

HTST 460.01 - THE. CIVIL WAR ERA
Winter 2017

Instructor: Dr. Frank Towers

Class Times: Tuesdays 4-6:45 p.m.,

Room: SS 613

Office Hours: Tuesdays and Thursdays 12-1 p.m.

Contact information: Office, SS 610; e-mail ftowers@ucalgary.ca; office phone 403-220-6406. Please note, there is no voicemail for my office phone. Use email to leave a message.

Course Description: This course considers the U.S. Civil War, 1861-65, as well as its origins and the postwar peace.

Course Requirements

The course grade consists of the following criteria. Exam and paper formats are explained below. Also see schedule of assignments and class topics below for exam and paper due dates.

Assignment:	Percent of course grade	Due date
Midterm exam	30%	February 27
Research paper (see below)	30%	March 31
Final exam	30%	to be announced
Class participation	10%	see below

Grading scale: The course uses a letter grade scale wherein an A equals 4.0, B = 3.0, C= 2.0, D =2.0, F = 0. For more on this system see the university of Calgary Calendar section F2 "Undergraduate grading system" at:
<http://www.ucalgary.ca/pubs/calendar/current/f-2.html>

Mid-term: The mid-term exam will consist of a combination of multiple-choice questions and one essay. The mid-term exam covers all material up that date.

Final Exam: The final exam will consist of a combination of multiple-choice questions and one essay. The final exam covers all material considered since the mid-term exam.

Research paper: the research paper topic will be distributed in the second week of classes.

Class participation: Student participation is essential to the success of this course. The participation mark is based on the following factors:

- Regular attendance
- Consistent contributions to class discussion
- Demonstration of working knowledge of the assigned reading.

Reading: Papers, exams, lectures, and class discussions all relate to the reading assigned for this course. Keeping up with the assigned reading is essential for earning a passing grade. Refer to the schedule of assignments below for the reading assignments for each week.

Required Text

Available for purchase, and on free 2-hour reserve at the TFDL.

Wells, Jonathan D. *A House Divided: The Civil War and Nineteenth-Century America*. Taylor and Francis, 2012.

All other reading is available through open cces online sources.

Schedule of Assignments and Lectures

Week 1, Jan. 9-13: Slavery and American society, 1790s-1840s
Assigned reading: Wells, *A House Divided*, chapter 1 and TBA

Week 2, Jan. 16-20: Slavery and American politics, 1789-1846
Assigned reading: Wells, *A House Divided*, ch. 2 and TBA

Week 3, Jan. 23-27: Territorial expansion and political crisis, 1846-1859
Reading: Wells, *A House Divided*, ch 3 and TBA

Week 4, Jan. 30-Feb. 3: The Election of 1860 and southern secession
Reading: Wells, *A House Divided*, ch 4 and TBA

Week 5, Feb. 6-Feb. 10: The beginning of the Civil War, 1861.
Reading: Wells, *A House Divided*, ch 5 and TBA

Week 6, Feb. 13-17: Rising Confederate fortunes.
Reading: Wells, *A House Divided*, ch 6 and TBA

Mid-term Break, Feb. 19-26, no classes scheduled.

Midterm exam, February 27.

Week 7, Feb. 27- Mar. 3: Midterm exam and the Civil War in 1863
Reading: Wells, *A House Divided* ch 7 and TBA

Week 8, Mar. 6-10: The homefronts, politics and society
Reading: Wells, *A House Divided* ch 8 and TBA

Week 9, Mar. 13-17: The U.S. Civil War in global context: other civil wars of the mid-1800s
Reading: Wells, *A House Divided* ch 9 and TBA

Week 10, Mar. 20-24: War is hell: Union victory, 1864-65
 Reading: Wells, *A House Divided* ch 10 and TBA

Week 11, Mar. 27-31: Reconstruction during the Civil War, 1863-1865
 Reading: Wells, *A House Divided* ch 11 and TBA

Research paper due March 31. Turn in paper via D2L dropbox link.

Week 12, Apr. 3-7: The unstable peace: the postwar decade, 1866-1876
 Reading: Wells, *A House Divided* 12 and TBA

Week 13, Apr. 10-12: Redemption and the lost promise of Reconstruction
 Reading: Wells, *A House Divided* 13 and TBA

Final exam time and place to be announced

Other course policies

Makeups and legitimate excuses: Documentation of medical and family emergencies (death or illness) or university-related activities is required to make up exams and quizzes.

Classroom etiquette: Class begins at 2:00 p.m. Please be in your seat at that time, and refrain from side conversations and other behavior that will distract your fellow students. For the same reason, please turn off cell phones.

Use of electronic devices in class to take notes is permitted but not encouraged. Studies have found that students who take notes with pen and paper retain more information than those using electronic devices. I recommend taking notes with a pen or pencil and paper. For some of this research see: Pam A. Mueller and Daniel M. Oppenhemier, "The Pen Is Mightier Than the Keyboard: Advantages of Longhand Over Laptop Note Taking," *Psychological Science* 25 (June 2014): 1159-1168.

Use of electronic devices in class to engage social media is prohibited. Do not text, email, surf the web, or otherwise use social media during class.

Important Departmental, Faculty, and University Information

Faculty of Arts Program Advising and Student Information Resources:

- Have a question, but not sure where to start? The Arts Students Centre is your information resource for everything in Arts! Drop in at SS110, call 403-220-3580, or

email artsads@ucalgary.ca. For detailed information on common academic concerns, you can also visit the Faculty of Arts website at <http://arts.ucalgary.ca/undergraduate>.

- For program planning and advice, contact the Arts Students Centre, Social Sciences 102, 403-220-3580, or visit <http://arts.ucalgary.ca/advising>.
- For registration (add/drop/swap), paying fees and assistance with your Student Centre, contact Enrolment Services at 403-210-ROCK [7625] or visit the office in the MacKimmie Library Block.

Departmental Twitter Handle @ucalgaryhist - For departmental updates and notifications

Writing:

This course will include written assignments. Faculty policy directs that all written assignments (including, although to a lesser extent, written exam responses) will be assessed at least partly on writing skills. Writing skills include not only surface correctness (grammar, punctuation, sentence structure, etc.) but also general clarity and organization. Research papers must be properly documented.

Writing Support:

Students are also encouraged to use Writing Support Services and other Student Success Centre Services, located on the 3rd floor of the Taylor Family Digital Library. Writing Support Services assist with a variety of assignments, from essays to lab reports. Students can book 30-minute one-on-one appointments online, sign up for 15-minute drop-in appointments, and register for a variety of writing workshops. For more information on this and other Student Success Centre services, please visit www.ucalgary.ca/ssc.

Copyright:

The University of Calgary has opted out of the Access Copyright Interim Tariff proposed by the Copyright Board. This means that instructors in all University of Calgary courses will strictly adhere to Copyright Act regulations and the educational exceptions permitted by the Act for both print and digital course material. What this simply means is that no copyrighted material may be placed on course D2L or web sites without the prior permission of the copyright holders. In some cases, this may mean that instructors will require you to purchase a print course pack from the University of Calgary bookstore or that you will have to consult books on reserve at the library. For more information on the University of Calgary's copyright policy, see <http://library.ucalgary.ca/copyright>.

Red Box Policy:

Essays and other assignments may be handed in to the red box located outside of the History Department office (SS 656). Please include the following information on your assignment: course name and number, instructor, your name and your student number. Assignments received after 4:00 p.m. will be date stamped with the date of the next business day. We do not time stamp any papers. Please do not bring your paper into the

office to be stamped. The box is emptied promptly at 8:30 a.m. and at 4:00 p.m. Monday to Friday.

Departmental Grading System:

The following percentage-to-letter grade conversion scheme has been adopted for use in all Canadian Studies, History, and Latin American Studies courses.

Percentage	Letter Grade	Grade Point Value	Description
90-100	A+	4.00	Outstanding
85-89	A	4.00	Excellent—superior performance showing comprehensive understanding of subject matter.
80-84	A-	3.70	
77-79	B+	3.30	
73-76	B	3.00	Good—clearly above average performance with knowledge of subject matter generally complete.
70-72	B-	2.70	
67-69	C+	2.30	
63-66	C	2.00	Satisfactory—basic understanding of the subject matter.
60-62	C-	1.70	Receipt of a grade point average of 1.70 may not be sufficient for promotion or graduation.
56-59	D+	1.30	Minimal pass—marginal performance; generally insufficient preparation for subsequent courses in the same subject.
50-55	D	1.00	
0-49	F	0	Fail—unsatisfactory performance or failure to meet course requirements.

Plagiarism:

Plagiarism occurs when one submits or presents one's work in a course, or ideas and/or passages in a written piece of work, as if it were one's own work done expressly for that particular course, when, in fact, it is not. As noted in *The History Student's Handbook*

(http://hist.ucalgary.ca/sites/hist.ucalgary.ca/files/history_students_handbook_2015.pdf), plagiarism may take several forms:

- Failure to cite sources properly may be considered plagiarism. This could include quotations, and wording used from another source but not acknowledged.
- Borrowed, purchased, and/or ghostwritten papers are considered plagiarism, as is submitting one's own work for more than one course without the permission of the instructor(s) involved.
- Extensive paraphrasing of one or a few sources is also considered plagiarism, even when notes are used, unless the essay is a critical analysis of those works.
- The use of notes does not justify the sustained presentation of another author's language and ideas as one's own.

Plagiarism is a serious academic offence and written work that appears to contain plagiarized passages will not be graded. All such work will be reported to the Faculty of Arts' associate deans of students who will apply the penalties specified in the *University of Calgary Calendar*.

Universal Student Ratings of Instruction:

At the University of Calgary, feedback provided by students through the Universal Student Ratings of Instruction (USRI) survey provides valuable information to help with evaluating instruction, enhancing learning and teaching, and selecting courses (www.ucalgary.ca/usri). Your responses make a difference. Please participate in USRI Surveys.

Student Accommodations:

Students seeking an accommodation based on disability or medical concerns should contact Student Accessibility Services; SAS will process the request and issue letters of accommodation to instructors. For additional information on support services and accommodations for students with disabilities, visit www.ucalgary.ca/access/.

Students who require an accommodation in relation to their coursework based on a protected grounds other than disability should communicate this need in writing to their Instructor.

The full policy on Student Accommodations is available at <http://www.ucalgary.ca/policies/files/policies/student-accommodation-policy.pdf>

Other Useful Information:

- Faculty of Arts Representatives: 403-220-6551, arts1@su.ucalgary.ca, arts2@su.ucalgary.ca, arts3@su.ucalgary.ca, arts4@su.ucalgary.ca.
- *Safewalk and Campus Security*: 403-220-5333.

Please also familiarize yourself about the following topics by consulting the information at these links:

- *Freedom of Information*: <http://www.ucalgary.ca/legalservices/foip/foip-hia>

- *Emergency Evacuation Assembly Points:*
<http://www.ucalgary.ca/emergencyplan/assemblypoints>
- *Safewalk:* <http://www.ucalgary.ca/security/safewalk>
- *Student Union Information:* <http://www.su.ucalgary.ca/>
- *Graduate Student Association:* <http://www.ucalgary.ca/gsa/>
- *Student Ombudsman Office:* <http://www.ucalgary.ca/provost/students/ombuds>

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