

**HTST 460.01 - The U.S. Civil War Era**  
Fall 2018

**Instructor:** Dr. Frank Towers

**Class Times:** Tuesdays and Thursdays 3:30-4:45 p.m.

**Room:** SH 157

**Office Hours:** Tuesdays and Thursdays 10:30- 11:30 a.m.

**Contact information:** Office SS 610; e-mail [ftowers@ucalgary.ca](mailto:ftowers@ucalgary.ca).

**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%	October 4
Research Paper	30%	November 20
Final exam	30%	see Registrar's schedule of final exams
Participation	10%	throughout the term

**Reading:** Papers, exams, lectures, quizzes 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 Texts**

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

Charles B. Dew, *Apostles of Disunion: southern Secession Commissioners and the Causes of the Civil War*. Charlottesville, VA: University of Virginia press, 2001.

Foner, Eric. *The Fiery Trial: Abraham Lincoln and American Slavery*. New York: W. W. Norton, 2010.

Wells, Jonathan D. *A House Divided: The Civil War and Nineteenth-Century America*. 2<sup>nd</sup> Ed. New York: Routledge, 2017.

**Schedule of Assignments and Lectures**

Week 1, Sept. 6-7: Introduction

Assigned reading: Foner, *Fiery Trial*, ch. 1

Week 2, Sept. 10-14: The early United States, 1776-1845

Assigned reading: Wells, *A House Divided*, ch. 1; Foner, *Fiery Trial*, ch. 2

Week 3, Sept. 17-21: Territorial expansion and political crisis, 1846-1859

Reading: Wells, *A House Divided*, ch. 2; Foner, *Fiery Trial*, ch. 3

Week 4, Sept. 24-28: The Election of 1860 and southern secession

Reading: Wells, *A House Divided*, ch. 3; Foner, *Fiery Trial*, ch. 4; Dew, *Apostles of Disunion*, pages 1-125.

Week 5, Oct. 1-5: Review and midterm exam.

Reading: Foner, *Fiery Trial*, ch. 5.

**Midterm exam will be held on October 4.**

Week 6, Oct. Oct. 8-12: War Begins, 1861

Reading: Wells, *A House Divided*, ch 5; Foner, *Fiery Trial*, ch. 6

Week 7, Oct. 15-19: Towards Emancipation, 1862

Reading: Wells, *A House Divided* ch 6; Foner, *Fiery Trial*, ch. 7

Week 8, Oct. 22-26: Turning Points, 1863

Reading: Wells, *A House Divided* ch 7; Foner, *Fiery Trial*, ch. 8.

Week 9, Oct. 29- Nov. 2: "War is hell," 1864

Reading: Wells, *A House Divided* ch 8. Foner, *Fiery Trial*, ch. 9.

Week 10, Nov. 5-9: Union Victory, and the End of Slavery, 1865

Reading: Wells, *A House Divided* ch 10; Foner, *Fiery Trial*, epilogue.

Term break, Nov. 11-17, no classes scheduled.

**Research paper due November 20. Upload electronically via D2L.**

Week 11, Nov. 19-23: Andrew Johnson and the first postwar settlement, 1866-67

Reading: Wells, *A House Divided* ch 11.

Week 12, Nov. 26-30: An Alternative Vision, Radical Republicans, 1867-1873

Reading: Wells, *A House Divided* 12.

Week 13, Dec. 3-7: Redemption, Jim Crow, and the contested legacy of the Civil War

Reading: Wells, *A House Divided* 13.

**Final exam scheduled by the Registrar.**

## Explanation of graded requirements

**Mid-term Exam:** The mid-term exam will consist of a combination of short answer identifications and one essay. The mid-term exam covers all material up to that date.

**Final Exam:** The final exam will consist of a combination of short answer identifications and one essay. The final exam covers all material considered since the mid-term exam.

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

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

## Research paper

**Due date:** November 28. Papers must be turned in class, or dropped off in the Red Box in front of the History Department main office, Social Sciences 656.

**Late paper policy:** Papers turned in late without a valid excuse (see above) will receive a lower grade. Grades will be lowered one-third of a grade (e.g. from a B+ to a B) for each day late, the weekend counts as two days.

**Length:** minimum of 2,000 words, which usually takes up 6-8 word-processed, double-spaced pages. Maximum length 3,500 words.

**Format:** The research paper should conform in style to the standards described in the "Style and Referencing Guide," part IV of *The History Student's Handbook* located on the Department of History web site at:

[http://hist.ucalgary.ca/sites/hist.ucalgary.ca/files/history\\_students\\_handbook\\_2015.pdf](http://hist.ucalgary.ca/sites/hist.ucalgary.ca/files/history_students_handbook_2015.pdf)

**Bibliography:** The paper should include a bibliography of the sources used. The word count for the paper's length does not include the bibliography.

**Paper topic:** Compare and contrast the experiences of two people who lived through the Civil War era, and compare their views on the major issues of the period, especially slavery, equal rights, and the United States as both a national government and national identity. Students may consider Abraham Lincoln as one of their two subjects and use our assigned book, *The Fiery Trial* as one of their sources for Lincoln's life. We will read a chapter of this book every week until the paper due date, and use it both as a source for understanding the Civil War era and as a model for this paper's assignment.

**Sources for the paper.** The paper should use at least four primary sources and four

secondary sources.

**Primary Sources:** Primary sources are materials either created by those directly involved in the event under investigation or at least created at the time in question and having direct bearing on the event. They might include diaries, letters, personal papers, newspapers, published writings, minutes of meetings, legislative debates, speeches, census data, and a host of similar materials.

**Finding primary sources:** Look in your secondary sources first. What firsthand evidence do these historians use? Can you find those sources and judge for yourself? A good historical encyclopedia will give you an overview of the topic as well as a list of standard books of interest. Annotated bibliographies will list newer books by topic and provide a brief description of each.

Reference librarians can help you to identify appropriate encyclopedias and annotated bibliographies such as the following:

- Barney, William L. *The Oxford Encyclopedia of the American Civil War*. New York: Oxford University Press, 2011. call # E468 .B319 2011
- Arnold, James R. *The American Civil War: The Essential Reference Guide*. ABC\_CLIO, 2011. call # E 468 INTERNET
- Snodgrass, Mary Ellen. *The Civil War Era and Reconstruction: An Encyclopedia of Social, Political, Cultural, and Economic History*. M.E. Sharpe, 2011. call # E468 .S65 2011
- Heidler, David S. *Encyclopedia of the American Civil War: A Political, Social, and Military History*. ABC\_CLIO, 200. Call #E 468 Internet.
- Online primary sources: I highly recommend *Civil War Sources* at the Virginia Center for Civil War Studies. It links most of the important online databases related to the Civil War. <http://www.civilwar.vt.edu/wordpress/civil-war-sources/>

**Secondary sources** are historical accounts created after the fact by non-participants in the events under study. These secondhand accounts are typically the kind of writing done by professional historians.

**Finding secondary sources:** The main search engine at the U of C library will get you a long way on secondary source searches. If you don't like the results for a particular search play around with your keywords and see if you can find more that way. One helpful database is *America: History and Life*, an electronic index to U.S. history journals that is available through the library web page. Reference librarians can show you how to use this article index efficiently. Other helpful search engines available through the library web page are *JSTOR*, which provides online access to access in major historical journals, and *WorldCat*, an index of all published books.

Especially helpful journals for this course are *The Journal of the Civil War Era*, *Civil War History* (your instructor is the associate editor), and *Civil War Monitor*.

## 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 3:30 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. Oppenheimer, "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.** Use HTST 460 as a twice a week break from social media distraction. Do not text, email, surf the web, or otherwise use social media during class.

### Important Departmental, Faculty, and University Information

**\*Attention history majors: History 300 is a required course for all history majors. You should normally take it in your second year.\***

*Department Twitter @ucalgaryhist*

#### **Faculty of Arts Program Advising and Student Information Resources:**

- Have a question, but not sure where to start? The Arts Students Centre (ASC) is your information resource for everything in Arts! Drop in at Social Sciences 102, call 403-220-3580, or email [artsads@ucalgary.ca](mailto: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 (ASC) in SS 102, call 403-220-3580, email [artsads@ucalgary.ca](mailto:artsads@ucalgary.ca), or visit <http://arts.ucalgary.ca/advising>.
- For registration issues, paying fees and assistance with your Student Centre, contact Enrolment Services at 403-210-ROCK (7625), visit the office in the MacKimmie Library Block (MLB) or their website at <http://www.ucalgary.ca/registrar/>.

#### **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 3<sup>rd</sup> floor of the Taylor Family Digital Library (TFDL). 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](http://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 (Social Sciences, Room 656). Please include the following information on your assignment: **1) course name and number, 2) instructor, 3) your name and 4) 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	

Percentage	Letter Grade	Grade Point Value	Description
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](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 (USRI):**

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

**Academic Accommodations (implemented July 1, 2015):**

The student accommodation policy can be found at: [ucalgary.ca/access/accommodations/policy](http://ucalgary.ca/access/accommodations/policy).

Students needing an Accommodation because of a Disability or medical condition should communicate this need to Student Accessibility Services in accordance with the Procedure for Accommodations for Students with Disabilities [ucalgary.ca/policies/files/policies/student-accommodation-policy](http://ucalgary.ca/policies/files/policies/student-accommodation-policy).

Students needing an Accommodation based on a Protected Ground other than Disability, should communicate this need, preferably in writing, to the course instructor.

**Campus Resources for Mental Health:**

The University of Calgary recognizes the pivotal role that student mental health plays in physical health, social connectedness and academic success, and aspires to create a caring and supportive campus community where individuals can freely talk about mental health and receive supports when needed. We encourage you to explore the excellent mental health resources available throughout the university community, such as counselling, self-help resources, peer support or skills-building available through the SU Wellness Centre (Room 370, MacEwan Student Centre, <https://www.ucalgary.ca/wellnesscentre/services/mental-health-services>) and the Campus Mental Health Strategy website (<http://www.ucalgary.ca/mentalhealth/>).

**Other Useful Information:**

- Faculty of Arts Representatives: 403-220-6551, [arts1@su.ucalgary.ca](mailto:arts1@su.ucalgary.ca), [arts2@su.ucalgary.ca](mailto:arts2@su.ucalgary.ca), [arts3@su.ucalgary.ca](mailto:arts3@su.ucalgary.ca), [arts4@su.ucalgary.ca](mailto:arts4@su.ucalgary.ca).
- Campus Security & Safewalk: 403-220-5333, <http://www.ucalgary.ca/security/safewalk>.
- Freedom of Information: <http://www.ucalgary.ca/legalservices/foip/foip-hia>.
- Emergency Evacuation Assembly Points: <http://www.ucalgary.ca/emergencyplan/assemblypoints>.
- 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>