



The Civil War and Reconstruction, 1850-1877

Course Information

Course Number: HIST 31005. **CRN:** 11425. **Credit Hours:** 3

Class Time: Tuesdays and Thursday from 1:30PM to 2:45PM

Class Location: Hicks Undergraduate Library G980D

Instructor Contact Information

Professor: Jonathan Lande, Ph.D.

Office Location: Beering Hall

Purdue Email Address: jlande@purdue.edu

How to Reach Professor Lande: Email his Purdue account or contact via Brightspace

Email Guidelines: Available via email daily; response generally within 24-48 hours

Student Hours

- Student hours for general discussion (e.g., assignments): Tues., 12:30-1:00 PM
- Student hours to discuss matters relevant to you (e.g., grades, research): Thurs., 12:30-1:00 PM. To arrange meeting, email by 10 AM on Wed. prior
- Alternative meeting times can be arranged; email to schedule
- Student hours will be conducted via ZOOM; see Brightspace for ZOOM Info

Course Description

“War is hell,” General William Tecumseh Sherman said, reflecting on the desolation left in the wake of his army’s invasion of the seceded states. Few would have disagreed during the American Civil War (1861 to 1865). By war’s end, more had changed than had remained the same. The population shifted, as thousands lay in early graves, slavery, the bedrock of country’s wealth and of southern society, was destroyed, and the nation that entered the war looked far different, both institutionally and in the minds of those across the United States. In this class, we will examine the war and its consequences, learning how and why the war came, what happened on its battlefields, and how average people endured it.

Learning Outcomes

1. To increase your knowledge of events and themes in American history
2. To analyze the social and cultural place of the Civil War within American society

3. To appreciate the role of contingency in the Civil War
4. To understand the enduring influence of the war, emancipation, etc. on society
5. To analyze and contextualize historical evidence
6. To improve your written and oral communication skills

Meeting and Lecture Format

We will meet Tuesdays and Thursdays in person for lectures and discussions of the texts.

Classroom Policies

General Course Policies: As a general rule, be courteous to your peers and instructors at all times. In order to have a positive environment for the exchange of ideas, it is vital for students to be respectful when listening and responding to one another. Remember that your body language speaks.

Technology in the Classroom: *Please silence and put away your cell phone when class is in session.* Whether on a laptop or a phone, using social media in class is not permitted, as it may distract from the lessons and discussion.

Policy on Recording: Video or audio recording of any portion of classroom lectures is not permitted in this class. Lectures are intellectual property. Unauthorized recording may subject a student to disciplinary action.

Content Advisory Policies: Material potentially offensive to students will be presented related to the history of war atrocities, slavery, sexual assault, among other disturbing topics. Feel free to inquire should you have concerns about the material.

Other Class Guidelines: Refer to your syllabus throughout the semester for guidance on course policies, your reading schedule, and when you can take your exams. Be punctual to each class. Pack your bags after professor *finishes lecture* and has answered questions. Eat elsewhere.

Texts

We will read 4 books throughout the semester and draw on a collection of primary sources. You may also choose to read the textbook, but it is not required. (Reading due dates are on the schedule below). You'll need to find copies of the monographs, primary source reader, and textbook. 2 of the 4 assigned monographs are available electronically. All required books are available either online or through the library.

Primary Source Collections [required]

William E. Gienapp, *The Civil and Reconstruction: A Documentary Collection* (New York: W. W. Norton). (<https://wwnorton.com/books/9780393975550>)

Monograph Books [required]

Robert K. D. Colby, *An Unholy Traffic: Slave Trading in the Civil War South* (New York: Oxford University Press, 2024). (<https://global.oup.com/academic/product/an-unholy-traffic-9780197578261?cc=us&lang=en&>)

- Online here: <https://academic.oup.com/book/56158?login=true>

Lesley Gordon, *Dread Danger: Cowardice and Combat in the American Civil War* (New York: Cambridge University Press, 2024).

(<https://www.cambridge.org/us/universitypress/subjects/history/american-history-1861-1900/dread-danger-cowardice-and-combat-american-civil-war?format=PB>).

Allen C. Guelzo, *Redeeming the Great Emancipator* (Cambridge, MA: Harvard University Press, 2016). (<https://www.hup.harvard.edu/books/9780674286115>).

- Physical copy in library:
https://purdue.primo.exlibrisgroup.com/permalink/01PURDUE_PUWL/uc5e95/alma99169488392001081

Yael A. Sternhell, *Routes of War: The World of Movement in the Confederate South* (Cambridge, MA: Harvard University Press, 2015).

(<https://www.hup.harvard.edu/books/9780674088177>).

- Online here:
https://purdue.primo.exlibrisgroup.com/permalink/01PURDUE_PUWL/uc5e95/alma99169198833301081

Textbook [optional]

James M. McPherson, *The Battle Cry of Freedom: The Civil War Era* (New York: Oxford University Press, 1989).

- Online here: https://purdue-primo-prod.hosted.exlibrisgroup.com/permalink/f/vjfldl/PURDUE_ALMA21529908290001081

Assignments

Your learning will be assessed through a combination of discussions, a midterm, a final, and a research paper. Details on these, including a schedule of due dates and rubrics to guide evaluation, are below. If you don't understand the requirements or would like further explanation, ask.

Assignment	Due Date and Ranges	Points
Discussion Participation	Throughout Semester	100 points
Midterm	10/3	100 points
Final Exam	12/9-10	200 points
Research Paper Prospectus	10/22 by 1 pm	30 points

Newspaper Research Paper	11/21 by 1 pm	70 points
Total		400 points

Participation

Based on discussions of primary and secondary sources assigned throughout semester.

Midterm Exam

During week 7, you will take a midterm covering the content of the first 6 weeks. It will include multiple-choice questions drawn from the lectures and readings. It will be conducted online via Brightspace during class hours. It will consist of 50 questions each worth 2 points.

Final Exam

At the end of the semester, you will take a cumulative exam of the semester. It will include multiple-choice questions drawn from the lectures and readings throughout the semester. It will be conducted online on December 9 and 10 via Brightspace. You may take it for set time during those days at your convenience. It will consist of 50 questions each worth 2 points. It will consist of 100 questions each worth 2 points.

Newspaper Research Paper

For your major class assignment, you must read articles from 1 month of a newspaper that was printed during the war. You will be given time during class to complete some of the research, but you are also expected to do reading outside of class time.

Research Prospectus

Submit a research prospectus, which should include: 1) the name, location, and editor of the newspaper you intend on researching for the final paper; 2) the month and year you will be reading; and 3) the database you will be using to examine the newspaper articles.

Rubric

Name, location of publication, and editor for selected newspaper: 10pts.

Month and year of publication for research: 10pts.

Name of database consulted for newspaper: 10pts.

Total: 30pts.

Research Paper

Submit a newspaper research paper online via Brightspace. After you've read the content, you will: 1) offer an overview of major themes from the month read, noting how the themes of articles change, in 200 words. Next, 2) select 5 of the articles chosen that you found

particularly interesting, and in 200 words for each article, explain what the author said and how the articles relate to 2 important events of the war, citing a lecture, a primary source, or a secondary source for the major event. Finally, 3) attach a PDF of either a screenshot of the article or a transcription of the article. In total, you should submit 1,200 words and 5 articles.

Rubric

- Overview: 10 pts.
- Article 1 explanation: 10 pts.
- Article 2 explanation: 10 pts.
- Article 3 explanation: 10 pts.
- Article 4 explanation: 10 pts.
- Article 5 explanation: 10 pts.
- Article attachments: 10pts.
- Total: 70 pts.

Grading Scale

In this class, grades reflect the sum of your achievement throughout the semester. You will accumulate points as described in the assignments portion above, with each assignment graded according to a rubric. You may easily keep track of your points along the way on Brightspace, where the scores will be posted following your quizzes, midterm, and final exam and within a few weeks of submitting an essay.

Letter grades to percentages breakdown as such: A=100-93; A-=92-90; B+=89-87; B=86-83; B-=82-80; C+=79-77; C=76-73; etc.

Note: To maintain fairness throughout the course, no extra credit will be offered.

Course Schedule

Schedule Notes

- Monographs are listed by the author’s last name
- Note on Textbook: *Battle Cry of Freedom* is listed as “BC”
- All reading must be completed by the start of class for the day it is listed
 - For example, Thursday, Aug. 22, you should have read Frederick Law Olmstead’s piece, “The South’s Lack of a Spirit of Progress,” on page 9 of the documentary collection by the start of class
 - For example: Tuesday, Aug. 27, you should have Robert Colby’s *Unholy Traffic*, chapter 1, read by the start of class.

Wk.	Day	Date	Topic	Documentary Collection Reading	Assignments & Readings	Textbook Chapters (optional)
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1	Tue.	Aug. 20	Introduction to Course			BC: Intro
1	Thur.	Aug. 22	Land of Freedom	Pg. 4: Anonymous Pg. 9: Olmstead		BC: 1-3
2	Tue.	Aug. 27	Land of Bondage	Pg. 14: De Bow Pg. 16: Anonymous	Colby, Intro & Ch. 1	BC: 4
2	Thur.	Aug. 29	War Before the War	Pg. 5: Garrison Pg. 23: Douglass		BC: 5
3	Tue.	Sept. 3	Divided House	Pg. 31: Webster Pg. 38: <i>NY Ev. Post</i> Pg. 41: Taney Pg. 47: Lincoln		BC: 6
3	Thur.	Sept. 5	Election of 1860	Pg. 52: Brown Pg. 62: Lincoln Pg. 71: Stephens Pg. 77: Lincoln	Sternhell, Intro & Ch. 1	BC: 7-9
4	Tue.	Sept. 10	Battle of Bull Run (July '61)	Pg. 83: Scott Pg. 88: Lincoln Pg. 117: Douglass Pg. 125: Lincoln	Gordon, Intro & Ch. 1	BC: 10-11
4	Thur.	Sept. 12	Citizen-Soldiers	Pg. 89: Boyd Pg. 236: Fisk Pg. 238: Simpson Pg. 246: Pierson	Gordon, Ch. 2-3	
5	Tue.	Sept. 17	War for the Western Rivers ('62)	Pg. 92: Grant Pg. 132: 20 Peron L. Pg. 133: GA Soldier Pg. 135: Atl. Paper		BC: 13-15
5	Thur.	Sept. 19	Peninsula Campaign (April-June '62)	Pg. 84: McClellan Pg. 86: McClellan Pg. 107: Com. Brunt	Sternhell, Ch. 2	BC: 16-17
6	Tue.	Sept. 24	Seven Days Battles (June-July '62)	Pg. 94: McClellan Pg. 95: McClellan Pg. 247: Plane		BC: 18
6	Thur.	Sept. 26	Battle of Antietam (Sept. '62)	Pg. 100: Lee Pg. 101: Alexander Pg. 103: Dawes Pg. 126: <i>Harper's Wk.</i>		BC: 17
7	Tue.	Oct. 1	Fredericksburg and Freedom (Dec. '62-Jan. '63)	Pg. 119: Lincoln Pg. 121: Cox Pg. 105: <i>Harper's Wk.</i> Pg. 126: <i>Harper's Wk.</i> Pg. 242: Welton		BC: 19
7	Thur.	Oct. 3	Midterm			
8	Tue.	Oct. 8	Fall Break	No Meeting		

8	Thur.	Oct. 10	Battle for the Press	Pg. 138: <i>Rich. Ex.</i> Pg. 166: <i>North. News.</i> Pg. 197: <i>Mont. Adver.</i> Pg. 270: <i>Ill. St. Reg.</i> Pg. 287: <i>Ch. Mercury</i>	Introduction to Newspaper Assignment	BC: 20
9	Tue.	Oct. 15	Battle of Chancellorsville (Apr.-May '63)	Pg. 147: Lincoln Pg. 148: Halleck Pg. 189: Hancock Pg. 247: Kingsley		
9	Thur.	Oct. 17	Gettysburg (Jul. '63)	Pg. 177: Lincoln Pg. 180: NY Press Pg. 154: Cormany Pg. 187: Anonymous Pg. 187: <i>NY Ev. Post</i>	Guelzo, Ch. 1	BC: 21
10	Tue.	Oct. 22	Grant's War (May-Nov. '63)	Pg. 159: Anonymous Pg. 163: Abrams Pg. 163: Gorgas	Research Prospectus Due	
10	Thur.	Oct. 24	No Meeting	Research Day		
11	Tue.	Oct. 29	Discuss Lincoln and Guelzo		Guelzo, Ch. 2-3	
11	Thur.	Oct. 31	Combat Glory (May-Jul. '63)	Pg. 220: Douglass Pg. 225: Welch Pg. 229: Rice		BC: 22-23
12	Tue.	Nov. 5	No Meeting	Research Day	Colby, Ch. 1-3	
12	Thur.	Nov. 7	Discussion of Colby		Colby, Ch. 4-6	
13	Tue.	Nov. 12	The Wilderness (May-Jun. '64)	Pg. 266: Greeley Pg. 268: Raymond		BC: 24
13	Thur.	Nov. 14	Election of 1864	Pg. 262: Platforms Pg. 273: Final Appeal. Pg. 275: Dem. Soldier Pg. 277: <i>Chi. Tribune</i>		BC: 25
14	Tue.	Nov. 19	March to the Sea (June-July '64)	Pg. 253: Sherman Pg. 255: Sherman Pg. 256: Connolly Pg. 294: Edmondston		BC: 26
14	Thur.	Nov. 21	Appomattox (Mar.-Apr. '65)	Pg. 293: McGuire Pg. 297: Nichols Pg. 299: Lincoln Pg. 303: Chamberlain	Newspaper Research Paper Due	BC: 27-28
15	Tue.	Nov. 26	No Meeting	Research Day		
15	Thur.	Nov. 28	No Meeting	Thanksgiving		
16	Tue.	Dec. 3	Battle Over Freedom ('65-67)	Pg. 230: Wicker Pg. 232: Enslaved Pg. 307: Ruffin Pg. 325: Miss. Blk. C.	Sternhell, Ch. 3 & 4	BC: Epilogue

				Pg. 335: Johnson		
16	Thur.	Dec. 5	Fall of Reconstruction ('67-76)	Pg. 367: Black Ala. Pg. 371: Cromwell Pg. 379: Lucas Pg. 380: Anderson Pg. 409: Caldwell		
Final Exam Wk.		Dec. 9-13	Taken December 9-10			

Emergency Preparation

In the event of a major campus emergency, course requirements, deadlines and grading percentages are subject to changes that may be necessitated by a revised semester calendar or other circumstances beyond the instructor's control. Relevant changes to this course will be posted onto the course website or can be obtained by contacting the instructors or TAs via email or phone. **You are expected to read your @purdue.edu email and check Brightspace for announcements on a frequent basis.**

Disclaimer

This syllabus is subject to change, and in the event of a major campus emergency, course requirements, deadlines and grading percentages are subject to changes that may be necessitated by a revised semester calendar or other circumstances beyond the instructor's control. If changes are made, you will be informed via Brightspace. You are responsible for checking your @purdue.edu email Brightspace on a frequent basis for updated course information and announcements.

Academic Integrity

Academic integrity is one of the highest values that Purdue University holds. Individuals are encouraged to alert university officials to potential breaches of this value by either emailing integrity@purdue.edu or by calling 765-494-8778. While information may be submitted anonymously, the more information is submitted the greater the opportunity for the university to investigate the concern. More details are available on our course Brightspace table of contents, under University Policies.

Classroom Guidance Regarding Protect Purdue

Any student who has substantial reason to believe that another person is threatening the safety of others by not complying with Protect Purdue protocols is encouraged to report the behavior to and discuss the next steps with their instructor. Students also have the option of reporting the behavior to the [Office of the Student Rights and Responsibilities](#). See

also [Purdue University Bill of Student Rights](#) and the Violent Behavior Policy under University Resources in Brightspace.

Nondiscrimination Statement

Purdue University is committed to maintaining a community which recognizes and values the inherent worth and dignity of every person; fosters tolerance, sensitivity, understanding, and mutual respect among its members; and encourages each individual to strive to reach his or her potential. In pursuit of its goal of academic excellence, the University seeks to develop and nurture diversity. The University believes that diversity among its many members strengthens the institution, stimulates creativity, promotes the exchange of ideas, and enriches campus life. A hyperlink to Purdue's full Nondiscrimination Policy Statement is included in our course Brightspace under University Policies.

Accessibility

Purdue University is committed to making learning experiences accessible. If you anticipate or experience physical or academic barriers based on disability, you are welcome to let me know so that we can discuss options. You are also encouraged to contact the Disability Resource Center at: drc@purdue.edu or by phone: 765-494-1247.

Mental Health/Wellness Statement

If you find yourself beginning to feel some stress, anxiety and/or feeling slightly overwhelmed, try [WellTrack](#). Sign in and find information and tools at your fingertips, available to you at any time.

If you need support and information about options and resources, please contact or see the [Office of the Dean of Students](#). Call 765-494-1747. Hours of operation are M-F, 8 am- 5 pm.

If you find yourself struggling to find a healthy balance between academics, social life, stress, etc. sign up for free one-on-one virtual or in-person sessions with a [Purdue Wellness Coach at RecWell](#). Student coaches can help you navigate through barriers and challenges toward your goals throughout the semester. Sign up is completely free and can be done on BoilerConnect. If you have any questions, please contact Purdue Wellness at evans240@purdue.edu.

If you're struggling and need mental health services: Purdue University is committed to advancing the mental health and well-being of its students. If you or someone you know is feeling overwhelmed, depressed, and/or in need of mental health support, services are available. For help, such individuals should contact [Counseling and Psychological Services \(CAPS\)](#) at 765-494-6995 during and after hours, on weekends and holidays, or by going to the CAPS office on the second floor of the Purdue University Student Health Center (PUSH) during business hours.

Basic Needs Security

Any student who faces challenges securing their food or housing and believes this may affect their performance in the course is urged to contact the Dean of Students for support. There is no appointment needed and Student Support Services is available to serve students 8 a.m.-5 p.m. Monday through Friday. Considering the significant disruptions caused by the current global crisis as it related to COVID-19, students may submit requests for emergency assistance from the [Critical Needs Fund](#).