

University of Houston
History 4305-Research in Texas Slavery and Freedom

Syllabus

Instructor: Eric H. Walther

Office: AH-531

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Office hours: TU/Th 10:30-11:30, 1-2:30pm and by appointment

Spring 2007

Room: AH-302

Time: Th 2:30-5:30pm

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Required Readings:

Richard Marius and Melvin E. Page, *A Short Guide to Writing About History*, 6th ed., 2007

John Tosh, *The Pursuit of History*, revised 4th ed., 2006

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

Recommended Readings:

Randolph Campbell, *Grass-Roots Reconstruction in Texas 1865-1880*

Sam W. Haynes and Cary D. Wintz, eds., *Major Problems in Texas History* (Boston: Houghton Mifflin Company, 2002)

Course Description and Objectives:

This course is designed to introduce senior undergraduates to the craft of the professional historian through the study of African American slavery and its aftermath in Texas. It will explore the relationship between historical knowledge and general knowledge, research methods, sources of information, interpretation and exposition. You will engage in a variety of exercises including writing an analytical book review, writing a review essay, undertaking original primary source research, composing a paper that utilizes that research, and defend and discuss those papers.

Course Requirements:

This course resembles a graduate seminar more than a typical undergraduate course; therefore attendance and punctuality are critical. At almost every meeting students will need to participate in discussions and/or presentations. Therefore, if anyone misses three days of class, I will drop you from the course. If anyone is chronically late, I will drop you. On the dates (below) that we do not meet as a class, I will hold extra office hours from 2:30-3:00 pm, unless otherwise noted. I expect students to be prepared daily for class by following the schedule and completing readings or other assignments (see below). In a seminar the standard for excellence is *publishable quality*; that is the standard that I will use in this class.

Course Evaluation:

Your grade will be determined as follows: daily attendance and classroom participation (including response papers), 20%; book review 10%; review essay 10%; assigned research/data 10%; research paper 50%.

Classroom Participation:

For each class discussion (noted below), students must come to class prepared not only to speak and to listen actively and critically, but also have *a one page*, double-spaced paper that summarizes your thoughts on each particular assignment under discussion. Use standard fonts and margins, as on this

syllabus, but double-space your lines. Simply print or type your name at the top of the page. Each of you is expected to turn in every one of these assignments; if you fail to turn in serious work three times, I will drop you.

Book Review and Review Essay:

Students will be assigned books from the reading list, below, for these exercises by February 1 (see schedule). Specific guidelines and instruction will come in class. You will very likely refer back to these books for your research paper, and as in all seminars-each student will depend of the work of others. Books for the Review Essays will be assigned by February 8. For each of these, every student must supply copies for the instructor and for every other student.

The Research:

I will assign or agree to students' proposals for research projects on February 15 (see below). They will likely require each of you to conduct research off campus at various depositories and libraries in the vicinity. You will be required to compile your data in an Excel spreadsheet. (I will hold a brief workshop in Excel for those who need training in it.) This research might be used for your coursework here, and I will very likely use it with clear credit given to each student for my ongoing research on slavery and freedom in Texas. *Data must be submitted to me by e-mail by 1:00pm February 22. If you give my computer a virus, it will cost you 10% of your entire course grade.*

The Final Research Paper:

Utilizing your historiographical work (and perhaps your original research) as a starting point, you must define a topic for an original essay, compile a bibliography of primary and secondary sources, and compose and defend your paper with a clear thesis and ample proof. Individual meetings with the instructor will be mandatory. You must submit TWO copies of your papers to me (one for me to grade and return, the other to keep on file in the History Department, AND one copy for each of your colleagues.

Schedule:

readings:

Jan. 18: Course Introduction; possible topics and sources

Jan. 25: Historical Thought & Sources

Tosh, prefaces; chs.1-4,11

Feb. 1: Historiography; the Book Review

Tosh: chs. 5-10, conclusion; Marius, Appendix B

Feb. 8: Book Review Presentations and the Review Essay

Campbell, *Empire*, entire

Feb. 15: Presentations of Review Essays; Assigned Research at Clayton Library*

Feb. 22: Discussion of Research; Assignment of topics for final paper

Marius, intro., ch. 1-5

Mar. 1: research week

Mar. 8: research week

Mar. 15: Spring Break

Mar. 22: Meeting: discuss preliminary findings

Marius, chs.6-8, Appendix A

Mar. 29: research week

Apr. 5: research week

Apr. 12: research week

Apr. 19: research week

Apr. 26: Research Papers due; two copies for me; one for each student
Presentations & Defenses of Papers TBA

*The Clayton Genealogical Library: <http://www.hpl.lib.tx.us/claytonl>

Also note: Association of Houston Archivists (AI-IA!):
<http://houstonarchivists.org/repositories.shtml>

Reading List/Bibliography:

General Works on Slavery

- Ulrich B. Phillips, *American Negro Slavery* (1918)
Kenneth Stampp, *The Peculiar Institution* (1956)
Stanley Elkins, *Slavery* (1959)
Richard C. Wade, *Slavery in the Cities: The South, 1820-1860* (1964)
Winthrop D. Jordan, *White Over Black: American Attitudes Toward the Negro, 1550-1812* (1968)
Robert S. Starobin, *Industrial Slavery in the Old South* (1970)
John Blassingame, *The Slave Community: Plantation Life in the Antebellum South* (1972)
George Rawick, *From Sundown to Sunup: The Making of the Black Community* (1972)
Gerald Mullin, *Flight and Rebellion: Slave Resistance in Eighteenth-Century Virginia* (1972)
Eugene Genovese, *The Political Economy of Slavery* ?????
 , *Roll, Jordan, Roll: The World the Slaves Made* (1974)
Peter H. Wood, *Black Majority: Negroes in Colonial South Carolina from 1670 through the Stono Rebellion* (1974)
Herbert Gutman, *The Black Family in Slavery and Freedom, 1750-1925* (1976)
Lawrence Levine, *Black Culture and Black Consciousness* (1977)
Albert J. Raboteau, *Slave Religion* (1978)
Thomas L. Webber, *Deep Like the Rivers: Education in the Slave Quarter Community, 1831-1865* (1978)
Ronald L. Lewis, *Coal, Iron, and Slaves* (1979)
William Van Deburg, *The Slave Driver* (1979)
Daniel Littlefield, *Rice and Slaves: Ethnicity and the Slave Trade in Colonial South Carolina* (1981)
John B. Boles, *Black Southerners, 1619-1869* (1983)
Charles Joyner, *Down by the Riverside* (1984)
Deborah Gray White, *Ar'n't I A Woman?* (1985)
Jacqueline Jones, *Labor of Love, Labor of Sorrow: Black Women, Work, and the Family from Slavery to the Present* (1985)
Barbara Jeanne Fields, *Slavery and Freedom on the Middle Ground: Maryland During the Nineteenth Century* (1985)

Allan Kulikoff, *Tobacco and Slaves: The Development of Southern Cultures in the Chesapeake, 1680-1800* (1986)

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

Mechal Sobel, *The World They Made Together: Black and White Values in Eighteenth-Century Virginia* (1987)

Michael Gomez, *Exchanging Our Country Marks: The Transformation of African Identities in the Colonial and Antebellum South* (1988)

Sterling Stuckey, *Slave Culture: National Theory and the Foundations of Black America* (1988)

Janet Cornelius, *When I Can Read My Title Clear: Literacy, Slavery, and Religion in the Antebellum South* (1991)

Ann Patton Malone, *Sweet Chariot: Slave Family and Household Structure in Nineteenth Century Louisiana* (1992)

Gwendolyn M. Hall, *Africans in Colonial Louisiana* (1992)

John M. Vlach, *Back of the Big House: The Architecture of Plantation Slavery* (1993)

Wilma King, *Stolen Childhood* (1995)

Mark M. Smith, *Mastered by the Clock: Time, Slavery, and Freedom in the American South* (1997)

Lorena S. Walsh, *From Calabar to Carter's Grove: The History of a Virginia Slave Community* (1997)

John Hope Franklin and Loren Schweninger, *Runaway Slaves: Rebels on the Plantations* (1999)

Jeffrey Robert Young, *Domesticating Slavery: The Master Class in Georgia and South Carolina, 1670-1837* (1999)

Schwartz, Marie Jenkins, *Born in Bondage: Growing up Enslaved in the Antebellum South* (2000)

Joan Marie Martin, *More than Chains and Toil: A Christian Work Ethic of Enslaved Women* (2000)

William E. 'Wiethoff, *The Insolent Slave* (2002)

Texas and the Southwest

James P. Baughman, *Charles Morgan and the Development of Southern Transportation* (1968)

Alwyn Barr, *Black Texans: A History of African Americans in Texas, 1529-1995* (1996)
, *The African Texans* (2004) (children's book!)

Alwyn Barr and Robert A Calvert, *Black Leaders: Texans for Their Times* (1981)

Gregg Cantrell, *Stephen F. Austin, Empresario of Texas* (1999)
, *Kenneth and John B. Rayner and the Limits of Southern Dissent* (1993)

Christopher Morris, *Becoming Southern: The Evolution of a Way of Life, Warren County and Vicksburg, Mississippi, 1770-1860* (1995)

Joan Cashin., *A Family Venture: Men and Women on the Southern Frontier* (1991)

Donald G. Chipman, *Spanish Texas, 1519-1821*(1992)

Thomas D. Clark and John D. W. Guice, *Frontiers in Conflict: The Old Southwest, 1795-1830* (1989)

Verner W. Crane, *The Southern Frontier, 1670-1732* (1929)

Marie Beth Jones, *Peach Point Plantation: The First 150 Years* (1982)

Pamela Ashworth Puryear and Nath Winfield, Jr., *Sandbars and Sternwheelers: Steam Navigation on the Brazos* (1976)

Elizabeth Silverthorne, *Plantation Life in Texas* (1986)

Thad Sitton and Dan K. Utley, *From Can See to Can't: Texas Cotton Farmers on the Southern Praries* (1997)

David H. Unser, Jr., *Indians, Settlers, and Slaves in a Frontier Exchange Economy: The Lower Mississippi Valley before 1783* (1992)

Abigail Curlee, "The History of a Texas Slave Plantation, 1831-1863," in Eugene Genovese and Elinor Miller, eds., *Plantation, Town, and Country* (1974)

Michael R. Moore, "Peter Martin: A Stock Raiser of the Republic Period," in Sara R. Massey, ed., *Black Cowboys of Texas* (2000)

Frederick L. Olmstead, *A Journey Through Texas* (orig., 1857)

John M. Brewer, *Negro Legislators of Texas and their Descendants* (1935)

Rice, Lawrence D., *The Negro in Texas, 1874-1900* (1971)

Arthur T. Burton, *Black, Red, and Deadly: Black and Indian Gunfighters of the Indian Territory, 1870-1907* (Austin: Eakin Press, 1991)

Debra L. Newman, *Black History: A Guide to Civilian Records in the National Archives* (1984)

Barbara Banritze, *Bibliographic Checklist of African American Newspapers* (1994)

Lenwood Davis, *Blacks in the American Armed Forces, 1776-1983* (1985)

Streets, David H., *Slave Genealogy: A Research Guide with Case Studies* (1986)

Slave Trade

Steven Deyle, *Carry Me Back: The Domestic Slave Trade in American Life* (2005)

John Thomas Noonan, *The Antelope: The Ordeal of the Recaptured Africans in the Administrations of James Monroe and John Quincy Adams* (1977)

Warren S. Howard, *American Slavers and the Federal Law, 1837-1862* (1963)

David R. Murray, *Odious Commerce: Britain, Spain and the Abolition of the Cuban Slave Trade* (1980)

Michael Tadman, *Speculators and Slaves: Masters, Traders, and Slaves in the Old South* (1989)

Ronald T. Takaki, *A Pro-slavery Crusade: The Agitation to reopen the African Slave Trade* (1971)

W. E. F. Ward, *The Royal Navy and the Slavers: The Suppression of the Atlantic Slave Trade* (1969)

Eugene C. Barker, "The African Slave Trade in Texas," in *Southwest Historical Quarterly*, 6 (1902-1903): 145-58

William Dean Carrigan, "Slavery on the Frontier: The Peculiar Institution in Central Texas," in *Slavery and Abolition*, 20 (1999): 63-86

Walter Johnson, *Soul by Soul: Life Inside the Antebellum Slave Market* (1999)

Reconstruction

Barry Crouch, *The Freedmen's Bureau and Black Texans* (1992)

- Barry Crouch and Larry Madras, ed, *The Dance of Freedom: Texas Africa Americans During Reconstruction* (2007)
- Leon Litwack, *Been in the Storm So Long: The Aftermath of Slavery* (1979) (651 pp.!)
 . *Trouble in Mind: Black Southerners in the Age of Jim Crow* (1998)
- Charles Ramsdell, *Reconstruction in Texas* (1910)
- William L. Richter, *Overreached on All Sides: The Freedmen's Bureau in Texas* (1991)
- William L. Richter, *The Army in Texas During Reconstruction, 1865-1870* (1987)
- Richard Current, *Those Terrible Carpetbaggers* (1988)
- James A. Baggett, *The Scalawags: Southern Dissenters in the Civil War and Reconstruction* (2003)
- Carl Moneyhon, *Texas After the Civil War* (2004)
 , *Republicanism in Reconstruction Texas* (orig., 1980; 2001)
 , *A Century of Achievement: Blacks in Cooke County, Texas* (1975)
- Walter Buenger, *The Path to a Modern South: Northeast Texas from Reconstruction to the Great Depression* (2001)
- James Smallwood, Barry Crouch, and Larry Peacock, *Murder and Mayhem: The War of Reconstruction in Texas* (2003)
- More Smallwood, *Time of Hope, Time of Despair: Black Texans during Reconstruction* (1981)