THE UNIVERSITY OF WISCONSIN  
DEPARTMENT OF HISTORY  
FALL 1983

HISTORY 102  
MR. SCHULTZ

AMERICAN HISTORY FROM THE CIVIL WAR  
TO THE PRESENT

Texts:

Henry F. Bedford and Trevor Colburn, THE AMERICANS:  
A BRIEF HISTORY SINCE 1865  
James W. Davidson & Mark H. Lytle, AFTER THE FACT: THE  
ART OF HISTORICAL DETECTION (vol. II)  
Harold C. Livesay, ANDREW CARNEGIE AND THE RISE OF  
BIG BUSINESS  
Upton Sinclair, THE JUNGLE  
C. Vann Woodward, THE STRANGE CAREER OF JIM CROW (3d ed.)  
John Steinbeck, THE GRAPES OF WRATH  
Malcolm Little, THE AUTOBIOGRAPHY OF MALCOLM X

Assignments and Examinations:

There will be two examinations, a mid-term scheduled for  
Oct. 11th, and a final examination at the conclusion of the  
course. These examinations will be a combination of essay  
questions and short identification questions. Either similar  
study questions or the precise questions will be handed out  
in class prior to each examination.

In addition to the examinations, there will be one short  
(3-6 pages) writing assignment handled through the discussion  
sections. This will be an essay-review of one of the books  
listed above under "texts," excluding Bedford & Colburn and  
Davidson & Lytle. We will give you a sample format and the  
due date for this assignment in the discussion sections.

Discussion Sections and Grading:

Students will attend two lectures (75 minutes each) and  
one required discussion section (50 minutes) per week. A  
Teaching Assistant will lead the discussion sections which  
will focus on the reading assignments for the course,  
although time also will be devoted to clearing-up any  
mysteries or absurdities advanced in lectures.

Grades will depend upon performance on the examinations,  
the short essay-review, and attendance at and participation  
in the required discussion sections. Steady improvement in  
quality of performance over the semester will find its reward  
in the final grade.

We consider the study of history as more than dreary  
memorization and dull regurgitation of facts. Some factual  
knowledge, of course, is necessary, but we are more concerned
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about your grasp of broad themes and the processes of historical change. We will evaluate your work on its blend of necessary factual information and thought-filled analyses of the issues.

COURSE OUTLINE AND READINGS

I. THE RECONSTRUCTION OF AMERICAN SOCIETY, 1865-1917

Lecture Topics

| History, Historians, and You | Aug. 30 |
| Reconstructing the Nation    | Sept.  1 |
| The "New South"? Promises and Propaganda | 6 |
| Which "Old West" and Whose?  | 8 |
| The Gilded Age and the Politics of Corruption | 13 |
| Businessmen and "That Creature" the Corporation | 15 |
| Labor and the Workers' Search for Power | 20 |
| Foreign Immigrants in Urban America | 22 |
| How Ya' Gonna' Keep 'Em Down on the Farm? | 27 |
| The Dawn of Liberalism        | 29 |
| The Policeman of the World    | Oct.  4 |
| Roosevelt, Wilson, and the Morality of Power | 6 |

Readings: (The precise order of readings will be given in discussion sections. The following should be completed by the end of Sec. I)

Bedford & Colburn, pp. 242-366, 370-408
Davidson & Lytle, Chs. 7, 8, 9
Woodward, pp. 11-109
Livesay (entire book)
Sinclair (entire book)

** * * * * EXAMINATION, OCT. 11-NO CLASS ON OCT. 13 *****

II. THE REORDERING OF AMERICAN SOCIETY, 1880s-1940s

The Great Migration: Blacks in American Thought and Life | Oct. 18 |
Women, Feminism, and Sex in Progressive America | 20 |
The Politics of Prosperity: The 1920s | 25 |
The Politics of Frustration: The 1920s | 27 |
Crashing Hopes: The Great Depression | Nov. 1 |
Liberalism at High Noon: The New Deal | 3 |
"Dr. New Deal" Becomes "Dr. Win-the-War" | 8 |

Readings:

Bedford & Colburn, pp. 366-70, 410-81
Davidson & Lytle, Chs. 10, 11
III. THE REDIRECTION OF AMERICAN SOCIETY, 1940s-Present

From New Deal to Fair Deal: Same Rules or New Game? Nov. 10
The Affluent Society and the "Quiet Generation" 15
The Asian Connection: Diplomacy and War from Korea to Vietnam 17
The Rise and Fall of Camelot 22
* * * THANKSGIVING BREAK, No Class Nov. 24 * * *
The Almost "Great Society" 29
The Twilight of Liberalism: Or, Water Through the Milhous Dec. 1
From Nixon to Nowhere 6
The Individual in a Corporate Society 8

Readings:

Bedford & Colburn, pp. 482-559
Davidson & Lytle, Chs. 12, 13
Woodward, pp. 149-220
Malcolm X (entire book)