

Atlantic Slavery

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This course will look at the origins and transformations of African slavery in the Americas through an Atlantic-world framework. Among the topics that will receive particular attention this semester:

- Understanding the Atlantic slave complex in a global context.
- Comparing and connecting slave societies in Latin America and British America.
- The origins of African American cultures.
- Slave narratives as historical sources.
- The rise of antislavery and the politics of abolition.

Course books:

- Moses Finley, *Ancient Slavery and Modern Ideology* (Markus Wiener, 1998).
- Alejandro de la Fuente, *Havana and the Atlantic in the Sixteenth Century* (University of North Carolina Press, 2008).
- Stephanie Smallwood, *Saltwater Slavery: A Middle Passage from Africa to American Diaspora* (Harvard University Press, 2008).
- Philip Morgan, *Slave Counterpoint: Black Culture in the Eighteenth-Century Chesapeake and Lowcountry* (University of North Carolina Press, 1998).
- Vincent Carretta, *Equiano, the African: Biography of a Self-Made Man* (Penguin, 2007).
- Olaudah Equiano, *The Interesting Narrative* (Penguin).
- Robin Law and Paul Lovejoy, eds. *The Biography of Mahommah Gardo Baquaqua* (Markus Wiener, 2007).
- Marixa Lasso, *Myths of Harmony: Race and Republicanism during the Age of Revolution, Colombia, 1795-1831* (University of Pittsburgh Press, 2007).

Assignments:

- Regular participation and attendance.
- One 4-5-page book review and in-class presentation of that book.
- 10-page paper on the debate over Equiano's *Interesting Narrative*. **Due March 24th**.
- Annotated bibliography for final paper. **Due March 24th**.
- 15-page final paper. **Due May 5th**.
- Presentation of final paper.

Reference books:

- Seymour Drescher et al., eds., *A Historical Guide to World Slavery*
- Stanley Engerman, et al., eds. *Slavery*
- Rebecca J. Scott, et al., eds. *Societies after Slavery*

Note: These works are excellent starting points for compiling your own bibliographies.

Week 1. January 13: Introduction**Week 2. January 20: The Atlantic World in Historical Context**

Readings: Finley, *Ancient Slavery and Modern Ideology*, 77-217; Christopher Schmidt-Nowara, "Big Questions and Answers: Three Histories of Slavery, the Slave Trade, and the Atlantic World," *Social History* 27 (May 2002), 210-17; Pier Larson, "African Diasporas and the Atlantic," in *The Atlantic in Global History, 1500-2000* eds. Jorge Cañizares-Esguerra and Erik R. Seeman (Pearson Prentice Hall, 2007), 129-47; and Richard Eaton, "Introduction," in Indrani Chatterjee and Richard M. Eaton, eds., *Slavery and South Asian History* (Indiana University Press, 2006), 1-16. **Articles on ERES.**

Week 3. January 27: Iberian Colonization and Slavery

Reading: de la Fuente, *Havana and the Atlantic*; and Stuart B. Schwartz, "A Commonwealth within Itself: The Early Brazilian Sugar Industry, 1550-1670," in Schwartz, ed., *Tropical*

Babylons: Sugar and the Making of the Atlantic World, 1450-1680 (University of North Carolina Press, 2004), 158-200. **Article on ERES.**

Week 4. February 3: The Slave Traffic

Reading: Smallwood, *Saltwater Slavery*; Herbert Klein, “The Atlantic Slave Trade to 1650,” in Schwartz, ed., *Tropical Babylons*, 201-36. **Article on ERES.**

Books for reviews:

David Eltis, *The Rise of African Slavery in the Americas*

Walter Johnson, ed., *The Chattel Principle: Internal Slave Trades in the Americas*

Walter Johnson, *Soul by Soul: Life Inside the Antebellum Slave Market*

Herbert Klein, *The Atlantic Slave Trade*

Peter Linebaugh and Marcus Rediker, *The Many-headed Hydra: Sailors, Slaves, Commoners, and the Hidden History of the Revolutionary Atlantic*

Sidney Mintz and Richard Price, *The Birth of African-American Culture: An Anthropological Perspective*

Marcus Rediker, *The Slave Ship: A Human History*

John K. Thornton, *Africa and Africans in the Making of the Atlantic World*

Week 5. February 10: Slavery and African American Culture I

Reading: Morgan, *Slave Counterpoint*

Books for Review:

George Reid Andrews, *Afro-Latin America, 1800-2000*

Ira Berlin, *Generations of Captivity: A History of African American Slaves*

Ira Berlin and Philip Morgan, eds., *Cultivation and Culture: Labor and the Shaping of Slave Life in the Americas*

Darlene Clark Hine and David Barry Gaspar, eds., *More than Chattel: Black Women and Slavery in the Americas*

Paul Gilroy, *The Black Atlantic: Modernity and Double Consciousness*

Michael Gomez, *Black Crescent: The Experience and Legacy of African Muslims in the Americas*

Michael Gomez, *Exchanging Our Country Marks: The Transformation of African Identities in the Colonial and Antebellum South*

Joseph M. Murphy, *Santería: An African Religion in America*

João José Reis, *Slave Rebellion in Brazil: The Muslim Uprising of 1835 in Bahia*

James H. Sweet, *Recreating Africa: Culture, Kinship, and Religion in the African-Portuguese World, 1441-1770*

Robert Farris Thompson, *Flash of the Spirit*

Week 6. February 17: No Class, President's Day, Monday classes meet Tuesday

Week 7. February 24: Slavery and African American Culture II

Reading: Morgan, *Slave Counterpoint*

Books for review (see previous week)

Week 8. March 3: Slave Narratives

Readings: Equiano, *The Interesting Narrative*; Law and Lovejoy, *The Biography of Mahommah Gardo Baquaqua*.

Books for review

Ira Berlin et al., eds., *Remembering Slavery: African Americans Talk about Their Personal Experiences of Slavery and Freedom*

Trevor Burnard, *Mastery, Tyranny, and Desire: Thomas Thistlewood and His Slaves in the Anglo-Jamaican World*

Henry Louis Gates, jr., *The Slave's Narrative*

Adam Hochschild, *Bury the Chains: Prophets and Rebels in the Fight to Free an Empire's Slaves*

Gretchen Holbrook Gerzina, *Black London: Life before Emancipation*

Richard Price, *First-Time: The Historical Vision of an Afro-American People*

James Walvin, *An African's Life: The Life and Times of Olaudah Equiano, 1745-1797*

Week 9. March 10: No class. Work on paper on Carretta-Lovejoy debate and final paper bibliography. Both due in class March 24.

Week 10. March 17: No class. Spring break.

Week 11. March 24: Debating Equiano's *Interesting Narrative*

Readings: Carretta, *Equiano, the African*; Carretta-Lovejoy exchange in *Slavery & Abolition* 27 (December 2006) and 28 (April 2007). **Articles available online through Electronic Journals.**

Paper and bibliography due in class.

Week 12. March 31: Slavery and Freedom in the Revolutionary Era

Reading: Lasso, *Myths of Harmony*; Dale Tomich, “The Wealth of Empire: Francisco Arango y Parreño, Political Economy, and the Second Slavery in Cuba,” in Christopher Schmidt-Nowara and John Nieto-Phillips, eds., *Interpreting Spanish Colonialism: Empires, Nations, and Legends* (Albuquerque: University of New Mexico Press, 2005), 55-85; and Christopher L. Brown, “Empire without Slaves: British Concepts of Emancipation in the Age of the American Revolution,” *William and Mary Quarterly* LVI (April 1999). **Articles available through ERES and Electronic Journals.**

Books for review:

George Reid Andrews, *The Afro-Argentines of Buenos Aires, 1800-1900*
 Robin Blackburn, *The Overthrow of Colonial Slavery, 1776-1848*
 Peter Blanchard, *Under the Flags of Freedom: Slave Soldiers and the Wars of Independence in Spanish South America*
 Christopher Leslie Brown, *Moral Capital: Foundations of British Abolitionism*
 Christopher Leslie Brown and Philip Morgan, eds., *Arming Slaves: From Classical Times to the Modern Age*
 David Brion Davis, *The Problem of Slavery in the Age of Revolution*
 Seymour Drescher, *Capitalism and Antislavery: British Mobilization in Comparative Perspective*
 Seymour Drescher, *Econocide: British Slavery in the Era of Abolition*
 Laurent Dubois, *Avengers of the New World: The Story of the Haitian Revolution*
 Laurent Dubois, *A Colony of Citizens: Revolution and Slave Emancipation in the French Caribbean, 1787-1804*
 Sylvia Frey, *Water from a Rock: Black Resistance in a Revolutionary Age*
 C.L.R. James, *The Black Jacobins: Toussiant Louverture and the Revolution of San Domingo*
 Gary Nash, *The Forgotten Fifth: African Americans in the Age of Revolution*
 Richard S. Newman, *Freedom's Prophet: Bishop Richard Allen, the AME Church, and the Black Founding Fathers*
 Emilia Viotti da Costa, *Crown of Glory, Tears of Blood: The Demerara Slave Rebellion of 1823*
 Eric Williams, *Capitalism and Slavery*

Week 13. April 7: The Second Slavery and Emancipation in Brazil and Cuba

Reading: Stanley Stein, *Vassouras*. Selections available through E-books in library catalogue; Selections from Camillia Cowling, “Matrices of Opportunity: Women of Colour, Gender and the Ending of Slavery in Rio de Janeiro and Havana, 1870-1888,” (Ph.D. dissertation, University of

Nottingham, 2006); and Celso Castilho, “Abolitionism Matters: The Politics of Antislavery in Pernambuco, Brazil, 1869-1888” (Ph.D. dissertation, UC Berkeley, 2008). **Cowling and Castilho selections available on ERES.**

Books for review

George Reid Andrews, *Blacks and Whites in São Paulo, Brazil, 1888-1988*
 Laird Bergad, *The Comparative Histories of Slavery in Brazil, Cuba, and the United States*
 Laird Bergad, *Cuban Rural Society in the Nineteenth Century*
 Robert E. Conrad, *The Destruction of Brazilian Slavery, 1850-1888*
 Luis Figueroa, *Sugar, Slavery, and Freedom in Nineteenth-Century Puerto Rico*
 Alejandro de la Fuente, *A Nation for All: Race, Inequality, and Politics in Twentieth-Century Cuba*
 Ada Ferrer, *Insurgent Cuba: Race, Nation, and Revolution, 1868-1898*
 Manuel Moreno Fraginals, *The Sugarmill*
 João José Reis, *Death is a Festival: Funeral Rites and Rebellion in Nineteenth-Century Brazil*
 Francisco Scarano, *Sugar and Slavery in Puerto Rico: The Plantation of Ponce, 1800-1850*
 Christopher Schmidt-Nowara, *Empire and Antislavery: Spain, Cuba, and Puerto Rico, 1833-1874*
 Rebecca J. Scott, *Degrees of Freedom: Louisiana and Cuba after Slavery*
 Rebecca J. Scott, *Slave Emancipation in Cuba: The Transition to Free Labor, 1865-1899*
 Emilia Viotti da Costa, *The Brazilian Empire: Myths and Histories*

Week 14. April 14: Presentations

Week 15. April 21: Presentations

Week 16. April 28: Library day

Week 17. May 5: Final papers due in class.