

COLUMBIA UNIVERSITY
Professor E. Foner
Spring 2006

DEPARTMENT OF HISTORY
620 Fayerweather
Office Hours: Tues.: 2-4

History W3431y

THE UNITED STATES IN THE ERA OF SLAVERY AND
JACKSONIAN DEMOCRACY, 1815-1850

Required Readings: The readings below are required. The list has been given to Labyrinth Books, 536 West 112th Street. All readings are also available in the reserve reading room in Butler Library

Paper: Each student will write a paper of ten to twelve pages, comparing two works of history dealing with the same general subject. The paper is due in section during Week 14 of classes. A list of suggested books is available on the course website.

Sections: In addition to the lectures, undergraduate students are required to attend a weekly discussion section, directed by a graduate teaching assistant. Section hours and assignments will be arranged during the second week of classes. Failure to attend the sections regularly will have an adverse impact on your grade!
Graduate students are welcome to register for R credit, but not for E credit.

Part I: The Age of Jackson, 1815-1840

Week 1: (January 18): Introduction

Week 2: (January 23, 25): The Legacy of the American Revolution

Drew McCoy, The Elusive Republic, chs. 1-5
Sean Wilentz, Major Problems of the Early Republic, pp. 27-33, 63-65,
69-70, 118-19, 133-38

Week 3: (Jan. 30, Feb. 1): The Market Revolution and the Rise of the West

McCoy, The Elusive Republic, chs 6-8
Wilentz, Major Problems, pp. 8-14, 185-95

Week 4: (February 6, 8): Nation, Section, and Party

Harry Watson, Liberty and Power, chs. 1-4
Wilentz, Major Problems, pp. 337-41, 343-45

Week 5: (February 13, 15): The Second Party System

Watson, Liberty and Power, chs. 5-8
Wilentz, Major Problems, pp. 376-84, 396-99

Week 6: (February 20, 22): Political and Social Issues in the Age of Jackson

Anthony F. C. Wallace, The Long, Bitter Trail
Wilentz, Major Problems, pp. 385-91

Week 7: (Feb. 27, March 1): The Labor Question

Bruce Laurie, Artisans Into Workers, Intro., chs 1-3
Wilentz, Major Problems, pp. 202-09, 442-43

Week 8: Midterm Examination: Wednesday, March 8

No ta sections or readings this week, but class meets on March 6

Part II: Slavery, the Old South, and the Roots of Revolution

Week 9: (March 20, 22): Slavery, an Introduction

Ira Berlin, Generations of Captivity, chs. 1-4
Wilentz, Major Problems, pp. 240-46, 250-51

Week 10: (March 27, 29): The Slave System

Charles Joyner, Down by the Riverside, chs. 1-5
Wilentz, Major Problems, pp. 246-51, 257-58

Week 11: (April 3, 5): Planter and Slave

Eugene D. Genovese, Roll, Jordan, Roll, pp. 3-97, 161-284
Wilentz, Major Problems, pp. 239-40, 260-63, 488-96

Week 12: (April 10, 12): Religion and Reform

Paul Johnson, A Shopkeepers' Millennium
Wilentz, Major Problems, pp. 253-54, 425-30

Week 13: (April 17, 19): The Crusade Against Slavery

James B. Stewart, Holy Warriors, chs. 1-6
Wilentz, Major Problems, pp. 473-79, 482-84, 503-09

Week 14: (April 24, 26): Slavery, Expansion, and Politics

David Potter, The Impending Crisis, chs. 1-5
Wilentz, Major Problems, pp. 434-37, 525-28, 538-39, 544-47

Week 15: (May 1): Crisis and Compromise