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:


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.
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

- 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/](http://www.harvardandslavery.com/)
- *Slavery and the Making of the University* [University of North Carolina], [http://exhibits.lib.unc.edu/exhibits/show/slavery](http://exhibits.lib.unc.edu/exhibits/show/slavery)
- *See the Stripes* [Clemson University], [http://seestripescu.org/](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](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](http://muse.jhu.edu/journals/journal_of_the_early_republic/v034/34.3.gigantino.html)

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

- 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**

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
- Lolita Buckner-Inniss, “James Collins Johnson and the Princeton Fugitive Slave Case” [Blackboard]
- “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.
- 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
March 23: Evaluating Digital History Projects

- In-class analysis of websites from the *Slavery and Abolition Portal*, [http://slavery.yale.edu/links/databases/external](http://slavery.yale.edu/links/databases/external)
- *Visualizing Emancipation*, [http://dsl.richmond.edu/emancipation/](http://dsl.richmond.edu/emancipation/)
- Joseph Yannielli, “Follow the Money,” *Digital Histories @ Yale*, [http://digitalhistories.yctl.org/2013/03/01/follow-the-money/](http://digitalhistories.yctl.org/2013/03/01/follow-the-money/)

March 28: Presentation and Peer Review of Short Online Exhibitions

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

March 30: American Slavery, American Capitalism


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

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

- 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/broadside/detail/115922-broadside-01.jpg](http://mdah.state.ms.us/arrec/digital_archives/series/broadside/detail/115922-broadside-01.jpg)

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***