

DELAWARE IN THE CIVIL WAR
FALL 2024

Instructor: Thomas J. Reed

Course Prerequisite(s) if any: None

Optional Material: Reed, McKay & Wade, *Untying the Political Knot: Delaware During the War Between the States* (2001) Price \$20.00 from Instructor

Preparation Time outside of class: 1-2 hours

Type of Instructional Materials to be used: videos, dvd's, slides

SYLLABUS

DATE SUBJECT MATTER & READING

1 Prelude: Delaware Just Before the Outbreak of Hostilities

Discussion and analysis of Delaware's political structure in 1860, demography, slavery and the Underground R.R.

Video: *Whispers of Angels*

Optional Reading: *Untying the Political Knot* 1-15

2 The Home Front 1861-65

A review of Delaware's industrial contribution to the Union war effort, including the DuPont Co, Harlan & Hollingsworth and other local industries. Discussion of morale and civilian experiences during 1861-65.

Optional Reading: *Untying the Political Knot* 15-39

3 The First Delaware

A discussion of the officers & men of the 1 Delaware, formation of the original 90st day unit and the three year volunteer unit, the regiment's role in major battles. Video: VHS 125 Anniversary re-enactment Battle of Antietamth

Optional Reading: *Untying the Political Knot* 51,64-82

4 The "Crazy Delawares" The Second Delaware

A discussion of the officers & men of the 2nd Delaware, formation of the original 90nd day unit and the three year volunteer unit, the regiment's role in major battles. Special attention to the ethnic units in the 2nd Delaware

Video: DVD Excerpts from *Gods and Generals* Battle of Fredericksburg

Optional Reading: *Untying the Political Knot* 83-90

5 Delaware at Gettysburg

The 1 and 2 Delaware were involved in the thick of the fighting at Gettysburg^{st nd} and the location of both units during July 2 and 3, 1863 are marked on the Gettysburg battlefield. There's more to the story of Delaware at Gettysburg, since other prominent players in this great battle, Union and Confederate, were Delawareans.

Video: DVD Excerpts from *Gettysburg*

Optional Reading: Handout, Delaware at Gettysburg.

WEEK NO SUBJECT MATTER & READING

6 The Third and Fourth Delaware

The wartime record of the 3 and 4 Delaware regiments, specifically on theserd
th regiments during the 1864 Overland Campaign, the Siege of Petersburg and
the Appomattox Campaigns

Video: DVD *The Last Days of the Civil War*

Optional Reading: *Untying the Political Knot* 90-103

7 U.S. Colored Troops & U.S. Navy's African-American sailors The untold story of
Delaware's African-Americans and their service during the Civil War
Optional Reading: *Untying the Political Knot* 112-20.

African Americans in the 54 Massachusetts and 55 Massachusettsth
The story of the first regiments raised from African-Americans and the
Delaware men who served in these units.

Video: DVD Extracts from *Glory*

Optional Reading: *Untying the Political Knot*, 207-14

8 Delaware's Heroes: The Army

A review of Delaware's 6 Medal of Honor winners and those men who
deserved recognition as heroes.

Optional Reading: *Untying the Political Knot*, 174-92

Delaware's Heroes: The Navy

Video: VHS *Echoes of the Civil War*

Optional Reading: *Untying the Political Knot* 203-207

9 Delaware's Army and Navy Commanders

Portraits of Delaware's 8 generals and 3 Navy leaders.

Optional Reading: *Untying the Political Knot* 139-69,192-203

10 The Fifth Column Part I: Delaware's Confederates

Hundreds of Delaware men served in the Confederate Army and Navy. Most are
not identified. A discussion of some of the known men who served in
Confederate Army and Navy units

Optional Reading: *Untying the Political Knot* 225-34

11 The Fifth Column Part II: Copperheads

Delaware had a strong anti-war movement lead by anti-war Democrats known
as Copperheads. Some of Delaware's anti-war Democratic activists were
arbitrarily arrested by the Provost Marshal's Office and confined without
charges for the duration of the war.

Optional Reading: *Untying the Political Knot* 234-44, 248-54.

WEEK NO SUBJECT MATTER & READING

12 Fort Delaware Part I

A history of the post from 1794 to 1944 focusing on Ft. Delaware's role as a principal Prisoner of War Camp during the Civil War.

Optional Reading: *Untying the Political Knot* 259-97

13 Fort Delaware Part II

The 600 and the Last Prisoners of War

Video: *Waterbound, The Story of Ft. Delaware*

COURSE TEXT BOOK:

McKay, Reed & Wade, UNTYING THE POLITICAL KNOT: DELAWARE DURING THE WAR BETWEEN THE STATES Broadfoot Books, Wilmington, NC ISBN 1-56837-389-9 Price \$20.00. Available from the instructor at Osher Institute.

NOTE:

All proceeds of sale of *Untying the Political Knot: Delaware During the War Between the States* go to the Civil War Round Table of Wilmington, Delaware, Inc., a non-profit charitable and educational corporation exempt from taxation under section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986.

