

# **History 901:** ***Slavery and Freedom, North and South: 1830-1900***

Steve Kantrowitz  
Wednesday, 1:20-3:20  
5257 Humanities

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Office Hours: Monday, 1:30-3:30 and by appointment

## **Requirements**

**1) Participation in discussion** **40% of grade**

**2) in-class report on supplementary readings** **10%**

Each student will present one in-class report on one of the supplementary readings listed on the syllabus. These reports must be **no longer than 10 minutes** and must:

- a) summarize the works, their sources and use of evidence, and their conclusions
- b) evaluate and/or critique the works
- c) situate the work in relation to that week's common readings

You must prepare a one-page outline of your presentation and bring 16 copies (one for each member of the class) with you to class. Take the time limit seriously: make sure that you have carefully edited and rehearsed your presentation.

**3) written reviews of supplementary readings (750 words maximum)** **10% each**

These reviews require you to write forcefully and economically, laying out the book's arguments and evidence, contributions and weaknesses, as clearly and intelligently as you can. You must write **two** of these:

- a:** after your presentation, revise your notes into a well-crafted book review. This is due in class the week after your presentation.
- b:** choose one other book from the list of supplementary readings (or another work of your choice that I have authorized). This review is due in class the same week that the book is listed on the syllabus.

**4) Final Assignment: Interpretive Book Review (2500-3000 words)** **30%**

Choose several works (approx. 3 books, or two major works), either from the syllabus or from the same topical and thematic areas. Write a substantial, synthetic book review suitable for publication in *Reviews in American History*, *The New York Review of Books*, or some hybrid of the two.

**Schedule of Seminar Meetings and Readings****Jan 22: Introductions****Jan 29: The Big Picture**

Ira Berlin, *Generations of Captivity*

Supp.: - Joanne Melish, *Disowning Slavery*

- Peter Kolchin, *American Slavery*

**Feb 4: Situating Antebellum Slavery: Markets, Mentalities, and Middle Grounds**

Walter Johnson, *Soul By Soul*

Nell Irvin Painter, "Soul Murder and Slavery"

Barbara Fields, *Slavery and Freedom on the Middle Ground*, 63-89

Ira Berlin and Philip D. Morgan, eds., *Cultivation and Culture*, 1-45

Supp.: - John Blassingame, *The Slave Community*

- Deborah Gray White, *Ar'n't I a Woman?*

**Feb 11: The World of Northern Reform**

Lori Ginzburg, *Women and the Work of Benevolence*

Bruce Dorsey, *Reforming Men and Women*, 136-194

Supp: - Susan Zaeske, *Signatures of Citizenship*

- Eric Foner, *Free Soil, Free Labor, Free Men*

**Feb 18: The Politics of the Plantation South**

Eugene Genovese, *Roll, Jordan, Roll*, 587-660

Steven Hahn, *A Nation Under Our Feet*, 1-159

Drew Gilpin Faust, *James Henry Hammond and the Old South*, 69-134

Drew Gilpin Faust, *The Ideology of Slavery*, 1-20

Supp.: - "Forum: The Making of a Slave Conspiracy,"

pt. I (*WMQ* 58:4, Oct. 2001) and pt. 2 (*WMQ* 59:1, Jan. 2002)

- John Hope Franklin and Loren Schweninger, *Runaway Slaves*

- William Freehling, *The Road to Disunion*

**Feb 25: "Whiteness," Labor, and Gender**

Robert Steinfield, *The Invention of Free Labor*, 3-14, 122-84

David Roediger, *The Wages of Whiteness*, 43-92

Peter Way, "Evil Humors and Arden Spirits," *JAH* 79:4 (Mar. 1993)

Walter Johnson, "The Slave Trader, The White Slave, and the Politics of Racial

Determination in the 1850s" *JAH* 87:1 (June 2000)

"Scholarly Controversy: Whiteness and the Historians' Imagination," *International Labor and Working Class History* 60 (Oct. 2001), 1-92

Supp.: - George Fredrickson, *The Black Image in the White Mind*  
 - Mia Bay, *The White Image in the Black Mind*  
 - Eric Lott, *Love and Theft*

**Mar 3: Black Abolitionists and their Allies**

John Stauffer, *The Black Hearts of Men*

Patrick Rael, *Black Identity and Black Protest*, 237-278

Supp.: - Benjamin Quarles, *Black Abolitionists*  
 - Lawrence Friedman, *Gregarious Saints*  
 - Larry Gara, *The Liberty Line*  
 - Stanley Harrold, *Subversives*

**Mar 10: From Secession to Emancipation**

Stephanie McCurry, "The Two Faces of Republicanism," *JAH* 78:4 (Mar. 1992)

Charles Dew, *Apostles of Disunion*, 4-21

William Freehling, *The South vs. The South*

Drew Gilpin Faust, *Mothers of Invention*, 53-79

Supp.: - David Potter, *The Impending Crisis*  
 - Daniel Crofts, *Reluctant Confederates*  
 - Mark Neely, *Southern Rights*  
 - Stephen Berry, *All that Makes a Man*

**Mar 24: Union and Emancipation**

George Frederickson, *The Inner Civil War*

V. Jacques Voegeli, "A Rejected Alternative," *JSH* 69:4 (Nov., 2003), 765-790

Ira Berlin et al., *Freedom's Soldiers*, introduction

W. E. B. Du Bois, *Black Reconstruction*, 55-83

Supp.: - Mark Neely, *The Fate of Liberty*  
 - Philip Paludan, *A People's Contest*

**Mar 31: Southern Reconstruction in Context**

Eric Foner, *A Short History of Reconstruction*

Frederick Cooper et al., *Beyond Slavery*, 1-32

Supp.: - Richard Bensel, *Yankee Leviathan*  
 - Thomas Holt, *The Problem of Freedom*  
 - Rebecca Scott, *Slave Emancipation in Cuba*  
 - Ada Ferrer, *Insurgent Cuba*  
 - Eric Foner, *Nothing But Freedom*

**Apr 7: The Triumph of "Free Labor"**

Amy Dru Stanley, *From Bondage to Contract*

Barbara Fields, *Slavery and Freedom on the Middle Ground*, 131-166

Supp.: - Heather Cox Richardson, *The Death of Reconstruction*  
- Dylan Penningroth, *The Claims of Kinfolk*

**Apr 14: Black Publics and Black Politics**

Steven Hahn, *A Nation Under Our Feet*, 163-476

Elsa Barkley Brown, "Negotiating and Transforming the Public Sphere"

Martin Summers, "Diasporic Brotherhood," *Gender & History* 15:3 (Nov. 2003), 550-74

Supp.: - Tera Hunter, *To 'Joy My Freedom*  
- Michael Fitzgerald, *Urban Emancipation*

**Apr 21: Reconstructing White Supremacy**

Stephen Kantrowitz, *Ben Tillman and the Reconstruction of White Supremacy*

Jane E. Dailey, *Before Jim Crow*, 1-14

Supp.: - Michael Perman, *Struggle for Mastery*  
- Gavin Wright, *Old South, New South*  
- Roger L. Ransom and Richard Sutch, *One Kind of Freedom*

**Apr 28: Consolidating White Supremacy**

John David Smith, ed., *When Did Southern Segregation Begin?*

Leon Litwack, *Trouble in Mind*, 280-325

Jacquelyn Dowd Hall, "The Mind That Burns in Each Body," in Snitow et al., eds., *Powers of Desire*

Supp.: - Glenda Gilmore, *Gender and Jim Crow*  
- Stewart Tolnay and E. M. Beck, *A Festival of Violence*  
- Patricia Schechter, *Ida B. Wells-Barnett and American Reform*

**May 5: Looking Forward**

David Blight, *Race and Reunion*

Supp.: - Nan Woodruff, *American Congo*