

HIS 402/AAS 402/AMS412

Princeton and Slavery
Spring 2016

Professor Martha A. Sandweiss
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Office hours: Tuesday, 2-4 p.m. and by appointment

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Office hours: Monday, 1-3 p.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 assist the Princeton and Slavery Project in creating a website that details the slaveholding practices of Princeton's faculty, trustees, and students; investigates whether 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. This website will present the first full investigation of slavery's impact on Princeton.

Students will work both independently and collaboratively. Working together, students will document slavery in the town of Princeton, and contribute to a database documenting the lives of Princeton's southern students. Working independently, students will define their own research projects. These projects will be presented in the form of "exhibitions" that can be mounted on the Princeton and Slavery website.

Course Expectations:

Seminar Participation: 20%

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. All students are encouraged to make an appointment to meet individually with one or both of the instructors at least once during the semester.

Short research projects: 25%

Working in tandem with other students, students will document the places of origin for Princeton students (1746-1865) for a dynamic map of the student population, and gather information on the local practice of slavery in the town of Princeton. These projects will focus less on crafting interpretive narratives than on collecting data that can be incorporated into various features of the website.

Website exhibitions:

Short exhibition: 20%

Long exhibition: 35%

Every student will create two website “exhibitions,” each of which relates to some aspect of the Princeton and Slavery project. The short exhibition will be approximately 750 words long, with appropriate images and references. The long exhibition will be approximately 1500 – 2000 words long, with appropriate images and references.

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)
- Thomas Jefferson Wertenbaker, *Princeton, 1746-1896* (1946; Princeton, 1996)
- 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)

You will receive a free copy of *College As It Is or, The Collegian's Manual in 1853* by James B. Henry and Christian H. Scharff. Digital copies of the course books are available through the library website. All other readings will be available through the hot links on the Blackboard version of the syllabus or under the Course Materials tab on the Blackboard site.



Drawing in the autograph book of William B. Lane, '1861

Feb. 1: Introduction and Course Expectations

Please note assigned reading for the first day!

- Craig B. Hollander and Martha A. Sandweiss, "Princeton and Slavery: Holding the Center" (2015) [Blackboard]

Feb. 3: Research workshop: Tracking Princeton Students

In-class workshop on how to use digital tools and University records to uncover biographical information on early Princeton students.

- Thomas Jefferson Wertenbaker, *Princeton: 1746-1896*, chapters 1-3

Feb. 8: Slavery and the American University

- Craig Steven Wilder, *Ebony and Ivy: Race, Slavery, and the Troubled History of American Universities*, chapters 1-4

Feb. 10: Slavery and the American University

- Craig Stephen Wilder, *Ebony and Ivy*, chapters 5-8, epilogue

Feb. 15: Reckoning with Slavery and the American University

- *Slavery and Justice: Report of the Brown University Steering Committee on Slavery and Justice*, http://www.brown.edu/Research/Slavery_Justice/
- 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* [Blackboard]

- *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* [University of North Carolina], <http://exhibits.lib.unc.edu/exhibits/show/slavery>
- “Continuing the Conversation: President Ruscio’s Message to the Community” [Washington and Lee University], <http://www.wlu.edu/presidents-office/messages-to-the-community/president-ruscios-july-8-2014-message>
- *See the Stripes* [Clemson University], <http://seestripescu.org/>

Feb. 17: Research Workshop: Tracking Princeton Students (2)

Assessment of data collected to document places of origin for Princeton students and class workshop on filling research gaps.

*****Research assignment on antebellum Princeton students due in class.

Feb. 22: Slavery in New Jersey

- James Gigantino, “Trading in New Jersey Souls: New Jersey and the Interstate Slave Trade,” *Pennsylvania History* (Summer 2010), <http://muse.jhu.edu/journals/pnh/summary/v077/77.3.gigantino.html>
- James Gigantino, “‘The Whole North is Not Abolitionized’: Slavery’s Slow Death in New Jersey, 1830-1860,” *Journal of the Early Republic* (Fall 2014), http://muse.jhu.edu/journals/journal_of_the_early_republic/v034/34.3.gigantino.html
- Timothy Hack, “Janus-Faced: Post-Revolutionary Slavery in East and West Jersey, 1784-1804,” *New Jersey History* (Summer 2012) <http://njh.libraries.rutgers.edu/index.php/njh/article/viewFile/1755/3194>

Feb. 24: The Problem of Slavery at the College of New Jersey

- Samuel J. Bayard, *A Sketch of the Life of Commodore Robert F. Stockton* (New York: Derby & Jackson, 1856), 39-47 [Blackboard]
- Douglas R. Egerton, “‘Its Origin Is Not a Little Curious’: A New Look at the American Colonization Society,” *Journal of the Early Republic*, 5 (Winter, 1985) <http://www.jstor.org/stable/3123062>
- Nicholas Guyatt, “‘The Outskirts of Our Happiness’: Race and the Lure of Colonization in the Early Republic,” *Journal of American History* (March 2009), <http://jah.oxfordjournals.org/content/95/4/986>
- Samuel Stanhope Smith, Lecture XXI “On the Relation of Master and Servant,” from *The Lectures...* (1812) [Blackboard]

Feb. 29: The College of New Jersey during the Antebellum Period

- Thomas Balcerski, “Under These Classic Shades Together: Intimate Male Friendships at the Antebellum College of New Jersey,” *Pennsylvania History* (Spring 2013), <http://www.jstor.org/stable/10.5325/pennhistory.80.2.0169>

- James Buchanan Henry and Christian Henry Scharff, *College As It Is*, pp. xi-xxxiii; 39-82; 126-133; and 246-260.
- John Witherspoon Woods to Marianne Woods, 25 Dec. 1835 [Blackboard]
- Thomas Jefferson Wertebaker, *Princeton*, chapters 4-8.

March 2: Research Workshop: Tracking Enslaved People in Princeton

Introduction to historical newspaper research and capture of online documents.

March 7: A Southern Oasis in the North

- Margaret Abruzzo, "A Humane Master – An Oblidging Neighbor—A True Philanthropist': Slavery, Cruelty and Moral Philosophy," *Princeton University Library Chronicle* 66 (Spring, 2005) [Blackboard]
- Lolita Buckner-Inniss, "James Collins Johnson and the Princeton Fugitive Slave Case" [Blackboard]
- James H. Moorhead, "Slavery, Race and Gender at Princeton Seminary: The Pre-Civil War Era," *Theology Today* (Oct., 2012), <http://tj.sagepub.com/content/69/3/274>
- Sean Wilentz, "Princeton and the Controversies over Slavery," *Journal of Presbyterian History* (Fall/Winter, 2007), <http://www.jstor.org/stable/23339113>
- "English Strictures on American Slavery," *The Nassau Monthly*, June 1843 [Blackboard]
- Ana Maria Davison journal entries (1855) [Blackboard]

March 9: Research workshop: Designing Digital Exhibitions

Discussion of how to turn academic research and digital documents into an online exhibition.

- Trevor Owens, "A Draft Style Guide for Digital Collection Hypertexts," <http://www.trevorowens.org/2014/02/a-draft-style-guide-for-digital-collection-hypertexts/>
- Sample exhibits from the University of Michigan Library, <http://www.lib.umich.edu/online-exhibits/>
- Student research papers by Kathryn Fleuhr, Brett Diehl and Stephen Li. [Blackboard]

****Come to class with prospectus for short online exhibition.

Spring break

March 21: Introduction to Omeka: Building the Princeton and Slavery Website

- Daniel J. Cohen and Roy Rosenzweig, "Designing for the History Web," <http://chnm.gmu.edu/digitalhistory/designing/>

March 23: Evaluating Digital History Projects

In-class analysis of websites from the *Slavery and Abolition Portal*, <http://slavery.yale.edu/links/databases/external>

- *Visualizing Emancipation*, <http://dsl.richmond.edu/emancipation/>
- Edward L. Ayers and Scott Nesbit, "Seeing Emancipation: Scale and Freedom in the American South," *Journal of the Civil War Era* (March 2011), http://muse.jhu.edu/journals/journal_of_the_civil_war_era/summary/v001/1.1.ayers.html
- Joseph Yannielli, "Follow the Money," *Digital Histories @ Yale*, <http://digitalhistories.yctf.org/2013/03/01/follow-the-money/>
- Abigail Nye, "Historypin," *American Archivist Reviews*, <http://www2.archivists.org/sites/all/files/HistoryPin.pdf>
- Jeffrey W. McClurken, "Digital History Reviews," <http://jah.oah.org/submit/digital-history-reviews/>

March 28: Presentation and Peer Review of Short Online Exhibitions

***** Short online exhibition due in class.

March 30: American Slavery, American Capitalism

- Sven Beckert, "Slavery and Capitalism," *Chronicle of Higher Education* (Dec. 12, 2014), <http://chronicle.com/article/SlaveryCapitalism/150787/>
- Selections from Edward E. Baptist, *The Half Has Never Been Told: Slavery and the Making of American Capitalism* [Blackboard]
- Seth Rockman, "Northern Manufacturers, Southern Slavery, and the Antebellum Origins of American Business Ethics" (2011) [Blackboard]

April 4: Princeton's (Much Too) Civil War and History Lab

- W. Barksdale Maynard, "Princeton in the Confederacy's Service," *Princeton Alumni Weekly* (March 23, 2011), <http://paw.princeton.edu/issues/2011/03/23/pages/4092/>
- David Kaufman's Oration, described in the *Trenton State Gazette*, "Commencement of the College of New Jersey" (June 25, 1850) [Blackboard]
In-class use of autograph books from Civil War era.

April 6: Slavery and Public History

- James Oliver Horton and Lois E. Horton (eds.), *Slavery and Public History: The Tough Stuff of American Memory*, chapters 1-5

*****PROSPECTUS FOR FINAL EXHIBITION DUE.** You must submit a brief prospectus that outlines the topic of your final exhibition and clarifies its importance to the Princeton and Slavery website. This prospectus should also include a bibliography indicating your sources and a selection of possible images to use online.

April 11: Reparations for Slavery

- 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/>
- Watch the film by Katrina Brown, *Traces of the Trade* [Blackboard]

April 13: Slavery and Public History, cont.

Site visits to campus memorials

- Horton and Horton, *Slavery and Public History*, chapter 6-11

April 18: Legacies of Slavery at Princeton

- Jehu Orr, Class of 1849, "Historical Address" (1906): http://mdah.state.ms.us/arrec/digital_archives/series/broadsides/detail/115922-broadside-01.jpg
- Gary Gerstle, "Race and Nation in the Thought and Politics of Woodrow Wilson," http://as.vanderbilt.edu/history/gerstle_publications/Race_and_Nation_In_Thought.pdf
- Watch the film *Looking Back: Reflections of Black Princeton Alumni*, <http://blogs.princeton.edu/reelmudd/2010/10/black-alumni-looking-back-1996/>
- William K. Selden and Neil L. Rudenstine, *The Center for African American Studies in Stanhope Hall*, <http://www.princeton.edu/pr/pub/stanhope/PU-stanhopehall.pdf>

April 20: The African American Experience in Princeton

Walking tour of the John St. Neighborhood

April 25: Research Presentations/Peer Review

***ROUGH DRAFTS of Final Exhibition projects due

April 27: Research Presentations/Peer Review

May 10: Dean's Date

***FINAL DRAFTS of Exhibition Projects due

