

**HIS 213: Topics in American History: The Slave Narratives**  
**Spring 2021 Tuesdays and Thursdays 9:30am-10:45am**  
**Online**

**Professor:** Dr. Warren Miltee, Jr.  
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Office Hours: by appointment

**Bulletin Description:** Selected topics in American history at an introductory level. Topics may vary from colonial era through the twentieth century. This course stresses the analysis and interpretation of primary sources.

**Course Description:** This course will explore the history of human bondage and the pre-1865 United States through the narratives of enslaved people. We will read several narratives authored by enslaved men and women in order to evaluate the impact of human bondage on the lives of enslaved persons as well as those who lived around them. Through a careful reading of these narratives, students will learn about important features of slave narratives as a genre of biography. They will also learn how to evaluate these narratives as primary historical sources.

**Student Learning Outcomes:**

At the completion of this course, the student will be able to:

- Use a historical approach to analyze and contextualize primary and secondary sources representing divergent perspectives.
- Use evidence to interpret the past coherently, orally and/or in writing.
- Find, interpret, and evaluate information on diverse cultures.
- Use diverse cultural frames of reference and alternative perspectives to analyze issues.

**Academic Integrity Policy:** Each student is required to sign the Academic Integrity Policy on all major work submitted for the course. Refer to the following URL: <https://osrr.uncg.edu/academic-integrity/>.

**Accommodations:** UNCG seeks to comply fully with the American with Disabilities Act (ADA). Students requesting accommodations based on a disability must be registered with the Office of Accessibility Resources and Services (OARS) in 215 Elliott University Center, (336) 334-5440, [ods.uncg.edu](http://ods.uncg.edu).

**Required Texts:**

Frederick Douglass, *Narrative of the Life of Frederick Douglass, An American Slave* (1845)

<https://www.docsouth.unc.edu/neh/douglass/douglass.html>

Solomon Northup, *Twelve Years a Slave* (1853)

<https://www.docsouth.unc.edu/fpn/northup/northup.html>

William Wells Brown, *Narrative of William W. Brown, A Fugitive Slave* (1847)

<https://www.docsouth.unc.edu/neh/brown47/brown47.html>

William Craft, *Running a Thousand Miles for Freedom* (1860)

<https://www.docsouth.unc.edu/neh/craft/craft.html>

Harriet Jacobs, *Incidents in the Life of a Slave Girl* (1861)

<https://www.docsouth.unc.edu/fpn/jacobs/jacobs.html>

**Grade Breakdown:**

Participation	35%
Short Writings	35%
Readings Questions	30%

**Grade Scale:** 100-93 A, 92-90 A-, 89-87 B+, 86-83 B, 82-80 B-, 79-77 C+, 76-73 C, 72-70 C-, 69-67 D+, 66-63 D, 62-60 D-, 59-Below F