

HIS 402/AAS 402/AMS412

Princeton and Slavery

Fall 2017

Professor Martha A. Sandweiss

302 Dickinson Hall

Office hours: Weds. 9:30-11:30 a.m. and by appointment

This research seminar, based in the University Archives at Seeley Mudd Library, will focus on Princeton University's historical connections to the institution of slavery. The class will contribute to the new Princeton and Slavery Project website that details the slaveholding practices of Princeton's faculty, trustees, and students; investigates how funds derived from slave labor contributed to the early growth of the University; examines the ways in which students engaged some of the central intellectual and moral issues surrounding slavery; and looks at how the very southern orientation of the University shaped institutional culture. Students will write short research pieces for the website, and help expand its temporal focus to include an analysis of Princeton culture in the late nineteenth and early twentieth centuries.

Students will also participate in the Princeton and Slavery Symposium and related events Nov. 16-19, 2017, by leading historical walking tours of campus and live-blogging the public events.

Course Expectations:

Seminar Participation: 30% Students are expected to read homework assignments prior to class, to be active participants in class discussions, and to engage in focused research during the in-class workshops. Attendance is mandatory at all scheduled class times.

Campus tour, symposium assistance 25%

Website exhibition: 45%

Every student will create a website "exhibition" relating to some aspect of the Princeton and Slavery project. The exhibition will be a minimum of 1500-2000 words, with appropriate images, and will follow the scholarly guidelines of the Princeton and Slavery Project website.

Readings: The following books have been ordered for the course and are available at Labyrinth:

- Craig Steven Wilder, *Ebony & Ivy: Race, Slavery, and the Troubled History of America's Universities* (Bloomsbury Press, 2013)
- Alfred Brophy, *Reparations: Pro and Con* (Oxford, 2006)
- James Oliver Horton and Lois E. Horton, eds. *Slavery and Public History: The Tough Stuff of American Memory* (The New Press, 2006)
- Kirk Savage, *Standing Soldiers, Kneeling Slaves: Race, War and Monument in Nineteenth-Century America* (Princeton University Press, 1999)
- Anne Farrow and Joel Long, *Complicity: How the North Promoted, Prolonged, and Profited from Slavery* (Ballantine Books, 2005)
- Jerome Karabel, *The Chosen: The Hidden History of Admission and Exclusion at Harvard, Yale and Princeton* (Houghton Mifflin, 2005) § All other readings will be available through the hot links on the Blackboard version of the syllabus, under the Course Materials tab on the Blackboard site, or on the Princeton and Slavery Project website (URL TK).

Weekly Schedule:

Sept. 13: Introduction to the Princeton and Slavery Project

Please note assigned reading for the first day!

- Craig B. Hollander and Martha A. Sandweiss, "Princeton and Slavery: Holding the Center," (2015) (Blackboard)
- Introduction to the Princeton and Slavery website
- Crowdsourcing a research story: The Pawnee Bill Riot of 1899

Sept. 20: Universities and Slavery: An Overview

- Craig Steven Wilder, *Ebony and Ivy: Race, Slavery. And the Troubled History of American Universities*

Working together, we'll begin mapping out a strategy for finding post-bellum stories about race at Princeton to expand the Princeton and Slavery website. Possible topics include town/gown racial politics, eugenics, instruction about Civil War and Reconstruction history, admissions policies and racial science. Students will be introduced to various Mudd and online archives and begin to assemble a project archive.

Sept. 27 Slavery and Capitalism

- Anne Farrow and Joel Long, *Complicity: How the North Promoted, Prolonged, and Profited from Slavery*
- Seth Rockman, “Northern Manufacturers, Southern Slavery, and the Antebellum Origins of American Business Ethics,” (2011) [Blackboard]
- Sven Beckert, “Slavery and Capitalism,” *Chronicle of Higher Education* (Dec. 12, 2014)), [Blackboard]
- Selections from Ed Baptiste, *The Half Has Never Been Told: Slavery and the Making of American Capitalism* [Blackboard]
- Princeton & Slavery Project Website
 - Maeve Glass, “Moses Taylor Pyne and the Sugar Plantations of the Americas”
 - Michael R. Glass, “Princeton’s Founding Trustees”
 - Ryan Dukeman, “Fundraising for Nassau Hall”
 - R. Isabela Morales, “Joseph Clark in Virginia, 1802-1803”
 - Jessica R. Mack, “Princeton in the West Indies”
 - Ryan Dukeman, “Princeton’s Endowed Professorships”

Oct. 4: Eugenics and Racial Exclusion in the Gilded Age and Progressive Era

- Jerome Karabel, *The Chosen: The Hidden History of Exclusion at Harvard, Yale and Princeton*, esp. chapters 1-4, 8, 10, 13, 14, 15
- Thomas C. Leonard, *Illiberal Reformers: Race, Eugenics, and American Economics in the Progressive Era* (Princeton University Press, 2015), [Selection on Blackboard]
- <http://harvardmagazine.com/2016/03/harvards-eugenics-era>
<http://www.nytimes.com/1995/01/15/magazine/the-great-ivy-league-nude-posture-photo-scandal.html?pagewanted=all>
- Edwin Grant Conklin, *Heredity and Environment in the Development of Men* (1922), chapters 5 and 6 [Selections on Blackboard]

Conversation with Prof. Tim Leonard

Oct. 11: Princeton and its Environs: Slavery and Race in a Northern State

- Albert E. Hinds Memorial Walking Tour <https://www.princetonhistory.org/tour/>

- Melvin McCray (film), “Looking Back: Reflections of Black Princeton Alumni”
<https://vimeo.com/90956635>
- Princeton & Slavery Project Website
 - Joseph Yannielli, “Student Origins” and Heat Map
 - Rina Azumi, “The Witherspoon-Jackson Community”
 - R. Isabela Morales, “Ann Maria Davison’s ‘Visit to the Colored People of Princeton’”
 - R. Isabela Morales, “The Riot of 1846”
 - Joseph Yannielli, “The Attempted Lynching of Silas Tripp”
 - Joseph Yannielli, “White Supremacy at Commencement, 1836”
 - Samuel Niu, “The Whig-Clisophic Society and Slavery”
 - Bryan LaPointe, “A Southern Family at Princeton”
 - Geneva Smith, “Legislating Slavery in New Jersey”
 - Gregory Nobles, “Betsey Stockton”

Walking tour of Princeton’s historical African American community with Shirley Satterfield, Witherspoon-Jackson Historical and Cultural Society

Oct. 18: Developing a Princeton and Slavery Walking Tour

- Princeton & Slavery Project Website
 - Kathryn Fleuhr, “Prospect Farm”
 - R. Isabela Morales, “Slavery at the President’s House”
 - R. Isabela Morales, “Princeton’s Slaveholding Presidents”
 - Richard Anderson, “Princeton’s Civil War Memorial”
 - Sven Henningson, “The Potter Family of Prospect and Palmer Houses”
 - Julia Grummitt, “Joseph Henry and Sam Parker”
 - Memorial Landscape map

Workshop with Prof. Brian Herrera’s THR 340 class and colleagues from the McCarter Theater. We will fine-tune the walking tours of campus we’ll be giving on Nov. 18 and get an inside perspective on the McCarter Princeton and Slavery Plays to share with the public.

Oct. 25: RESEARCH week

Paper prospectus due Friday, Oct. 27. Individual meetings with the Professor to be scheduled.

Fall Break

Nov. 8: Slavery, Monuments, and the Politics of Public Art

- Kirk Savage, *Standing Soldiers, Kneeling Slaves: Race, War and Monument in Nineteenth-Century America*
- Selected articles on the current Civil War monument wars. [Blackboard]

The class will visit the newly installed work by Titus Kaphar, situated in front of Maclean House, and be introduced to his project by Museum curator Mitra Abbaspour.

Nov. 15: The Challenges of Slavery as a Problem of Public History

- James Oliver Horton and Lois E. Horton, eds. *Slavery and Public History: The Tough Stuff of American Memory*

How will we promote the Princeton and Slavery Project as public history? How do we keep in mind the different sensitivities of our multiple audiences? Teal Arcadi, social media manager for the project, will work with the class to develop a strategy for covering the symposium and related events.

Princeton and Slavery Symposium events (attendance required) Nov. 16-19

Students in the class will receive tickets to all ticketed events

Thurs. Nov. 16

5:30 p.m. Talk by artist Titus Kaphar (McCosh 10)

Friday, Nov. 17

2:00 p.m. World premiere of new documentary film produced and directed by Melvin McCray for the Princeton and Slavery Project (Garden Theater)

4:30 p.m. Princeton and Slavery Symposium Keynote address: Noble Laureate Toni Morrison, introduced by American Poet Laureate Traci K. Smith (Richardson Auditorium)

Saturday, Nov. 18

9:00 a.m. – 3:00 p.m. The Princeton and Slavery Project Symposium (McCosh 10)

4:00 p.m. World premiere, The Princeton and Slavery Plays (McCarter Theatre)

Sunday, Nov. 19

11:00 a.m. [Film] repeat screening (Garden Theater)

2:00 p.m. The Princeton and Slavery Plays, a repeat performance followed by a talk-back panel (McCarter Theater)

Nov. 29: The Princeton and Slavery Project in Comparative Perspective

- “Slavery and Justice: Report of the Brown University Steering Committee on Slavery and Justice,” http://www.brown.edu/Research/Slavery_Justice/
- “Georgetown University: Slavery, Memory and Reconciliation,” <http://slavery.georgetown.edu/>
- Antony Dugdale, J. J. Fueser and J. Celso Castro Alves, “Yale, Slavery, and Abolition” <http://www.yaleslavery.org/>
- “Knowing Our History: African American Slavery and the University of Maryland” <http://www.newsdesk.umd.edu/pdf/KnowingOurHistory.pdf>
- “Harvard and Slavery: Seeking a Forgotten History” website with videos and a publication based on student research: <http://www.harvardandslavery.com/>
- “Slavery and the making of the University”:
<http://www.lib.unc.edu/mss/exhibits/slavery/>
- “Continuing the Conversation: President Ruscio’s Message to the Community”:
<http://www.wlu.edu/presidents-office/messages-to-the-community/president-ruscios-july-8-2014-message>
- “See the Stripes,” [Clemson University] <http://seestripescu.org/>
- “The University of Mississippi Slavery Research Group,”
<http://slaveryresearchgroup.olemiss.edu/>

**** Friday, Nov. 31. Draft of research stories due**

Dec. 6: Reparations: Developing a Princeton response.

- Alfred L. Brophy, *Reparations: Pro and Con* (Oxford University Press, 2006)
- Ta-Nehisi Coates, “The Case for Reparations” (*The Atlantic*, May 2014):
<http://www.theatlantic.com/features/archive/2014/05/the-case-for-reparations/361631/>
- PS videos

Dec. 13: Research paper presentations.

Dean's Date: Tuesday, Jan. 16

Final drafts of website stories due, with illustrations