

# *University Sin Fronteras*

## *Liberation Summer Semester*

*Compilation*  
*Class 5*  
*faculty-Rose*  
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*Each day from then on individuals and communities took a series of acts to express their liberation. The neo-slavery that was imposed after reconstruction could not destroy their churches, their devout community and family connections, or their sense of themselves as NOT slaves. Historians are just beginning to learn how many ways they did this, including at times with arms.*

*Midnight schools*

*Mothers of enslaved babies killing their babies so they would not be enslaved.*

*Slave riots and revolts*

*Purposefully slowing down work in the sea islands an Gulla islands*

*The Civil War was essential won by the Union, (and the confederacy was defeated) because of the role that self emancipated slaves played and fought for the Union and against slavery.*

*Slaves took up ARMS, organized, and had an expectation of something others than slavery---freedom/reunification with family mobility and more.*

*If capital imposes a relation of death on the living to produce wealth ---i.e., transforming people n/2 objects, and ecosystems n/2 sites of resource extraction that it is reasonable to assume that the desire to live ---a natural and inherent state of being---creates for establishes a permanent relation of war as the living refuse to die.*

*Hence, to desire to live and the love for life binds society to their fight for the types of freedoms that protect and extend life.*

*In a colonial context those strategies center on the protection and or regeneration of culture, the protection of those practices that keep one's*

*world alive.*

*Assuming that enslaved Africans emancipated themselves and it was not the result of a proclamation, the enslaved Africans and their descendants reinforced the idea that on going, continued struggle, collective work and efforts, and multiple strategies are necessary to challenge systems of oppression.*

*We understand that emancipation is an on going process that takes different forms and uses different tools and strategies to be effective. It is liberatory because it requires a people to assess their surroundings. Assess who they are and where they are as a community in order to inform and define a process of emancipation.*

*The whole slave trade era was unimaginable how people were treated and transported by ships and SOLD for things as little as SUGAR.*

*Where do we go from HERE?, Still this de-value of people still exists. In our small group conversation about being shipped back to Africa or being in our own homeland.*

*Slavery was a building block for capitalism and breaking the rules of capitalism was reclaiming their bodies.*

*Capitalism has become synonymous with democracy and the common narrative is that capitalists allows everyone to rise up at an equal level to participate democratically. Rich white men feel threatened when they don't have control and when their control is threatened they begin to lose power.*

*Paulo friere talks a lot about oppressed people gaining to knowledge that they are oppressed and fighting back as a way that they begin to dismantle their oppression.*

*By liberating themselves slaves aren't just internalizing their oppression, but fighting to completely de-center the premises that this nation was founded upon.*

*Rebellion, resistance, escape, education, and refusal before the Civil War.*

*Emancipation is thinkable because of the long, violent, creative,*

*complex, culture and practice of preserving, creating, maintaining selfhood, family, community, which includes;*

- ⤴ Spontaneous rebellions*
- ⤴ Coordinated rebellions*
- ⤴ Literacy training*
- ⤴ Transit of people into freedom*
- ⤴ Creative consciousness of shared struggle*
- ⤴ Mutual support on plantation, off plantation, in the North, beyond US*
- ⤴ International travel*
- ⤴ Revolutions and rebellions across colonies that emboldened people living in slavery*
- ⤴ Rise and visibility of FREE Blacks as public figures, writers, intellectuals, artists, engineers, & scientists*
- ⤴ Soldiers taking arms*
- ⤴ Agricultural workers ending production for oppressors*

*These practices formed a system as complex as the system of oppression, making much from few resources, from sharing resources, from finding wealth in human relationships.*

*These emancipatory strategies are part of a liberatory process that existed before, during and extends long after the emancipation proclamation.*

*It confronted social, economic, political, status quo of POWER, challenged the powerful and shock the foundations of power's institutions.*

*When political change happens there must be a period of reorganization. For the oppressed we must assess where we are, how we get there, to analyze what must be done and undone, to further our path towards liberation and revolutionary emancipation.*

*For the oppressors they must assess some of the same questions but towards the opposite vision: How do they undo gains, reorganize and recapture political, social, economic CONTROL.*

*Yes, I agree that the slaves emancipated themselves from slavery. They organized in many forms. They began with minor revolts on the farm land. They spoke 'pidgin' english for the most part on the farms and*

plantation. So slaves from West Africa used this language as an organizing tool.

One of 200 slaves enlisted in the army on the side of the North to fight for their liberation. They in turn organized other slaves to revolt when the Civil War broke out. Slaves actually fought for their liberation, and it was not given to them on a platter of gold.

Patois was a KEY strategy. Haitian Creole, and African American dialect. It allowed them to create new knowledge, unity, culture unique to diasporic people in each respective country.

It allowed us to go beyond seeking freedom from slavery. It allows us to have tools connections for building solidarity and long term liberation.

It makes us stop longing for our ancestor's past that will never be ours--- it allows us to accept this country as our future, our HOME.

Language, shaping our mentality, is vital to any struggle. Through this, we maintain knowledge of a unique past, our ancestor's determination to THRIVE and the SOLIDARITY.

U.S. History tells us that the emancipation of the enslaved was a unilateral act of generosity by President Abraham Lincoln. Even this simplified history of emancipation, however begs the question; how did emancipation ever become an issue within the United States Civil War and within the white ruling class of this country?

Emancipation however, is as old as slavery itself. Often it was individual self emancipation and sometimes it was mass emancipation. Other times emancipation was granted by slave holders to the slave for various reasons, which slaves worked for.

Thus, emancipation has ALWAYS been a liberating act and goal of the enslaved. By the time the Civil War began, formerly enslaved people had built such a large ABOLITIONIST movement that it was forced on the Union to address.

To deny the enslaved power and self determination they needed to be emancipated, the slave holders needed to DENY KNOWLEDGE. But to deny anyone of knowledge in a world where intelligence can be thrust upon

*you is impossible.*

*Soon enough the slaves will gain an answer of knowledge that allowed them to be emancipated. So the strategy used in a simple sense was the ability to pass knowledge and allow the beholder to full fill his imaginative.*

*The whole idea of emancipation rooted from the fact that the slaves were able to ACQUIRE KNOWLEDGE.*

*he idea of gang participation as a strategy for emancipation. It made me think more deeply about how we talk about and portray gangs---were gangs to credit with Bacon's rebellion?*

*All or at least many of the armed rebellions of ever have been demonized and the non-violent ones have been discredited. There MUST be such desire, determination, perseverance to overcome these many squelching powers.*

*What factors must have been at PLAY---shared understanding of the force which must be OVERTHROWN. Surely working in the slaveholders home many things were learned about their nature---also, because slaveholders were dismissive of slaves but they were acutely aware of the plantation's owner presence...putting the needs of the group over the needs of the individual.*

*Every strategy people used to move away from all forms of slavery was, and is, exceptional forms of resistance. SURVIVAL itself continues to be a form resistance and a way to cling to self, culture, language, and dignity.*

*Strategies were both passive and active, armed and non-violent. Developing new cultural realities and adopting old memories into a new context---those acts were forms of emancipation even as the system continued.*

*The coordinating and organization of rebellion required such sophisticated levels of activity and communication ---it boggles the mind that that happened across geography and from in their brutal captivity. So much to learn from those actions and history to apply now.*

*Also so much to consider in terms of implications on a white southerner.  
To investigate the history of our own indoctrination for the purpose of  
others peoples profits at the expense of whole peoples' freedom.*

*Complicated question that cannot be addressed by challenging privilege  
alone.*