

THE UNIVERSITY OF WISCONSIN
Department of History

Semester II Year 80-81

<u>COURSE NO.</u>	<u>COURSE TITLE</u>	<u>INSTRUCTOR</u>
573	Undergraduate Seminar: Resistance and Adaptation to Slavery in the Americas	Stern

COURSE DESCRIPTION

This seminar will study the ways in which Africans and Afro-Americans resisted and adapted to slavery in the Americas. We will look closely at patterns of accommodation and resistance, and their complex and subtle interplay in a variety of slave-based societies. In doing so, we will begin to enter the world of the ~~xxx~~ slaves themselves. We will explore the culture and social networks they created under adverse conditions; the functions and significance of slave adaptations; how and why insurrections took place; and more generally, the impact of the slaves and their initiatives upon society at large.

The first unit of the seminar will provide a broad overview of slavery and slave societies in the Americas; the second and longest unit will study patterns of resistance and accommodation intensively; the third will examine the slave experience in the United States in light of the earlier two units. Our method will be comparative--the Latin American mainland, the Caribbean, and the United States--and our materials will include primary documents (in English Translation) as well as secondary sources.

LECTURES

Since this is a seminar, it will rely on intensive weekly discussion rather than lectures.

WRITTEN ASSIGNMENTS and EXAMINATIONS

There will be NO exams.

Required written work, tentatively, will be ^{one} ~~xxx~~ short paper and one longer one (total: ca. 20 pages).

GRADING SYSTEM

/Tentative weighting: discussion--40%
short paper--20%
long paper--40%.

REQUIRED READINGS

A tentative syllabus listing readings will be available shortly.