This class will examine the history of slavery and abolition in colonial America, the U.S., and the broader Atlantic world through the Civil War and Reconstruction. Beginning with the rise of the Atlantic slave trade in the sixteenth century, the course will examine systems of slavery in the American colonies, the search for freedom during the age of revolution, the rise of the abolition movement, slave rebellions, the Civil War and the end of slavery, and the uneasy transition to freedom. Through a combination of primary and secondary documents, we will focus on African Americans’ active responses to racial oppression and their attempts to gain and consolidate freedom in America. We will conclude with an examination of the legacies of slavery in American history and the ways its contested memory shapes modern America.

These required books are available for purchase at the University Bookstore in Reitz Union or may be acquired from your favorite internet bookseller:


Mary Prince, *The History of Mary Prince: A West Indian Slave Narrative* (Dover, 2004).

Solomon Northrup, *Twelve Years a Slave* (Dover, 2014).


These readings will be supplemented occasionally with additional sources available online or by handouts.http://www.pbs.org/wgbh/aia/http://hitchcock.itc.virginia.edu/Slavery/
**Requirements**

1. Three four-page papers (due Feb. 2, March 16 and March 30) on specific assigned questions handed out in advance by the instructor.

2. One book quiz on specific assigned questions (Feb. 23).

3. Examinations. There will be one mid-term and a test, both consisting of a combination of essay and identification questions.

4. Class attendance and participation. Students will be expected to attend class regularly and to keep up with reading assignments, which average about 75 pages per week. Everyone is allowed two absences regardless of the reason; no excuse or physician’s note is needed (except for a missed exam). Each subsequent absence, however, will result in a drop of half a letter grade in the final average for the term (students who are forced to miss more classes because of serious or chronic medical problems or family emergencies should consult with the instructor). The course will be lecture-based approximately two-thirds of the time, but there will also be a number of class discussions in which students should participate based on course readings. No digital devices in class, please.

Your final grade (based on a 10-point scale) will be determined as follows:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Component</th>
<th>Weight</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Midterm</td>
<td>20%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Test</td>
<td>20%</td>
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<tr>
<td>3 4-p papers</td>
<td>45%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1 quiz</td>
<td>10%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Participation</td>
<td>5%</td>
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</tbody>
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**Schedule**


   Reading: Colin Palmer, “The First Passage,” chap. 1 in *World Anew*


   Reading: Peter Wood, “Strange New Land,” chap. 2 in *World Anew*

Week 4. Jan. 29 – Feb. 2. African Cultures in Exile; First Stirrings of Antislavery

   Reading: Rediker, *Benjamin Lay*; **Benj. Lay paper due Feb. 2**
Week 5. Feb. 5-9. Era of the American Revolution
   Reading: Daniel Littlefield, “Revolutionary Citizens,” chap. 3 in World Anew


Week 7. Feb. 19-23. After the Revolution
   Reading: Dunbar, Never Caught; quiz on Never Caught Feb. 23


Spring Break March 5-9

Week 10. March 12-16. Resistance and Abolitionism
   Reading: History of Mary Prince. Mary Prince paper due March 16

Week 11. March 19-23. The Second Middle Passage

Week 12. March 26 – 30. World of the Slave Labor Camps
   Reading: Northrup, Twelve Years a Slave; Twelve Years paper due March 30

Week 13. April 2-6. War for Self-Emancipation
   Reading: Noralee Frankel, “Breaking the Chains,” 227-35 in World Anew

   Reading: Frankel, “Breaking the Chains,” 236-80 in World Anew

Week 15. April 16-20. Afterlives of Slavery
   Reading: TBA

Week 16. April 23-25. Test April 25