

The Old South

Dr. Peter S. Carmichael

Office Hours: MW 1:00-2:30 and by appointment

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Procedures

Purpose. What is the South? This question has puzzled American historians who have wrestled with the issue of Southern distinctiveness. What constitutes the South remains an elusive and elastic concept. The class addresses the question of the creation and meaning of Southern identity through an examination of the cultural, social, and intellectual history of the region from the colonial period through Reconstruction.

Exams. There are no exams in this class. You will have two major papers. The first paper, ranging from 5 to 7 pages, will be incorporated into a take-home final which will be no more than 15 pages. Both papers must be typed. You will respond to a prearranged question dealing with the assigned readings for both assignmentstwo.

Response Papers You will write three page papers on the following books: Deborah Gray White, Ar'N'T I A Woman and Bertram Wyatt-Brown, Honor and Violence in the Old South. Study questions will be forthcoming.

Discussions. Your success in this class largely depends on your level of participation. Discussion is the integral component of this class. Everyone must be prepared and contribute. **I require that you take notes on all of your readings and bring those notes to class.** Before a session of my choice there will be a short quiz on the readings. The questions will not always be announced before class so it is essential to prepare and take notes from the book. Of the thirteen assigned quizzes, I will take the 10 highest scores. There are no make-ups for these written exercises, regardless of the excuse. These papers will be on a 10 point system, for a total of 100 points. The remaining 200 points will come from your weekly participation during the semester. Class participation does not consist of just attending class, although that is a necessary prerequisite. Every two to three weeks I will give you a written progress report evaluating your participation.

Attendance. Attendance is mandatory. Failure to prepare for class is considered an unexcused absence. No one will be permitted to stay for a discussion session who has failed to prepare. You are allowed **three excused absences**. For every absence after three you will lose **three percentage points from your final grade**. If you miss a class, it is your responsibility to get the notes for that day.

READINGS

Escott, Goldfield, McMillen, and Turner **Major Problems in the History of the American South**
Olmsted, **The Cotton Kingdom**
White, **Ar’N’t I a Woman**
Wyatt-Brown, **Honor and Violence in the Old South**
Cash, **The Mind of the Old South**
Genovese, **Roll, Jordan, Roll**

GRADING

Quizzes (10 highest scores)	100 points
Response Papers (50 points each)	100 points
Class Participation	200 points
First Take-Home exam	100 points
Final Paper	200 points

700 points total

COURSE SCHEDULE

* Identifies articles in your text, Major Problems in the History of the American South

Week One August 21-25

What is the South

W. Cash vi-29

F. Cash 30-102

Week Two August 28-September 1

Southern Distinctiveness and the Origins of Slavery

M. Cash 105-45 and *Woodward, "The Discontinuity of Southern History,"

W. Fields, "Slavery, Race and Ideology in the United States of America," On Reserve

F. Morgan, "Slavery and Freedom: The American Paradox," On Reserve
Week Three September 4-8

Slavery Matures

M. No class (Labor Day)

W. Redpath's Travels (Primary material will be supplied in class)

F. *Greene, "Georgia's Attempt to Become a Viable Colony," 90-101

Week Four September 11-15

The American Revolution and Slave Resistance

M. Genovese, Roll, Jordan, Roll, 587-612

W. Genovese, Roll, Jordan, Roll, 613-637

F. *Frey, "The Impact of African American Resistance During the War,"
113-23

Week Five September 18-23

Paternalism

M. Genovese, Roll, Jordan, Roll, 4-7, 70-86

W. Redpath's Travels (Primary material will be supplied in class)

F. Olmsted, The Cotton Kingdom, 31-83

Week Six September 25-29

The Slaveholders' South

M. *Genovese, "The Shaping of a Unique Society," 201-206 and Genovese and Fox-Genovese, "The Religious Ideals of a Southern Slave Society," On Reserve

W. Redpath's Travels (Primary material will be supplied in class)

F. No class

Week Seven October 2-6

Slavery Justified

M. Faust, "The Proslavery Argument in History" and Hammond, "Letter to an English Abolitionist," In The Ideology of Slavery On Reserve

W. Fitzhugh, "Southern Thought," in The Ideology of Slavery On Reserve

F. No Class (Fall break)

Week Eight October 9-13 Wyatt- Brown Paper due October 11

Southern Honor

M. No Class (Fall break)

W. Wyatt-Brown, Honor and Violence, vii-84

F. Wyatt-Brown, Honor and Violence, 85-153, 214-245

Week Nine October 16-20 Begin reading White, Ar'N't I A Woman

Nonslaveholding Whites

M. Genovese and Fox-Genovese, "Yeomen Farmers in a Slaveholders' Democracy," On Reserve

W. *Bolton, "Edward Isham and the World of Poor Whites," 267-280

F. Olmsted, The Cotton Kingdom, 336-359

Week Ten October 23-27

The Slave Experience

M. *Kolchin, "Antebellum Slavery," 230-248

W. *Stevenson, "Distress and Discord in Slave Families," 221-230 and Olmsted, The Cotton Kingdom, 174-204

F. Work on Mid-term Exam

Week Eleven October 30 to November 3 Mid term exam due on Nov. 1

The Slave Experience continued

M. Work on Mid term Exam

W. Redpath's Travels (Primary material will be provided in class)

F. Genovese, Roll, Jordan, Roll, 450-475, 482-494

Week Twelve November 6-10

Slave Religion

M. Genovese, Roll, Jordan, Roll, 161-168, 183-202, 280-284

W. Wyatt-Brown (article will be supplied to class)

F. Olmsted, The Cotton Kingdom, 206-211, 240-247 and Genovese, Roll, Jordan, Roll, 658-660

Week Thirteen November 13-17

Women's Culture in the Old South

M. *Fox-Genovese, "Constraints of the Plantation Household," 309-316

W. Discuss White, Ar'N't I a Woman Paper due on Ar'N't I a Woman

F. Genovese, Roll, Jordan, Roll, 494-501

Week Fourteen November 20-24

Sectionalism

M. Rable, "The Old South: A Political Culture in Crisis," in The Confederate Republic On Reserve

W. Thanksgiving break

F. Thanksgiving break

Week Fifteen November 27-December 1

The Confederate Experience

M. Letters from Confederate women (Primary sources will be supplied in class)

W. Crofts, "Civil War," 193-217 On Reserve

F. Gallagher, "Popular Will," 17-59 On Reserve

Week Sixteen December 4-8

Emancipation and Reconstruction

M. *Roark, "The Effect of Emancipation on Elite Southern White," 412-421

W. *Foner, "Black Life During Reconstruction," 421-430

F. Whitelaw Reid (Primary sources will be supplied in class)

Week Seventeen December 11-15

M. Take-home final exam due

W Meet to discuss final exam (12:00-3:00)