Required Books

John W. Ward, Andrew Jackson, Symbol for an Age
Nancy Cott, The Bonds of Womanhood
William Styron, The Confessions of Nat Turner
Daniel Boorstin, The Americans: The National Experience

Housekeeping

The course will meet three times a week -- two lectures and a discussion section. There will be weekly reading assignments for discussion. Oral performance in the discussion sections will count as much as one of the mid-term exams. There will be two 50-minute exams in the course of the semester and a two-hour final.

Reading Assignments

In addition to the books and articles assigned in the units below each student will be asked to read a biography obtained from the library. A summary of the book may be presented in a 15-minute oral report in discussion section or by a written book review. The oral presentations will be coordinated by the teaching assistant so they illustrate some of the major themes developed in the course. Extra credit will be given for oral presentations.

Unit I. JACKSONIAN POLITICS
Andrew Jackson vs. John Quincy Adams
John W. Ward, Andrew Jackson: Symbol for an Age

Unit II. REFORMERS AND TRANSCENDENTALISTS
Ralph Waldo Emerson, Margaret Fuller, Frances Wright
Assignments on RESERVE, State Historical Society:
Barbara Welter, "Cult of True Womanhood," American Quarterly (1966), 151-74
Nancy Cott, The Bonds of Womanhood
Unit III. REFORMERS AND UTOPIANS
John Humphrey Noyes and William Lloyd Garrison

Unit IV. NEGROES, SLAVE AND FREE
Frederick Douglass and Harriet Tubman
William Styron, Confessions of Nat Turner

Recommended reading on RESERVE in State Historical Society:

Unit V. PUBLICISTS AND BUSINESSMEN
P. T. Barnum, Horace Greeley, and Commodore Vanderbilt
Daniel Boorstin, The Americans: The National Experience, pp. 1-168

Unit VI. EMPIRE BUILDERS
Jedidiah Smith, Osceola, Joseph Smith, Brigham Young

Unit VII. CIVIL WAR POLITICS
John C. Fremont and Abraham Lincoln