Course Description:

This course examines the history of the United States from the Mexican War to the end of Reconstruction in 1877. Major themes to be covered include slavery and abolitionism, the emerging sectional crisis, the collapse of the Second Party System, the emergence of the Republican Party, secession and the onset of the Civil War, Northern and Southern strategies for the conduct of the war, the experience of war, emancipation, Northern victory and the reconstruction of the South, and the long-term consequences and significance of the Civil War in American History.

Course Objectives and Learning Outcomes:

Upon successful completion of the course, students will be able to:

- Demonstrate an understanding of the causes, conduct, and consequences of the Civil War.
- Appreciate the continuing role of the Civil War and Reconstruction in American historical memory.
- Synthesize historical facts and interpretations about the Civil War and Reconstruction in written essays.

Required Texts:

Bruce Levine, *Half Slave and Half Free: The Roots of Civil War*
James McPherson, *Crossroads of Freedom: Antietam*
James McPherson, *For Cause and Comrades: Why Men Fought the Civil War*
Eric Foner, *The Fiery Trial: Abraham Lincoln and American Slavery*
Eric Foner, *A Short History of Reconstruction*
Students are expected to attend all lectures, keep up in the assigned reading, and, where appropriate, participate in class discussion. **Attendance is imperative to doing well in the class.** Required texts are an integral part of the course. Information and interpretation in the texts may well constitute a part of the exams.

There will be three essay examinations in the course: two mid-terms and a final. The dates for the exams are indicated below on the weekly reading schedule. The dates for the mid-terms are subject to change, but any such change will be announced at least one week in advance. The final is scheduled in accordance with the official University Final Exam Schedule. The exams will cover only the material relevant to that portion of the course. In other words, the final will not be comprehensive. **Make-up examinations will only be given for extraordinary circumstances.** It is the student’s responsibility to note the dates for the exams and plan accordingly. If there is a legitimate reason for missing an exam (health, family emergency, or University sponsored or approved activity), the student should contact the instructor before hand if at all possible.

**Grading:**

Each exam will count 1/3 of the final grade.

The University of Utah seeks to provide equal access to its programs, services and activities for people with disabilities. If you will need accommodations in the class, reasonable prior notice needs to be given to the Center for Disability Services, 162 Olpin Union Building, 581-5020 (V/TDD). CDS will work with you and the instructor to make arrangements for accommodations. All written information in this course can be made available in alternative format with prior notification to the Center for Disability Services.

**Weekly Reading Schedule**

<table>
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<tr>
<th>Week</th>
<th>Reading Schedule</th>
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<tr>
<td>Week 1 (Jan. 11-15)</td>
<td>Levine, <em>Half Slave and Half Free</em> (Begin)</td>
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<td>Week 2 (Jan. 18-22)</td>
<td>Levine, <em>Half Slave and Half Free</em> (Continue)</td>
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<td><strong>Monday, Jan. 18</strong></td>
<td>Martin Luther King, Jr. Day Holiday</td>
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<td>Week 3 (Jan. 25-29)</td>
<td>Levine, <em>Half Slave and Half Free</em> (Complete)</td>
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<td>Week 4 (Feb. 1-5)</td>
<td>McPherson, <em>For Cause and Comrades</em> (Begin)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Week 5 (Feb. 8-12)</td>
<td>McPherson, <em>For Cause and Comrades</em> (Complete)</td>
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<td><strong>Friday, Feb. 12</strong></td>
<td>First Mid-Term Exam</td>
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Week 6 (Feb. 15-19)  McPherson, *Crossroads of Freedom* (Begin)

**Monday, Feb. 15**  President's Day Holiday

Week 7 (Feb. 22-26)  McPherson, *Crossroads of Freedom* (Complete)

Week 8 (Feb. 29-Mar. 4)  Foner, *The Fiery Trial* (Begin)

Week 9 (Mar. 7-11)  Foner, *The Fiery Trial* (Continue)

Week 10 (Mar. 14-18)  Spring Break

Week 11 (Mar. 21-25)  Foner, *The Fiery Trial* (Complete)

**Friday, Mar. 25**  Second Mid-Term Exam

Week 12 (Mar. 28-Apr. 1)  Foner, *Short History of Reconstruction* (Begin)

Week 13 (Apr. 4-8)  Foner, *Short History of Reconstruction* (Cont)

Week 14 (Apr. 11-15)  Foner, *Short History of Reconstruction* (Compl)

Week 15 (Apr. 18-22)

Week 16 (Apr. 25)

**Monday, May 2**

8:00-10:00  Final Examination