



AMERICAN
CIVILIZATION

HIST 1700

Welcome!

Lecture 13:
The Unfinished
Task

Unit 2: A New Birth of Freedom

Lecture 13: *The Unfinished Task*



Unit 2: A New Birth of Freedom



Lecture 13: *The Unfinished Task*

The Challenges of Reconstruction:

- How to integrate the defeated South back into the nation
- How to integrate ex-slaves into a free society

Unit 2: A New Birth of Freedom



Lecture 13: *The Unfinished Task*

The Challenges of Reconstruction:

- How to integrate the defeated South back into the nation
 - ▶ Should former confederates be allowed to retain their property?
 - ▶ Should former confederates be allowed to regain political rights such as the right to vote and hold office?
 - ▶ Should ex-slaves be allowed to vote and hold office?
 - ▶ How should Reconstruction be enforced?

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- Lincoln's 10% Plan
- Presidential Reconstruction
- Radical Reconstruction

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- Thirteenth Amendment (1865): abolished slavery
- Fourteenth Amendment (1868): grants citizenship to all people born in America and requires the national government to protect the rights of all citizens
- Fifteenth Amendment (1870): prevents state and federal government from denying citizens the right to vote on the basis of race

Eric Foner: “The laws and amendments of Reconstruction reflected the intersection of two products of the Civil War era--a newly empowered national state and the idea of a national citizenry enjoying equality before the law.”

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Factors leading to the end of Reconstruction:

- White Southern opposition to black political rights
- White Northern concern about corruption in the North and the South
- Economic change and crisis

Bargain of 1877 ends Reconstruction