

HCOL 185C, Fall 2018
HCOL Sophomore Seminar
War, Race, and Identity in America

Monday and Wednesday, 8:00-9:15
University Heights North 2 and 3, 034F

Instructor: Andy Buchanan
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Office Hours: Monday and Wednesday 1:00 to 3:00, and by appointment.

Seminar Description and Assignments.

This seminar will examine the intersection of war, race, and identity in America focused around two critical sites: firstly, the racialized othering of Native America from the wars of colonial conquest to the defeat of the Plains Indians; and secondly the Civil War, viewed as war for the overthrow of slavery *and* as it was transformed in memory into a valorous war between brothers in which questions of race were marginalized. These sites are critical to race and race relations in America, working to define who is, and who is not included with its racialized boundaries. Based in the discipline of History, this seminar will embrace approaches drawn from gender studies, critical race theory, anthropology and film studies.

Weekly seminar sessions will be based on discussion either of assigned readings (see below for details of required books) or on movies that students will watch before class. Written work will consist of two short reviews (one of a book, one of a movie) and a 15-page research paper on a topic agreed between student and instructor. Research work will be supported by classroom discussion on research techniques and by the production of an annotated bibliography and a written project outline.

Learning Outcomes

Participation in this seminar will help you to develop a deep understanding of the formation of race and racial hierarchy in the United States. In particular, we will work together to read, analyze and discuss complex and challenging material concerning race, race relations, and identity formation. This is particularly important as these issues—including the memorialization of the Civil War—have considerable contemporary significance, and in this regard the seminar will also strengthen your informed citizenship.

Your final paper will be a substantial piece of research. In working on it, you will develop skills including: formulating a research question/thesis statement; producing an annotated bibliography of primary and secondary sources; outlining/planning the arc of a paper; and writing the actual paper. We will schedule time at the end of the term for class

discussion on your research papers, so you will also learn how to make a short presentation of your work.

Participation

Participation of all students in class discussion is critical to the working of a seminar, and class activities will be structured to facilitate this. A successful seminar requires that all students come to class having read the assigned text and with at least a couple of ideas/questions that can contribute to the discussion. Everyone's views are valuable, and will be respected. Discussion will be based on the texts under discussion, and everyone should bring the relevant book or article with them.

Grading

Your final grade will include the following elements:

Research paper:	Outline/initial bibliography	20%
	Finished text	40%
Book review	:	20%
Participation in discussion over the semester:		20%

Assigned Reading

- David W. Blight, *Race and Reunion: The Civil War in American Memory*, (Belknap, 2002).
- Jill Lepore, *The Name of War: King Philip's War and the Origins of American Identity*, (Vintage, 1999).
- Lauret Savoy, *Trace: Memory, History, Race and the American Landscape*, (Counterpoint Press, 2015).

Additional readings will be posted Blackboard

Classroom Protocol

- Students are expected to attend and be prepared for ALL regularly scheduled classes.
- Students are expected to arrive on time and stay in class until the class period ends. If a student knows in advance that he/she will need to leave early, he/she should notify the instructor before the class period begins.
- Students are expected to treat faculty and fellow students with respect. For example, students must not disrupt class by leaving and reentering during class, must not distract class by making noise, and must be attentive to comments being made by the instructors and by peers.

Religious Holidays

If you wish to be excused from class because of a religious holiday, please email me about the holiday(s) by the end of the second week of class.

Students with Disabilities

In line with University policy, any student with a documented disability interested in utilizing accommodations should contact the Student Accessibility Services office. SAS works with students and faculty to create appropriate accommodations via an accommodation letter to professors sent as early as possible each semester. Contact SAS at A170 Living/Learning Center, phone 802-656-7753; https://www.uvm.edu/academicsuccess/student_accessibility_services

Calendar

Monday <u>August 27</u>	Introductions and Discussion <u>Reading</u> <i>Trace: Memory, History, Race and the American Landscape</i>
Wednesday <u>August 29</u>	<u>Discussion of Kevin Thornton’s movie <i>Death in the Wilderness</i></u> <u>Viewing</u> Before class, view Kevin Thornton’s movie <i>Death in the Wilderness</i> , link posted on Blackboard
Monday <u>September 3</u>	<u>Labor Day—No Class</u>
Wednesday September 5	<u>Discussion: <i>Trace: Memory, History, Race and the American Landscape</i></u> <u>Reading</u> <i>Trace: Memory, History, Race and the American Landscape</i>
Monday September 10	<u>How to do research</u> Meeting with Bailey Howe Librarian

Wednesday September 12	<u>Discussion: <i>The Name of War</i>, Part 1</u> <u>Reading</u> <i>The Name of War</i> , pages ix to 68.
<u>Monday</u> September 17	<u>How to decide on a research project</u> In the following three weeks, all students will have an individual meeting with Prof. Buchanan to discuss initial ideas for a research project. A written title, thesis statement and rough outline will be due in class on October 10.
Wednesday September 19	<u>Discussion: <i>The Name of War</i>, Part 2</u> <u>Reading</u> <i>The Name of War</i> , pages 71 to 121.
<u>Monday</u> September 24	<u>Discussion: <i>The Name of War</i>, Part 3</u> <u>Reading</u> <i>The Name of War</i> , pages 125 to 170. .
Wednesday September 26	<u>Discussion on movie <i>The Last of the Mohicans</i></u> <u>Before Class</u> Watch: <i>The Last of the Mohicans</i> (Michael Mann, 1992). You can either watch this individually or in groups.
Monday October 1	<u>Discussion: <i>The Name of War</i>, Part 4</u> <u>Reading</u> <i>The Name of War</i> , pages 173 to 240.
<u>Wednesday</u> October 3	<u>Discussion on movie <i>The Searchers</i></u> <u>Before Class</u> Watch: <i>The Searchers</i> (John Ford, 1956). You can either watch this individually or in groups.
Monday October 8	Fall Recess—No Class

<p>Wednesday <u>October 10</u></p>	<p><u>Short presentations of research topics/thesis statements</u></p> <p>Research topics, thesis statement and a (very) rough outline due today</p>
<p>Monday <u>October 15</u></p>	<p><u>Guest Seminar with Amy Godine</u></p> <p>Amy Godine on the “Black Woods” of the Adirondacks.</p> <p><u>Reading</u> Short article by Amy Godine</p>
<p>Wednesday <u>October 17</u></p>	<p><u>Memorializing John Brown</u></p> <p><u>Reading</u> Short article by Amy Godine</p>
<p>Monday <u>October 15</u></p>	<p><u>Discussion: <i>Race and Reunion</i>, Part 1</u></p> <p><u>Reading</u> <i>Race and Reunion</i>, pages 1-97.</p>
<p>Wednesday <u>October 17</u></p>	<p><u>Discussion on movie <i>Glory</i></u></p> <p><u>Before Class</u> Watch: <i>Glory</i> (Edward Zwick, 1989). You can either watch this individually or in groups.</p>
<p>Monday <u>October 22</u></p>	<p><u>Discussion: <i>Race and Reunion</i>, Part 2</u></p> <p><u>Reading</u> <i>Race and Reunion</i>, pages 98-210</p>
<p>Wednesday <u>October 24</u></p>	<p><u>Discussion: The challenge of writing a long paper</u></p>
<p>Monday <u>October 29</u></p>	<p><u>Discussion: <i>Race and Reunion</i>, Part 3</u></p> <p><u>Reading</u> <i>Race and Reunion</i>, pages 211-299</p>

Wednesday October 31	<p><u>Discussion: Contested memorialization of war and race in South Africa</u></p> <p><u>Reading</u> Daniel J. Walkowitz, “A cultural conundrum? Old monuments and new regimes: the Voortrekker Monument as symbol of Afrikaner power in a postapartheid South Africa,” in Daniel J. Walkowitz and Lisa Maya Knauer (eds.), <i>Contested Histories in Public Space: Memory, Race and Nation</i> (Duke University Press, 2009). This article is posted on Blackboard.</p>
Monday November 5	<p><u>Discussion: Race and Reunion, Part 4</u></p> <p><u>Reading</u> <i>Race and Reunion</i>, pages 300-397</p>
Wednesday November 7	<p><u>Discussion on movie <i>Birth of a Nation</i></u></p> <p><u>Before Class</u> Watch: <i>Birth of a Nation</i> (D.W. Griffith, 1915). You can either watch this individually or in groups.</p>
Monday November 12	<p><u>Memory, History, Race and the American Landscape</u></p> <p><u>Reading</u> <i>Trace: Memory, History, Race and the American Landscape</i></p>
Wednesday November 14	<p><u>Memory, History, Race and the American Landscape (continued)</u></p> <p><u>Reading</u> <i>Trace: Memory, History, Race and the American Landscape</i></p>
Monday-Friday November 19-23	Thanksgiving Recess—No Class
Monday November 26	<u>Presentation and discussion of term papers</u>
Wednesday November 28	<u>Presentation and discussion of term papers</u>
Monday December 3	<u>Presentation and discussion of term papers</u>
Wednesday December 5	<u>Presentation and discussion of term papers</u>