COURSE SYLLABUS
HISTORY 398: THE UNITED STATES SINCE 1945
(Spring 92)

Instructor: Bob Lovely
TA: David McDaniel
Lectures: MWF 9:55, B 130 Van Vleck
Office Hours: Friday: 1 PM - 2 PM (or by appointment)
Office: 4109 Humanities
Office Phone: 263-1689

TEXTS:
Carl Bernstein & Bob Woodward, All The President's Men*
Paul Conkin, Big Daddy From the Pedernales: L.B.J.*
Susan M. Hartmann, From Margin to Mainstream *
George Herring, America's Longest War*
Walter LaFeber, America, Russia, and the Cold War
Adeline Levine, Love Canal: Science, Politics, & People
Norman Rosenberg & Emily Rosenberg, In Our Times
Robert Weisbrot, Freedom Bound*
Course Packet of Readings (available at Kinko's, 620 University Av.)

* INDICATES BOOK IS ON RESERVE AT THE HISTORICAL SOCIETY LIBRARY

Schedule for Assigned Readings
(CP = Course Packet)

Week 1
(1/22) READING: 1). Norman Cousins, "Modern Man Is Obsolete" (CP)

Week 2
(1/27) READING: 1). Rosenbergs, ch. 1-2
2). LaFeber, Introduction and ch. 1-6

Week 3
(2/3) READING: 1). Bayley, "Four Crises in Television," from Joe McCarthy and the Press (CP)
2). Rosenbergs, ch. 3

Week 4
(2/10) READING: 1). LaFeber, ch. 7-9
2). Rosenbergs, ch. 4-5

Week 5
(2/17) READING: 1). Weisbrot, ch. 1-3
2). Conkin, ch. 1-6
(2/21) One paragraph description due for fourth-credit papers

Week 6
(2/24) READING: 1). Conkin, ch. 7-12

Week 7
(3/2) No Reading
(3/4) EXAM I (In Class)
(3/6) READING: 1). Weisbrot, ch. 4-9
Week 8
(3/9)
Spring Recess

Week 9
(3/16)
READING: 1). Herring, ch. 1-4
2). Rosenbergs, ch. 6-7

Week 10
(3/23)
READING: 1). Herring, ch. 5-8

Week 11
(3/30)
READING: 1). Bernstein and Woodward, 1-17

Week 12
(4/6)
READING: 1). Hartmann, ch. 1-7
2). Rosenbergs, ch. 8-9

Week 13
(4/13)
No Reading
(4/15) EXAM II (In Class)
(4/17) READING: 1). Rachel Carson, "Indiscriminately From the Skies," from Silent Spring (CP)

Week 14
(4/20) READING: 1). Rosenbergs, ch. 10
2). B. Commoner, "A Reporter at Large, The Environment" (CP)

Week 15
(4/27) READING: 1). Levine, 1-8

Week 16
(5/4) READING: 1). LaFeber, ch. 10-12
2). Rosenbergs, ch. 11
(5/6) Fourth-credit research papers due

FINAL EXAM: Wed. May 13, 2:45 PM.

GRADING:
Exam I, 25%
Exam II, 25%
Discussion Grade 20%
Final Exam, Wed. May 13, 2:45 PM 30%
LECTURE OUTLINE

WEEK 1  (Jan. 22) Historical Background: The Great Depression and the Great War
          (Jan. 24) Postwar Trends: An Overview

WEEK 2  (Jan. 29) The Truman Years: Domestic Politics and International Affairs
          (Jan. 31) The Emergence of the "Cold War": 1944-1948

WEEK 3  (Feb. 5) The American Economy; 1945-1958: The expansion of Federalism and the Subsidy of the Middle Class
          (Feb. 7) The Fifties: Stability and Promise

WEEK 4  (Feb. 12) American Foreign Policy in the Eisenhower Years: The Dulles Brothers and America's Destiny
          (Feb. 14) Anti-Communism and Joe McCarthy: "What Evil Lurks in the Hearts of Men?"

          (Feb. 21) The Demographics of Social Change: The Baby Boom and Schooling in America

WEEK 6  (Feb. 26) The Political Economy of Urban America
          (Feb. 28) Social Class and Race in Age of Prosperity

WEEK 7  (Mar. 5-7) The Kennedy Years: A Thousand and One Knights

WEEK 8  (Mar. 12) It will Never Be The Same Again: 1963, looking back.
          (Mar. 14) * * * * * MID-TERM EXAMINATION (IN CLASS) * * * * *
                     (SPRING RECESS -- MARCH 17-26)

WEEK 9  (Mar. 26) Civil Rights and Black America, 1945-1955
          (Mar. 28) Civil Rights and Black America, 1955-1965
WEEK 10  (April 2-4) Vietnam: Victory without Honor, Honor without Victory

WEEK 11  (April 9) Lyndon Johnson's Politics of War


WEEK 12  (April 16) * * * * TAKE HOME EXAM DUE IN CLASS * * * * *

(April 16) The Nixon Presidency: A Man Without a Past?!

(April 18) The Nixon Presidency: Domestic and International Policies

WEEK 13  (April 23) Social Trends, 1968-1984: Down the Road to Hell and Damnation


WEEK 14  (April 30) The Ford-Carter Years: America’s Lost Destiny

(May 2) Foreign Policy in the Eighties: "It’s better to be dead than ? ? ? ?"

WEEK 15  (May 7) The Politics of Selfishness: Reagan and the Triumph of Neo-Conservatism

(May 9) Morality and Destiny: The Fate Individualism in American Life

WEEK 16  (May 14) The Fate of the Cold War: "We Have Seen the Enemy and He is Us!"

(May 16) Is There Life After Nancy?