OSHER 596-001
Dates: Tuesdays, January 20-February 24, 2015
Times: 9:30AM-11:00AM
Location: Commander's House, Fort Douglas
Instructor: Kevin Peterson
kmtpeterson@comcast.net

Course Overview

Abraham Lincoln was the most unwarlike of men; and yet his entire presidency was defined by war. The eloquence of Abraham Lincoln defined the purpose and war aims of the United States in the Civil War. However, the war also demanded other important qualities in Lincoln: vision, intelligence, resolution, shrewdness, and compassion. In the process, Lincoln, with little military or executive experience, became not only the nation’s greatest president, but also its greatest commander in chief. This is the second in a two-part course, and considers several important issues in the Civil War, and how Lincoln dealt with them.

SUGGESTED READING

LEARNING OUTCOMES
1. To gain an understanding of how Abraham Lincoln, with little or no military or executive experience, led the United States through its most destructive war.

2. To study the presidency of Abraham Lincoln by analyzing several important events and issues that Lincoln dealt with in his role as President and Commander-in-Chief

COURSE SCHEDULE

WEEK ONE (January 20): Lincoln and the Generals, Part II-Grant and Total War
• Days of Battle: The Overland Campaign of 1864
WEEK TWO (January 27): “The Whole Family of Man”—Lincoln’s Foreign Policy
  • Days of Battle: The Blockade

WEEK THREE (February 3): “We Cannot Have Free Government Without Elections”—Reelecting Lincoln
  • Days of Battle: Mobile Bay and the Atlanta Campaign of 1864

WEEK FOUR (February 10): “A Hard War Without Hatred”—Lincoln the Strategist
  • Days of Battle: Sherman’s March

WEEK FIVE (February 17): “The Promise Having Been Made, Must Be Kept”—The Thirteenth Amendment
  • Days of Battle: To Appomattox

WEEK SIX (February 24): “The Almighty Has His Own Purposes”—Conclusion