A Tragic Era: The Story of Reconstruction

Course Description

This class will take in in-depth look, using lectures, illustrations, and video documentaries, at this crucial and defining era in our history, which reverberates powerfully to this day.

Weekly Layout:

How has the Reconstruction era been viewed by historians and the public in the past 150 years?

The close of the Civil War and President Lincoln's evolving plans for reconstruction.

Aftershock: Resistance begins among southern whites

Andrew Johnson's disastrous presidency

Congressional Reconstruction and the impeachment of the president

The violent election of 1868

The Reconstruction amendments and the fight against the KKK

The first "war against terrorism" is lost

The disputed presidential election of 1976

The abandonment and betrayal of African-Americans

The tragic aftermath