AMERICAN URBAN HISTORY 1607 TO 1870

Texts

Lockridge, Kenneth A., *A New England Town: The First Hundred Years*
Masur, Louis P. (ed.), *The Autobiography of Benjamin Franklin*
Rosenberg, Charles E., *The Cholera Years: The United States in 1832, 1849, and 1866*
Wade, Richard C., *Slavery in the Cities*

Course Meetings and Requirements:

Students will attend two lectures (75 minutes each) per week. Grades will depend on performance on the examinations and the writing assignment due toward the end of the semester. Steady improvement over the semester will find its reward in the final grade. A graduate student Reader will assist the instructor in evaluation of your work. We will evaluate your work on its blend of necessary factual information and thoughtful analyses of the major issues.

We have scheduled two examinations during the course; each will be in essay format. There will be a required mid-term (scheduled for October 20th) and a final examination (scheduled by the College for Sunday, December 22nd at 2:45 P.M.).

Writing Assignment:

In addition to examinations, there will be one required writing assignment. All undergraduate students will write one short (10-15 double-spaced, typewritten pages) essay review (format to be provided). The essay-review will be based on a sufficient variety of materials to allow analysis of differing viewpoints on the subject. Normally, this would be at least three books, or two books and several articles, or 6-10 articles. Students who prefer to write a research paper, based upon primary historical materials, rather than the essay-review, may do so after consultation with the instructor.

All graduate students enrolled in the course must write a research paper based on primary sources.

The writing assignment will be due no later than December 1. We will grant no exceptions to the due date.
COURSE OUTLINE AND LECTURE TOPICS

LECTURE TOPICS

I. CITIES IN THE NEW WORLD

Introduction to the course
Theories of City Location and Growth
Patterns of American Colonial Urbanization
Planting and Planning Cities in the New World
The Regulation of Urban Life
The "Sorts" of City Folk: Class Structure in the Cities
Social Institutions in the Cities
Commercial Cities and the Rise of the Merchants
The First Urban (Urbane?) American
The First Urban (Urbane?) American: Part 2
The Workshops of the Revolution
Urban America in War and Peace
Federal Cities and the Constitution

***Review Session for Examination***

MID-TERM EXAMINATION * * *
Oct. 20

II. CITIES IN THE NEW NATION

The Rise of Western Cities
Social Order in Frontier Urban America
The Urban Frontier of the Old South
Slaves and Free Blacks in Urban America
Dreamers and Schemers of Urban Imperialism
Urban Industrial Growth
Work and Workers in Urban America
Foreigners and the "Discovery" of Poverty
Order and Disorder in the Cities

***Thanksgiving Recess, Nov. 24-27***

The Unhealthy City
Technology and Visions of the Urban Future
Saving the Cities Through Planning
The Southern Perimeter and the Civil War
The Urbanization of Modern America

***Review Session for Final Examination***