Course Description

In the midst of the Civil War’s sesquicentennial (150th anniversary), it seems only natural that we should pause and consider how the war has been – and should be – remembered.

In a small seminar setting, this course will look at Union and Confederate (northern and southern), black and white, male and female interpretations of the war between 1865 and the present. We will focus on how participants of the war understood their own lives, how their descendants chose to remember the war, and how historians have used these “memories” in crafting contemporary understandings of the Civil War. We will ask such questions as what is memory? Which interpretations of the war were most salient at different times? In what ways were memorialization efforts political? What has been left out of the popular memory of the war? Why? In order to do so, we will examine such topics as death culture in the 19th century, art, construction of personal memoirs, monument building, battlefield preservation, veterans’ associations, novels, paintings, and film depictions of the war.

Required Texts

All books are available for purchase at the bookstore. Many are also available more cheaply or used on Amazon.com, half.com, and bookfinder.com (among others).

Tony Horwitz, Confederates in the Attic
Robert Penn Warren, The Legacy of the Civil War
Stephen Crane, Red Badge of Courage
Michael Shaara, The Killer Angels
Alice Fahs & Joan Waugh, The Memory of the Civil War in American Culture (referred to as F&W)
Seth Grahame-Smith, Abraham Lincoln Vampire Hunter

There is also Course Packet of required readings (marked with * in the syllabus) for sale at the Copy Mat.

Disclaimer:
In the event of a major campus emergency, the requirements, deadlines and grading policies are subject to changes that may be required by a revised semester calendar. Any such changes in this course will be posted once the course resumes on Blackboard or can be obtained by contacting the professor via email.
Grading:

Discussion  60%
CV Paper  10%
Web presentation  10%
Lincoln Film Paper  20%

Classroom Policy:

Please be courteous and respectful. If you must leave early, sit where you will not disturb the professor or other students. **Turn off all cell phones. The ringing of a cell phone, texting, use of facebook, or any other non-course use of electronics will result in a pop quiz for the entire class.**

Cheating / Plagiarism:
Plagiarism refers to the reproduction of another's words or ideas without proper attribution. University Regulations contains further information on dishonesty. Plagiarism and other forms of academic dishonesty are serious offenses, and will be treated as such in this class. You are expected to produce your own work and to accurately cite all necessary materials. Cheating, plagiarism, and other dishonest practices will be punished as harshly as Purdue University policies allow. Any instances of academic dishonesty will result in a grade of F for the course and notification of the Dean of Students Office.

Course Requirements

Discussion
- This course meets twice a week and attendance at all class sessions and pre-arranged meetings with the instructor is required. In the case of an emergency, please notify the professor as soon as possible. **An unexcused absence will result in loss of credit.**
- This is an upper-level seminar, as such, 60% of your grade will rely on your participation (and therefore attendance).
- Attendance at all class sessions will result in a maximum grade of "C" for participation. Active and engaged participation is necessary to earn an "A" or "B".
- You should arrive at class prepared to participate in a lengthy, in-depth conversation about what you have read. To facilitate discussion, you will be expected to post **one discussion question** on blackboard by **8:00 am** on days with assigned readings. These questions should be analytical in nature (no “yes” or “no” questions) and will be included in your discussion grade.

Papers
- You will write two short papers (one 3-4 pages, another 5-6 pages). More instructions on each will follow.

In-class Web Presentation
- You will conduct a search of Civil War related sites on the internet and provide a short in-class presentation. More details will follow.
# Schedule of Discussions and Assignments

**HIST 476**

### Spring 2013

## Week 1: Introduction
- **Tues. Jan 8** Introductory Session
- **Thurs. Jan 10** What is Memory?

## Week 2: War in Memory
- **Tues. Jan 15** Thelen, “Memory and American History”*  
  McConnell, “Civil War and Historical Memory”*  
  Blight, “The Civil War Sesquicentennial”*  
- **Thurs. Jan 17** Warren, *Legacy of the Civil War*

## Week 3: Popular Conceptions of the War
- **Tues. Jan 22** Horwitz, *Confederates in the Attic*, p. 3-208  
- **Thurs. Jan 24** Horwitz, *Confederates in the Attic*, p. 209-390

## Week 4: Death and Remembrance
- **Tues. Jan 29** Faust, “A Riddle of Death”*  
  Neff, “One Interminable Grave Yard”*  
- **Thurs. Jan 31** Janney, “A Fitting Work”*  
  Blight, “The Origins of Memorial Day” (F&W)

## Week 5: 19th Century Fiction
- **Tues. Feb 5** Whitman, “O Captain, My Captain”*  
  Melville, “The Portent”*  
  Melville, “The Martyr”*  
  Bierce, “An Occurrence at Owl Creek”*  
- **Thurs. Feb 7** Crane, *Red Badge of Courage*

## Week 6: Veterans, Sons, & Daughters
- **Tues. Feb 12** Waugh, “Ulysses S. Grant” (F&W)  
  Gallagher, “Shaping Public Memory” (F&W)  
- **Thurs. Feb 14** McPherson, “Long-Legged Yankee Lies” (F&W)  
  Fahs, “The Feminized Civil War”*  

## Week 7: Monuments and Battlefields
- **Tues. Feb 19** Linenthal, “A Joint and Precious Heritage”*  
  Janney, “I Yield to No Man”*  
- **Thurs. Feb 21** Savage, “Common Soldiers”*  
  Brown, “The Monumental Legacy of Calhoun” (F&W)  
  Whites, “You Can’t Change History” (F&W)

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“Memory believes before knowing remembers. Believes longer than recollects, longer than knowing even wonders.”

*WILLIAM FAULKNER*
Schedule of Discussions and Assignments

HIST 476

Week 8: The War in Modern Fiction
Tues. Feb 26 Shaara, *Killer Angels*
Thurs. Feb 28 continue discussion of *Killer Angels* 
*CV papers due in class*

Week 9: The War on the Internet
Tues. Mar 5 In-class presentation of web findings
Thurs. Mar 7 Presentations continued

SPRING BREAK MARCH 11-15

Week 10: Modern Fiction and Film
Tues. Mar 19 Grahame-Smith, *Lincoln Vampire Hunter*
Thurs. Mar 21 Begin watching movie (TBA)

Week 11: Film Continued
Tues. Mar 26 Movie (TBA)
Thurs. Mar 28 Gallagher, “Emancipation and Reconciliation”*

Week 12: Ken Burns
Tues. April 2 Watch Selections from Burns
*Lincoln film paper due*
Thurs. April 4 Toplin, “Ken Burns”*
Foner, “Ken Burns”*

Week 13: The Centennial
Tues. April 9 Blight, “Prologue: Five Score Years Ago”*
Wiener, “Civil War, Cold War, Civil Rights” (F&W)
Thurs. April 11 Appomattox Court House NHP*
Janney, “War over the Shrine of Peace” (handed out in class)

Week 14: Preserving & Interpreting Battlefields
Tues. April 16 Sanfilippo, “America’s Civil War”*
Hennessy, “Interpreting the Civil War”*
Coski, “Historians under Fire”*

Thurs. April 18 Byrne, “We Have a Claim”*
Lawhon, “Gettysburg the Way the Soldiers Saw It”*
Lighthizer, “Miracle at Franklin”*

Week 15: The Sesquicentennial
Tues. April 23 Assessing the war 150 years later
Thurs. April 25 Where do we go from here?