

Response to Readings: Saturday, 16 February 2012

The Atlantic Slave Trade

Core theme: Peopling the New World: Immigration and Migration of Natives and Newcomers

As you read the following, think about the following question and answer it in one to two typed pages:

What are some major changes and continuities you see in the Atlantic Slave Trade across its history?

Readings:

David Eltis and David Richardson. *Atlas of the Transatlantic Slave Trade*. New Haven: Yale University Press, 2010.

Between 1501 and 1867, the transatlantic slave trade claimed an estimated 12.5 million Africans and involved almost every country with an Atlantic coastline. In this book, two leading historians combine maps, text (including primary sources), and illustrations to create an up-to-date and comprehensive overview of the 350-year history of one of the largest forced migrations in history. See related website: www.slavevoyages.org

See other side of page for specific text, maps, etc. to examine.

Olaudah Equiano. *The Interesting Narrative of the Life of Olaudah Equiano, or Gustavus Vassa, The African*. (1789, ninth edition, 1794). Chapter 2.

Quobna Ottobah Cugoano. *Thoughts and Sentiments on the Evil & Wicked Traffic of the Slavery and Commerce of the Human Species*. (1787). Excerpt.

The above from Vincent Carretta, ed. *Unchained Voices: An Anthology of Black Authors in the English-Speaking World of the Eighteenth Century*. Lexington: The University of Kentucky, 1996. Pp. 147-151, and 197-207.

David Eltis and David Richardson. *Atlas of the Transatlantic Slave Trade*. New Haven: Yale University Press, 2010.

This book is packed with annotated maps, primary sources, and includes introductory text to sections. So that you are not overwhelmed with data, I have selected key portions of the *Atlas* for you to read and/or examine.

The readings assigned below follow a pattern. They include the Introduction to each of the six sections, and a sampling of maps. This typically includes the first few maps, which tend to be a more general nature, and a sample of the more specific maps that follow. The selection also includes a sample of images, and primary source texts from each section of the *Atlas*.

Feel free to explore further, depending on your interests, in this rich resource.

Please Read/Examine the Following:

Foreword

About the Atlas

Introduction, pp. 1-19

Timeline, pp. 299-300

Part I: Nations Transporting Slaves from Africa: 21-27, 31-32, 34

Part II: Ports Outfitting Voyages: 37-40, 58, 65, 74, 77, 79

Part III: The African Coastal Origins of Slaves: 87-93, 95, 98-99, 103, 107, 133

Part IV: The Experience of the Middle Passage: 159-173, 176, 178, 180-181, 188-195

Part V: The Destinations of Slaves in the Americas: 196-199, 205-223, 268

Part VI: Abolition of the Transatlantic Slave Trade: 271-273, 275, 278-279, 282-284