



THE UNIVERSITY OF SOUTHERN MISSISSIPPI
 CENTER FOR
 THE STUDY OF
 WAR & SOCIETY



HATTIESBURG • PETAL • FORREST COUNTY

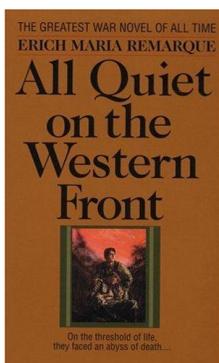
THE WAR AND SOCIETY ROUNDTABLE

Books, Dialogue, and Debate

—A Year of War Fiction—

All meetings will begin at 6:30PM and will be held at the Hattiesburg Library, located at 329 Hardy Street. Several copies of each book will be available for loan at the library before the discussion. For more information, please contact Sean Farrell at the Library at 601-584-3166 or Kyle Zelner at Southern Miss at kyle.zelner@usm.edu or 601-266-6196.

Tuesday, September 9, 2008



Moderator: Amy Milne-Smith, Asst. Professor of History, Univ. of Southern Mississippi

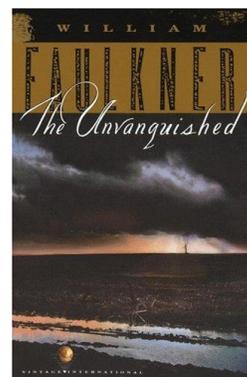
Synopsis: “Originally published in English in 1929, it is considered by many to be the finest war novel of all times. Paul Baumer and his German friends, begin the war as teenagers sure of the justice of their cause and the glory that will be theirs . . . confronted with trench warfare, dying in hellish agony, Paul must face the reality in which he finds himself and prepare for the world to which he will return, irrevocably changed.”

Tuesday, October 14, 2008

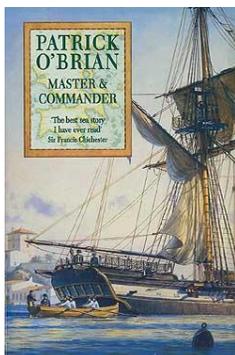
Book: *The Unvanquished* by William Faulkner, (Macmillan, 2002)

Moderator: Max Grivno, Assistant Professor of History, Univ. of Southern Mississippi

Synopsis: “Originally published in 1938, the novel raises critical questions about the American memory of the Civil War. Unique among Faulkner’s works for its setting during the war (in Mississippi); we see Confederates and Yankees, raids and skirmishes and armies firsthand. Faulkner celebrates the gallantry and heroism of the Sartoris family and . . . their code of personal responsibility and courage.”



Tuesday, November 11, 2008



Book: *Master and Commander* by Patrick O’Brien (W.W. Norton & Co., 1994)

Moderator: Phyllis Jestice, Associate Professor of History, Univ. of Southern Mississippi

Synopsis: “During Britain’s war with Napoleon's France, Jack Aubrey, a young lieutenant in Nelson's navy, is promoted to captain of the *HMS Sophie*, an old, slow brig unlikely to make his fortune. Yet, with the aid of his friend Stephen Maturin, ship's surgeon and secret intelligence agent, Aubrey and his crew engage in one thrilling battle after another.”

Tuesday, December 9, 2008—End of the Year Social

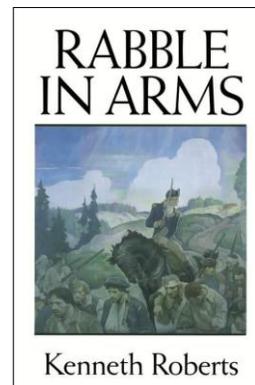
Come prepared to munch, mingle, and mull over the questions: “What was the best War and Society book of the year?” and “What was the worst?”

Tuesday, January 13, 2009

Book: *Rabble in Arms* by Kenneth Roberts (Down East Books, 1996)

Moderator: Kyle Zelner, Assistant Professor of History, Univ. of Southern Mississippi

Synopsis: “Hailed by one critic as the greatest historical novel written about America upon its original publication in 1933. The story of the Northern Continental Army in 1776-1777 blends treachery, ambition, and idealism with an unforgettable cast of characters in a magnificent novel renowned not only for the beauty and horror of its story but also for its historical accuracy.”

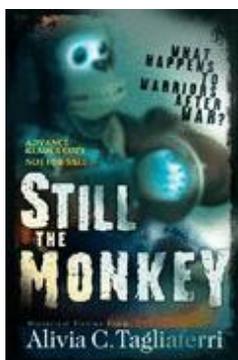


Tuesday, February 10, 2009

Book: *Still the Monkey* by Alivia C. Tagliaferri (Ironcutter Media, 2007)

Moderator: Andrew Wiest, Professor of History, Univ. of Southern Mississippi

Synopsis: “The sickest, most painful feeling in the world was looking down out of the chopper and seeing the guys still down there, still fighting. Ripped from Vietnam's womb, Dennis Michael returns home, emotionally maimed, but still alive. Now, after nearly forty years of struggling with Post Traumatic Stress Disorder, Dennis' life intersects with that of Andrew Taylor, a young Marine amputee who has lost both legs fighting in Iraq.”

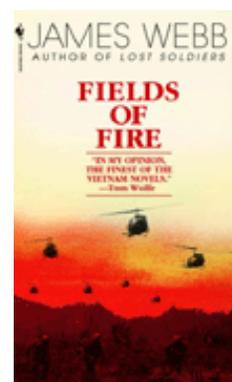


Tuesday, March 10, 2009

Book: *Fields of Fire* by James H. Webb (Bantam Books, 2001)

Moderator: Maureen Ryan, Professor of English, Univ. of Southern Mississippi

Synopsis: “They each had their illusions. Goodrich came from Harvard. Snake got the tattoo “Death Before Dishonor” before he got the uniform. And Hodges was haunted by the ghosts of family heroes. Three young men from different worlds plunge into the white-hot murderous realm of jungle warfare fought by the Marines in the An Hoa Basin, 1969. The madness and horror of battle lead to the rebirth of the human identity under the strain of combat.”



Tuesday, April 14, 2009

Book: *Dog Company Six*, by Edwin Howard Simmons, (Naval Institute Press; 2008)

Moderator: Colin Colbourn, M.A. Candidate in History, U. of Southern Mississippi

Synopsis: “The story of a Marine Reserve Captain, George Bayard, recalled to service during the Korean War and given command of rifle company D, which shipped out in time for the attack on Inchon. Bayard and his company endure the terrible winter of 1950-51 as they advance up and then retreat down the Korean peninsula.”



Tuesday, May 12, 2009

Book: *Catch-22: A Novel* by Joseph Heller (Simon & Schuster Classics, 1996)

Moderator: Andrew Haley, Asst. Professor of History, Univ. of Southern Mississippi

Synopsis: “First published in 1961, Joseph Heller's profound and compelling novel is a classic in every sense of the word. Set in a World War II American bomber squadron off the coast of Italy, *Catch-22* is the story of John Yossarian, who is furious because thousands of people he has never met are trying to kill him. Yossarian is also trying to decode the meaning of Catch-22, a mysterious regulation that proves that insane people are really the sanest, while the supposedly sensible people are the true madmen.”

