

LDST 345

FALL 2016

CIVIL WAR LEADERSHIP

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Introduction

This course explores the military and political leadership of the American Civil War of 1861-1865. It examines the war's political and social context, its military history, the evolving aims of the fighting, and the central actors and events that shape our understanding of leadership. The instructors, one a social psychologist and the other a Brigadier General and military historian, lecture or present material on occasion. For the most part, however, our class sessions are devoted to discussion of each day's reading.

A highlight of the semester will be a trip to Gettysburg leaving at 10:00 AM on Sunday, October 23 and returning by dinner time on Monday, October 24. This trip is required for all students.

Below is a calendar listing topics and readings for each day the class meets. The assigned books are: *Grant Moves South* by Bruce Catton; *Battle Cry of Freedom* by James McPherson; *The Killer Angels* by Michael Shaara; and *April 1865* by Jay Winik. Five chapters are posted on Course Reserve (CR). The CR number of each chapter is indicated below.

Course Requirements

1. All students are expected to attend class and to come fully prepared to participate in discussion.
2. Each week you should email both instructors brief—about 150 words—questions or comments on either Monday or Wednesday's reading. We will coordinate the email assignments in class. The comments are due at noon on the day of the class. We will respond to them, ordinarily within a day or two.

3. There will be an exam on the material from the first part of the course on Wednesday, October 5 and one on the material from the second part of the course on Wednesday, November 30.
4. A paper of approximately 15 pages is due on Friday, December 9, at 5:00 PM. We will meet with you to discuss your plan for the paper. You may write the paper by yourself, or in pairs. We will ask those of you who do your papers in pairs to submit assessments of the relative contributions of each member of the pair.

Your course grade will be based on the requirements above. Class participation, each exam, your emails and the paper are all weighted 20%.

Class Schedule and Readings

Monday, August 22

Introduction

Wednesday, August 24

Beginnings

James McPherson (1988) *Battle Cry of Freedom* (Oxford: Oxford University Press). Chapters 1 and 2.

Monday, August 29 (Odd numbers email)

Lurching Toward War

McPherson, Chapters 3 – 5.

Wednesday, August 31 (Even numbers email)

Davis and Lincoln

McPherson, Chapter 6

Shelby Foote (1958) *The Civil War: A Narrative* (New York: Random House), pp. 1-35. (CR6)

Monday, September 5 (Odd numbers email)**Secession**

McPherson, Chapters 7 - 9

Wednesday, September 7 (Even numbers email)**The Early Stages**

McPherson, Chapters 10 and 11

Monday, September 12 (Odd numbers email)**The War on Water, 1862**

McPherson, Chapters 12 and 13

Wednesday, September 14 (Even numbers email)**Grant Moves South, Part 1**

Bruce Catton (1960) *Grant Moves South* (Boston: Little, Brown) Chapters 1 - 4

Monday, September 19 (Odd numbers email)**Grant Moves South, Part 2**

Catton, Chapters 5 - 8

Wednesday, September 21 (Even numbers email)**Jackson, Lee, and McClellan**

McPherson, Chapters 14 and 15

Monday, September 26 (Odd numbers email)

The Emancipation Proclamation and Antietam

McPherson, Chapters 16 - 18

Wednesday, September 28 (Even numbers email)

Politics, National and International

McPherson, Chapters 19 and 20

Monday, October 3 (Odd numbers email)

Long Remember: The Summer of '63

McPherson, Chapter 21

Wednesday, October 5

Midterm Exam

October 7-12 Fall Break

Wednesday, October 12 (Even numbers email)

The Killer Angels, Day 1

Michael Shaara (1974) *The Killer Angels: A Novel* (New York: Random House) To the Reader; Forward; Monday, June 29, 1863; Wednesday, July 1, 1863: The First Day

Monday, October 17 (Odd numbers email)

The Killer Angels, Day 2

Shaara, Thursday, July 2, 1863: The Second Day

Wednesday, October 19 (Even numbers email)

The Killer Angels, Day 3

Shaara, Friday, July 3, 1863: The Third Day; Afterword

Sunday and Monday, October 23 and 24 GETTYSBURG TRIP

Wednesday, October 26 (Odd numbers email)

Grant and The Imperatives of Command

John Keegan, *The Mask of Command* (New York: Viking, 1987) Chapter 3 and Conclusion; McPherson, Chapter 22. (CR 3,4).

Monday, October 31 (Even numbers email)

If It Takes All Summer

McPherson, Chapters 23 – 25

Wednesday, November 2 (Odd numbers email)

Sherman and Victory

McPherson, Chapters 26 – 27

Monday, November 7 (Even numbers email)

Team of Rivals: The Political Genius of Abraham Lincoln

Doris Kearns Goodwin, *Team of Rivals: The Political Genius of Abraham Lincoln*, Chapters 24 and 25. (CR 2,)

Wednesday, November 9 (Odd numbers email)

April 1865, I

Jay Winik (2001) *April 1865: The Month That Saved America* (New York: Harper Collins) Introduction, Prelude, Chapters 1 and 2

Monday, November 14 (Even numbers email)

April 1865, II

Winik, Chapters 3 and 4

Wednesday, November 16 (Odd numbers email)**April 1865, III**

Winik, Chapters 5 and 6

Monday, November 21 (Even numbers email)**April 1865, IV**

McPherson, Chapters 28, Epilogue, Afterword; Winik, Chapters 7 and 8, Epilogue

Thanksgiving Vacation, November 23-November 28**Monday, November 28****Review and Conclusions****Wednesday, November 30****Second Half Exam**