

**Shane Grant**

**Title:** “In Self-Defense: The Confederacy Reinterpreted as a Conservative Revolution”

**Faculty Advisor:** Instructor Deanna Wooley

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**Abstract**

Nearly one hundred and fifty years after its demise the Confederacy remains a much discussed topic among students of United States history. Often it is the ultimate cause of its demise that is debated, but this examination will not attempt to answer that question. Rather, it will attempt to identify the Confederacy as what will be labeled a “conservative” revolution. For the purpose of this paper, the term “conservative” will be used to denote an event that contains the nationalistic, expansionist, and religious elements of a right-wing revolution and the anti- modernist element of a counterrevolution. These criteria apply to the Confederacy and will therefore be used as the principal means by which the thesis is supported. Research reveal that in the years immediately preceding the war Southerners often spoke of creating a revolution that would free them from the bonds of Northern tyranny and preserve their culture.