



The mission of Concord University is to provide quality, liberal arts-based education, to foster scholarly and creative activities and to serve the regional community (<http://www.concord.edu/academics/>).

## **HIST 430: Capstone Seminar: Civil War Soldiers**

**Course CRN #: 20430 section: 1**

**Spring 2019**

**Credit Hours: 3**

**Prerequisites: none**

**Course Time (if applicable): W 2:00-4:30**

**Building and Room Number: ADMIN 330**

**Dr. Jonathan Berkey**

**Office Location: 234 Marsh Hall**

**Office Hours: MWF 9:30-10:30 AM;  
TR 11 AM-12 PM & by appointment**

**Email: [berkeyj@concord.edu](mailto:berkeyj@concord.edu)**

**Phone: 304-384-5200**

**Office Fax: 304-384-6091**

**College/Department Website:  
<http://www.concord.edu/humanities>**

**Course Description/Rationale:** Welcome to HIST 430, the capstone course for history majors. Throughout this course we will gain a greater understanding of the men (and women) who fought in the American Civil War. We will investigate their motives for enlisting and continuing to fight, their experiences in camp and combat, their lives after the war, and how they chose to remember the war and their experiences. We will also become familiar with the key questions that have shaped the historiography of the Civil War soldier and the historians who have asked them.

**Course Management System** (Blackboard/Moodle or other systems): Blackboard

**Text requirements (listed in the order that they are assigned):**

Paul A. Cimballa, *Soldiers North and South: The Everyday Experiences of Men Who Fought America's Civil War* (New York: Fordham University Press, 2010) ISBN: 978-0-8232-3392-2

Earl J. Hess, *The Union Soldier in Battle: Enduring the Ordeal of Combat* (Lawrence: University Press of Kansas, 1997) ISBN: 9780700614219

DeAnne Blanton and Lauren M. Cook, *They Fought Like Demons: Women Soldiers in the Civil War* (New York: Vintage Books, 2002) ISBN: 1-4000-3315-2

Aaron Sheehan-Dean, *Why Confederates Fought: Family and Nation in Civil War Virginia* (Chapel Hill, N.C.: University of North Carolina Press, 2007) ISBN: 978-0-8078-6184-4

Douglas R. Egerton, *Thunder at the Gates: The Black Civil War Regiments That Redeemed America* (New York: Basic Books, 2016) ISBN: 9780465096640

Brian Matthew Jordan, *Marching Home: Union Veterans and Their Unending Civil War* (New York: Liveright Publishing Corporation, 2014) ISBN: 9781631491467

**Concord University Educational Goal(s)** HIST 430 addresses several of Concord University's educational goals, including:

Knowledge (3): "An ability to interpret events and trends within historical contexts," (5): "A recognition of the complex interactions between organisms, including human beings, and their environments."

Skills 1: "Effective inter-communication skills and literacy adapted as needed for the demands of various kinds of discourse:

- listening and speaking
- reading and writing
- numeracy
- graphic communication
- non-verbal communication
- media and technological literacy"

Skills 3: "An ability to employ appropriate methods and technologies for conducting empirical and scholarly research, to interpret research findings, and to use insights gained from such research as a basis for informed decision making."

### **Specific Learning Outcomes**

After taking this course, you will be able to:

- Analyze the historiography of Civil War soldiers.
- Conduct scholarly research on one facet of Civil War soldiers.
- Critique scholarly studies of Civil War soldiers.
- Lead effective discussions on scholarly studies of Civil War soldiers.

### **Course Requirements**

**Book Reviews/Discussion Leadership:** For each book that we read, you will write a 3-page book review due at the beginning of class on the day that we discuss the book. A guide is available on Blackboard. If you are leading discussion, you do not need to write a review of that book. (6 @ 5%=30%)

**Participation:** The class will be evaluated on each discussion session as a single unit. Each of you should strive to ensure that the discussion is relevant to the topic and involves most of the class members. The class should strive to ensure that one or two class members do not dominate discussion. (10%)

**Research Process:** You will turn in topic choices, a research proposal, an outline, and a rough draft of your research paper as part of your preparation for your research paper. (15%)

**Research Paper:** You will write a 15-20-page research paper on a topic of your choice (subject to my approval) relating to Civil War soldiers. This paper will include discussions of relevant historiography and methodology. A guide is available on Blackboard. (25%)

**Presentation:** You will deliver a 5-minute presentation on your paper's main argument, sources, and contribution to the historiography of Civil War soldiers. A guide is available on Blackboard. (10%)

**Critique:** You will write a 3-page critique of a fellow student's paper, discussing its strengths, weaknesses, argument, and use of sources. A guide is available on Blackboard. (10%)

### **Grading Policy and Scale, Make-up Policy, Late Work**

All assignments will be graded according to the following scale:

A: 100-90; B: 89-80; C: 79-70; D: 69-60; F: below 60

If a student must miss an in-class assignment, he or she must contact the instructor *before* the day of the assignment, or as soon as reasonably possible after the day of the assignment. Allowance of make-up work is at the discretion of the instructor. Any assignment that is not completed by the due date is penalized 10 points per day.

### **Course Timeline (Schedule of Assignments/Assessments/Presentations)**

See Blackboard (<https://elearn.concord.edu:8443/>)

### **Accessibility/Accommodations:**

Concord University is committed to responding to the needs of students with disabilities as defined by the Americans with Disabilities Act. Please inform your instructor at the beginning of the class semester if you have a disability and are requesting accommodations. It is your responsibility to self-disclose that you are requesting accommodations. The University and instructor will provide you with a reasonable accommodation. You should register with CU's Disability Services Office, located in the Athens campus Jerry and Jean Beasley Student Center, Bottom Floor, across from the Campus Post Office. The Disability Services Office phone is 304-384-6086 or you can email the Director,

Nancy Ellison, at [nellison@concord.edu](mailto:nellison@concord.edu) for assistance.

### **Academic Dishonesty**

Academic dishonesty is morally unacceptable as well as destructive to the learning and teaching atmosphere. Academic dishonesty includes the giving or receiving of improper help on examinations or assignments, falsifying documents, and plagiarism (the act of stealing and using, as one's own, the ideas or the expression of the ideas of another). Such dishonesty can lead to a variety of penalties — including but not limited to failure of assignment, failure of course, loss of institutional privileges, or dismissal from the University. (See University Catalog Academic Policies and Procedures.)

### **Concord University Honor Code**

A Concord University Honor Code was approved by students, staff, faculty, administration, and the CU Board of Governors. The Code states:

*"As a member of the Concord University Community I will act with honesty and integrity in accordance with our fundamental principles and I will respect myself and others while challenging them to do the same."*

The Honor Code is intended to unite the Concord community behind a culture of honesty, integrity, and civility.

### **Class/Online Attendance Policy**

Regular class attendance is part of a student's academic obligation at Concord. Irregular attendance may affect academic performance adversely and is detrimental to the atmosphere of a class. (See University Catalog Academic Policies and Procedures.) This is a capstone course that meets once a week. Students are expected to attend every class. *Students with excessive absences will be dropped from or fail the course.*

### **Emergency Alert System**

In an effort to increase safety and security on our campus, Concord University encourages everyone to register for instant text message alerts. Alerts will only be used for security and safety notices. All students, faculty, and staff are eligible to receive text message alerts on their cell phones or email alerts. Please contact the IT Help Desk for further assistance (304-384-5291).

### **Emergency Information**

Emergency/courtesy telephones are located at the main entrance of each residence hall and at various other locations on campus. Emergency telephones can be identified by the flashing blue light and will provide the user with a direct link to Public Safety at the press of a button. To report an on-campus emergency, call 304-384-5357 or 911. The Office of Public Safety is located on the bottom floor of the Rahall Technology Center. For further emergency information go to: <http://www.concord.edu/administration/office-public-safety>.

### **Inclement Weather Policy**

As a general policy, the University will remain in normal operations during adverse weather conditions. In the event of severe weather conditions, the following may occur:

#### University Closure

No students or employees are to report.

#### Classes Cancelled

Students do NOT report BUT employees are expected to report to work at their normal time.

#### Operating on an Inclement Weather Delay

Under this schedule, all 8 a.m. classes will start at 10 a.m. Students and faculty will follow the Inclement Weather Schedule. (See <http://www.concord.edu/emergency-alerts> for Athens/Beckley Inclement Weather Schedules.)

*\*Announcements invoking the late schedule or other options referenced above are aired on area radio and television stations and are sent as text and email messages to those enrolled for this service.*

### **Student Conduct**

In classrooms, online, laboratories, and during any activities that are part of course requirements, students are expected to observe reasonable rules of conduct.

### **Sexual Harassment & Assault**

Federal law, Title IX, and Concord University policy prohibits discrimination, harassment, and violence based on sex and gender (Including sexual harassment, sexual assault, domestic/dating violence, stalking, sexual exploitation, and retaliation). If you or someone you know has been harassed or assaulted, you can receive confidential counseling support through the Concord University Counseling Center (304-384-5290). Alleged Violations can be reported non-confidentially to the Concord University Title IX Coordinator at 304-384-6327 or [titleix@concord.edu](mailto:titleix@concord.edu). Reports to Campus Security can be made at (304-384-5357). As an employee at Concord University, I am a mandatory reporter which means I must report any sexual misconduct I am made aware of. This includes verbal or written (such as in an assignment) disclosures of sexual harassment or sexual assault.

### **Technology Services**

Contact the CU Help Desk at extension 5291 from campus or 304-384-5291 off campus. You may also e-mail [cuhelpdesk@concord.edu](mailto:cuhelpdesk@concord.edu).

### **Syllabus Disclaimer**

**"This syllabus is subject to change based on the needs of the class. Please check it regularly."**