The Civil War: The First Year (1861)
Dr. Joseph Fitzharris

20 September: Overview: The Civil War
Putting this series in context, we start with an overview of the war, from its causes through its conduct (on the battle field, in the factories and homes, and in the chanceries of Europe) to the ending in Reconstruction and the southern white insurgency (KKK). We will sketch out the planned course of topics for 2012 (1862)-2015 (1865).

OUTLINE:

I. CAUSES
   A. Politics (Slavery in the Territories, Kansas, etc.)
   B. Secession: Theory and Practice
   C. Concept and Image of “Union”
   D. South fears attack on “rights”

II. CONDUCT
   A. Goals & Strategy
   B. Diplomatic Theater of War
   C. Comparative Resources
   D. Home Fronts: including gender roles
   E. Logistics and Axes of Advance
   F. The West Matters; the East is a Massive Holding Action!
   G. The Naval Services – the Forgotten Men
   H. Asymmetric Warfare
   I. Winning and Losing

III. CONSEQUENCES
   A. Restoration of the Union
   B. Reconstruction
   C. Black Civil Rights

SOME GOOD BOOKS:

TEXTBOOKS:
Jean Harvey Baker, David Herbert Donald, Michael F. Holt, Civil War and Reconstruction (W. W. Norton, 2001)
Steven E. Woodworth, The Human Tradition in the Civil War and Reconstruction (SR Books, 2000)
Michael Fellman, Lesley J. Gordon, and Daniel E. Sutherland, This Terrible War: The Civil War and Its Aftermath, (Pearson, 2008) (paperback edition only)
Susan-Mary Grant and Brian Holden Reid, Themes of the American Civil War; the War Between the States (2009)
STANDARD TREATMENTS

ATLASES:

REFERENCE WORKS:
Francis A. Lord, *Civil War Collector's Encyclopedia: Arms, Uniforms and Equipment of the Union and Confederacy* (Dover, 2004)
-----, *Civil War Collector's Encyclopedia* (Blue & Gray Press, 1995)

MAGAZINES:
*America’s Civil War*
*Civil War Times Illustrated*
*North & South*

PROFESSIONAL JOURNALS
*Civil War History: a Journal of the Middle Period*
*Journal of Military History* (premier US and international journal, often has articles)
*Military History of the West* (many articles)

DOCUMENTS:
The key documentary sources – the “*Official Records*” (Army is usually the one meant by “OR” but both services published them. “ORN” means the naval series) are:

WEB SITES

ORN: [http://digital.library.cornell.edu/m/moawar/ofre.html](http://digital.library.cornell.edu/m/moawar/ofre.html)
OR: [http://digital.library.cornell.edu/m/moawar/waro.html](http://digital.library.cornell.edu/m/moawar/waro.html) at the “Making of America” site (Cornell and Michigan), and eHistory at Ohio State University has a number of good things, including the OR at [http://ehistory.osu.edu/osu/sources/](http://ehistory.osu.edu/osu/sources/).