Quote

* Violent Manifestations of hostility to African-Americans in the north and the south are not new. They had persisted almost from the beginning of the African presence in the new world.

Questions

* Cite examples from the reader, films show in class, and text you selected for the midterm that support the quote by historian John Hope Franklin
* Begin with the colonial period tracing this phenomenon of violence through the 1900s
* Organize your essay chronologically divided by time periods
* Be specific and thorough
* What did you learn about the history of african-americans that you did not know before this class
* Have you learned any information in this class about the history of African-Americans that helped you better understand the current status of, or conditions affecting, African-Americans?

The paper

# Africans in the Americas before 1492

## Pre-columbia presence africans in the Americas before 1492

* *Van sertima: African presence in early America:* 
  + *There were three systematic and deliberate destructions of documents in America. Bishop de landa in the Yucatan said “burn them all. They are works of the devil”*
  + *Bernard ortiz de montellano, professor of anthropology, wayne state university, is the author of a pamphlet circulating privately in many schools, spreading false rumors about ivan van sertima in attempts to discredit him*

# Interntional slave trade and enslavemen

## Middle passage: 1756 – 1766, this timeline is specific to Equiano

* *Olaudah Equiano: the horrors of the middle passage*
  + *The ship he was on had a multitude of black people of every description chained together*
  + *He refused to eat vegetables and two men tied him up and flogged him*
  + *He had never before in his life seen such brutality*
  + *They would tie people up, flog them, and when they died throw them overboard*
  + *Families were sold to different people, and would never see each other again*

## Triangular trade: 1500-1820

* Eric Williams: capitalism and slavery
  + *According to adam smith, the discovery of America and the cape route to india are the two greatest and most important evens recorded in the history of mankind*
  + *They wanted to raise the mercantile system to a degree of splendor and glory*
  + *In 1718 william wood said that the slave trade was the spring and parent when the others flow*
  + *Postlethwayt described the slave trade as the first principle and foundation of all the rest, the mainspring of the machine which sets every wheel in motion*
  + *Negroes were purchased with british manufactures, transported to the plantainos, they produced sugar, cotton, indigo,molasses and other tropical products, the processing of which created new industries in England, while the maintenance of the negroes and their owners on the plantations provided another market for british industry*
  + *The west indian islands became the hub of the ritish empire, of immense importance to the randeur and prosperity of England*
  + *Sir Josiah child estimated that every Englishman in the west indies, with the ten blacks that work with him, accounting what they eat, use and wear, would make employment for four men in england*
  + *According to Davenant, britain’s total trade at the end fo the seventeenth century brought in a profit of 2 million pound, the plantation trade accounted for 600 thousand pounds*
  + *The trade in black africans brought innovation to ship-building, the growth of the great british seaport towns like Bristol, Liverpool, Manchester, Birmingham, sheffield and Glasgow,*
  + *The goods in the triangular trade included: wool, cotton manufacture, sugar refining, rum distillation, pacotille and the metallurgical industries like fetters, chains and padlocks*
* *Mid 1700s: bury the chains, prophets and rebels in the fight to free an empire’s slaves, king sugar*
  + *Just as oil drives the geopolitics of our own time, the most important commodity on European minds then was sugar, and the overseas territories that matter the most were the islands so wonderfully suited for growing it*
  + *Abbe guillaume Thomas de raynal said, the islands were the principal cause of the rapid movement which stirs the universe*
  + *While slaves labored in the broiling cane fields, whites who owned or managed the large plantations lived in conspicuous comfort*
  + *Bryan Edwards said that the british west indies wre the principle source of national opulence*
  + *In 1783, james Stephen landed in Barbados and quickly learned of a trial occurring: four plantation slaves were charged with the merger of a white doctor, even though everyone strongly doubted the guilt of the prisoners, the thought the real murderer was a white man and that the trial was a cover up.*
  + *Discipline was draconian, for a Barbados slave, running away for thirty days or more meant death*
  + *An owner who killed a slave, however, was subject only to a 15 pound fine*
  + *Codrington officials tried to reduce black escapes by branding all slaves on their chest*
  + *Slave deaths were recorded on the same list with those of cattle, hogs, and horses and included deathy by: ulcers, suddenly, a flux, shot by accident, fever, plague, debilitated, convulsed, leprosy*
  + *Because of the extraordinarily low birth rate and early deaths from disease, Caribbean masters depended far more so that planters in the American south on a constant flow of new slaves*
* At the foot of vesuvius
  + *Count Mirabeau, whom Clarkson met in paris, once said that the whites of st. domingue slept at the foot of Vesuvius because the colony was always under the threat of revolts*
  + *A black man named Toussaint (later called L’Ouverture, i.e. ‘the opening’)would rise to lead the revolt in st. domingue, which had the largest slave population in the Caribbean*
  + In st dominguwe, some owners put tin masts on slaves to keep them from chewing sugar cane in the fields
  + A wealthy French planter named jean-baptiste de caradeux used to entertain visitors by placing an orange on a slaves head, male guests would then compete with each other to see who could knock it off with a pistol at thirty paces
  + Another plantation owner wrote instructions for his managers on how to inflict pain to maximum effect; slow punishments make a greater impression than quick ones, e.g. twenty five lashes of the whip administered in a quarter of an hour, interrupted at intervals to hear the cause which the unfortunates always plead in their defense, and resumed again, continuing in this fashion two or three times

## Colonial American slavery

* Casting of the die: morality, slavery, and resistance: paula giddings
  + *Whites could be held in servitude for a stipulated period of time, but blacks would be held as slaves forever, and their children born into slavery*
  + *Isabell Williams, who married Anthony, gave birth to probably the first black child in America*
  + *Black women, described by English slave traders as possessing a lascivious temper who had an incliniation for white men, would be impaled on the cutting edges of this race/sex dialectic*
  + *Laws were enacted to keep blacks as slaves forever, e.g. in 1629 virginia administrators designated ‘tithable persons’ as all those that work in the ground of what’, and then extended in 1643 to include all adult men and black women*
  + *In another law, children born of black women, no matter who the father was, would inherit her status*
  + *By the late 17th century, in 1691, another piece of legislation stipulated that if a white, whether bond or free, intermarried with a negro, mulatto, or indian, bond or free, the couple would be banished from the colony forever*
  + *Physical abuse, dismemberment, and torture were common to American slavery*

# Resistance and rebellion

* Dissidents in a conscript army: John hope franklin
  + Slaves were frustrated, alienated, defiant, and sometimes violent
  + One Maryland slave master described his female slave as turbulent, disobedient and impudent, and when excited by passion, perfectly anged
  + Slave resistance included: running away, arson, murder, education, revolts, not working, not getting pregnant, suicide, among other things

# Reconstruction: 1863-1877

* WEB Dubois: the propaganda of history
  + People are taught all negroes were ignorant of public business and unfit to govern them selves and did not know the letters of the alphabet
  + All negroes were lazy, dishonest, and extravagant
  + Negroes were responsible for bad government during reconstruction
  + White historians have ascribed the faults and failures of reconstruction to negro ignorance and corruption
  + The attitude of most recent writers toward reconsutrction: they cannot conceive negroes as men; in their minds the word negro connotes inferiority and stupidity