

First Hourly Exam

History 225

Spring '91

Note: The exam is in three parts. You are expected to respond to all three parts of the exam.

I. Typically, the Civil War, like most wars, began with certain assumptions on both sides that either proved wrong or were forced to go through a radical transformation as the fighting was prolonged. Use the following examples to illustrate this historical cycle confronted by leaders in the North and South: [30 points]

Note: Write on only 3 of the following:

1. King Cotton Diplomacy would make the difference!
2. The Union's single war aim: Restore the Union!
3. "Anaconda Plan" & Union naval blockade would suffice!
4. Confederate conceit: One Johnny Reb could whip twenty damn Yankees!
5. Union conceit: One big battle and Richmond would fall!

II. Write on one of the following questions: [30 points]

1. What reasons can you give to explain the original Southern optimism that independence was an achievable political goal and not a Confederate pipe dream?

2. Despite initial Union military reverses in the opening stages of the Civil War, the Union avoided almost certain defeat by securing the loyalty of certain border states. Explain and evaluate Lincoln's border state strategy of 1861.

III. Answer the following essay question with as much detail as time permits:

1. What were the pressures on President Lincoln to change the Union war goal from a police action into a social revolution--from Union to Union and Liberty--with the enunciation of the Emancipation Proclamation? [40 points]