 Oct. 18: Honor Greenberg, Walther essay, entire
 Oct. 23: Education text, ch. 3, pp.67-71; ch. 11
 Oct. 25: Religion text, ch. 3, 64-67; ch. 11
 Oct. 30: The Proslavery Argument text, 235-237; 278-79
 Nov. 1: Other Souths, Other Southerners
 Nov. 6: Women and Families text, 43-44, 262-72
 Nov. 8: The Jacksonian Era text, 6-7; RC, 2-3
 Nov. 13: The Problem of South Carolina Walther, 1 and 4
 Nov. 15: Southern Politics to 1845 Walther, 2, 3
 Nov. 20: Crises of the 1850s Walther, 5, 6
 Nov. 22: Thanksgiving Holiday
 Nov. 27: Southern Politics to Secession Walther, 7-end; text, 14; RC, 11
 Nov. 29: The Confederate States of America text, 15; RC, 15

Final Examination: Monday, December 11, 2:00-5:00pm

Other Web Sites of Possible Interest:

Clayton Library: <http://www.hpl.lib.tx.us/clayton/>

WPA Slave Narratives: <http://memory.loc.gov/ammem/snhtml/>

Barker Texas History Collection, UT:

<http://www.lib.utexas.edu/Libs/CAH/components/barker/index.html>

Links to Texas History: <http://www.dla.utexas.edu/texhist/THClinks.html>

The TexasGen Web Project: <http://www.dla.utexas.edu/texhist/THClinks.html>

National Underground Railroad Freedom Center:

<http://www.undergroundrailroad.com/home.html>

Texas State Library: <http://www.tsl.state.tx.us/>

TSL, Sam Houston Regional Library: <http://www.tsl.state.tx.us/lobby/samfirst.htm>

Slave Narratives: <http://www.ancestry.com/search/rectype/biohist/slavnarr/promo.htm>

Amerindian Slave Narratives: <http://www.columbia.edu/~pm47/afam/index.html>

Slave Voices From The Special Collections Library, Duke University:

<http://scriptorium.lib.duke.edu/slavery/>

The African-American Mosaic: A Library of Congress Resource Guide for the Study of Black History and Culture: <http://leweb.loc.gov/exhibits/african/intro.html>