

# History 363: Civil War and Reconstruction Syllabus

**Dr. Theodore J. Karamanski**

## Books

There are three required books. Harriet Beecher Stowe's novel, *Uncle Tom's Cabin* will be our first reading and needs to be read by October 4, although we will discuss some of the early chapters even earlier. Michael Shaara's *The Killer Angels* is our second book it should be read by October 20. The book *Battle Cry of Freedom* by James McPherson is a background text and will be useful for study purposes.

Occasionally I will send you brief documents via e-mail that I will expect you to read and be prepared to discuss in class.

## Grading

Your grade will be based upon three measurements:

\*class participation (especially discussion of books), 15%.

\*quizzes, (three in class quizzes, 15% each) 45%. The quizzes will be in class on September 22, October 27, and on the final exam scheduled date of December 15 at 9:00 AM.

\*research paper, 40%.

## Research Paper

Each student will prepare an 8-12 page, word processed, double spaced, research paper. The paper will be based on at least two primary sources (eye witness accounts) as well as secondary scholarship. Be careful to avoid plagiarism (taking the ideas or words of another and presenting them as your own). Use quotations when you use the words of another writer and footnotes when you are presenting ideas taken from another text. You should be aware that the College of Arts and Sciences subscribes to Turnitin in order to catch purchased research papers. The penalty for plagiarism will be the grade of "F" on the assignment. The topic you choose may relate to any subject related to the Civil War era. A single paragraph description, with title, sources, and preliminary bibliography is due by November 1. The paper is due November 29. Late papers will be reduced a grade level. No papers will be accepted after December 8. The research paper will count for 40% of your final grade.

## Contact

My office is Crown 517. I encourage you to speak with me about your research paper. My office hours are on Tuesday and Thursday. On Tuesdays I'll be in the office from 8:30am to 2:00pm and on Thursdays the same as well as after class from 3:45-5:00pm. Occasionally I will be called away to a meeting during those times so it is best to make an email appointment. I can be reached at [tkarama@luc.edu](mailto:tkarama@luc.edu). Please identify your message as related to History 363 so it is not misidentified as spam.

Sample Draft Syllabus

## Civil War Class Schedule

September 22 Quiz No.1.  
October 4 Complete reading *Uncle Tom's Cabin*  
October 10-11 Mid-semester break.  
October 20 Complete reading *The Killer Angels*  
October 27 Quiz No.2  
November 1 Research paper proposal due.  
November 23-26 Thanksgiving Break.  
November 29 research paper due.  
December 8 Last Day of Class (no more late papers).  
December 15 Quiz No.3.

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