UNIVERSITY OF WISCONSIN-MADISON
Department of History
Fall 1988

History 521
Women in American Society
1870 to the Present
T & R 9:30-10:45

SYLLABUS

Explaination of Symbols:
X=Kinko's Copy Center packet  P=Suggested purchase  L=Lecture

Note: All required and suggested books and articles are on reserve at Helen C. White Library, or at the State Historical Society.

I. WOMEN IN INDUSTRIAL SOCIETY

9/06  L1: The Uneven Development of U.S. Industrialization
9/08  L2: The South

REQUIRED READING:
P  HQ1420H3 Margaret Hagood, Mothers of the South, pp. 63-91, 183-198.
P  E185.86L4 Gerda Lerner, Black Women in White America (BWWA), pp. 150-158; 226-229 ("Georgia Peons," "Little more than slaves;" "Treadmill Life").
P  HQ1410F6 Eleanor Flexner, Century of Struggle, ch. 9, pp. 131-141.
HQ1418S38 Anne Scott, Southern Lady, ch. 5, pp. 106-133.

II. THE STRUGGLE FOR EDUCATION

9/13  L1: Equal Access to Knowledge
9/15  L2: Separate Institutions

REQUIRED READING:
Flexner, ch. 8, pp. 113-130.
P  HQ1410F45 Lerner, Female Experience (FE), pp. 417-419; 247-256
   (Lockwood; Verduin, Sandler).
Lerner, BWWA, pp. 112-146 (KKK investigations, Clark, Laney,
   Brown, Burroughs, Bethune).
Hagood, pp. 128-156.
P  HQ1426W663 Linda Kerber & Jane DeHart-Mathews, Women's America,
   pp. 254-266 (Zitkala-Za, Antin, M.C. Thomas).

III. WOMEN ORGANIZE FOR FAMILY AND COMMUNITY

9/20  L1: The WCTU and the Social Purity Movement
9/22  L2: The Woman's Club Movement, white and Black

REQUIRED READING:
Lerner, BWWA, pp. 435-458 (AAFIS Constitution, Ruffin,
   Washington, Williams, NACW club reports).
HQ1423E67 Barbara L. Epstein, The Politics of Domesticity, chs. 4-5,
   pp. 89-146.
Anne Firor Scott, "The 'New Women' in the New South," in
Anne Firor Scott, Making the Invisible Woman Visible,
   pp. 212-221 or in South Atlantic Quarterly Vol. 61
   (Autumn 1962); 417-483.

Suggested:
B. Epstein, entire book.
Frances Willard, Glimpses of Fifty Years (1889).
IV. WOMEN AS INSTITUTION BUILDERS AND REFORMERS

3/27  L1: Special Needs and Innovations
3/29  L2: Separate Institutions, Leadership, and Networks

REQUIRED READING:

Clarke Chambers, *Seedtime of Reform*, chs. 5-6, pp. 109-150
Kerber/Mathews, pp. 269-293 (Kelley; B. Cook)

Suggested:

HV4196C4H7 Jane Addams, *Twenty Years at Hull House* (1910 reprint 1961)

V. THE WORKING WOMAN 1 -- THE HOUSEWIFE

10/4  L1: The Dual Burden
10/6  L2: Ethnicity, Race, and Gender as Factors in Work Decisions

REQUIRED READING:

Hagood, pp. 92-107.

Suggested:


VI. THE WORKING WOMAN 2 -- OUT TO WORK

10/11 L1: The Unorganized
10/13 L2: Women in the Union Movement

REQUIRED READING:

Kessler-Harris, "Where are the Organized Women Workers," in Cott/Pleck, pp. 343-361 or in Kerber/Mathews, pp. 237-253
Lerner, *FE*, PP. 257-272; 286-316 (Stevens, Beecher, Starkweather, Seeley, Brozan; Dorr, Blanshard, Barry, Schneiderman, Van Etten, NWTUL, UAW).
Flexner, chs. 9, 14, 18; pp. 131-141, 193-202, 240-247.
VII. THE SEXUAL REVOLUTION

10/18 L1: Demographic Changes and What They Mean
10/20 L2: Reproduction and Changing Sexual Mores

REQUIRED READING:
- Carl Degler, At Odds, chs. 3-10, pp. 210-248.
- Lerner, PE, pp. 98-103; 429-432 (Sadie Sachs, Sanger; "Unwed Mother").
- C. Smith-Rosenberg, "The Female World of Love and Ritual," in Cott/Pleck, pp. 311-342.

Suggested:
- Margaret Sanger, Margaret Sanger: An Autobiography (1938) or Margaret Sanger, My Fight for Birthcontrol (1931).

10/25 MID-TERM EXAM

VIII. IN SEARCH OF THE NEW WOMAN

10/27 L1: New Types of Women

REQUIRED READING:
- Lerner, FE, pp. 361-378; 419-423 (Stevens, Lewis; Flynn).
- Lerner, BWWA, pp. 333-357; 378-382 (M.C. Terrell, E.P. Ensley, Mrs. Patterson, C. Bass, Ella Baker, S. Chisholm).
- X

Suggested:
- Emma Goldman, "The Traffic in Women" and "Marriage and Love"

IX. THE WINNING OF SUFFRAGE

11/1 L1: Strategy and Tactics
11/3 L2: The Significance of Suffrage and Anti-Suffrage

REQUIRED READING:
- Flexner, chs. 12, and 16, pp. 164-178; 216-225.
- Kerber/Mathews, pp. 298-311 (Scott & Scott).

Suggested:
- Flexner, chs. 21-23, pp. 276-324.
- Ellen Dubois, Feminism and Suffrage, chs. 4-6.
X. POST SUFFRAGE FEMINISM

11/8  L1: Mainstreaming and Coalition
11/10 L2: Women’s Issues

REQUIRED READING:
Kerber/Mathews, pp. 342-355 (J. Hall).

XI. WOMEN FROM THE 1930’S TO THE 1960’S

11/15  L1: Economic Changes
11/17  L2: Social and Cultural Changes

REQUIRED READING:
Chafe, pp. 135-225.
Lerner, BWWA, pp. 275-284; 306-308; 398-405 (F. Rice; D. Bates; WPA letters)
Lerner, FE, pp. 290-292 (Blanshard)
Kerber/Mathews, pp. 401-414 (A. Moody, delaCruz)

XII. THE RE-EMERGENCE OF FEMINIST CONSCIOUSNESS

11/22  L1: Origins and History of the New Feminism
11/24  THANKSGIVING

REQUIRED READING:
Kerber/Mathews, pp. 415-462 (Swerdlow, Friedan, Mathews)
Lerner, FE, pp. 458-462 (1975 Agenda)
Lerner, BWWA, pp. 599-614 (Robinson, Chisholm, Wright, Hamer)

XIII. THE NEW FEMINISM -- VARIETIES

11/29  L1: Some Theoretical Considerations
12/1   L2: Varieties of Feminism

REQUIRED READING:
Documents: NOW Bill of Rights; Millet, Manifesto; Redstockings Manifesto; N.Y. Radical Feminists.
Lerner, FE, pp. 378-387; 444-453 (ERA, Woman-Identified Woman).
XIV. THE NEW FEMINISM -- II


12/8  L2: The Meaning and Significance of Women's Studies

REQUIRED READING:


Lerner, Creation of Patriarchy, pp. 3-14, 212-229 (Intro, ch. 11).
HQ1154D12 Mary Daly, Beyond God the Father, pp. 1-43 (Intro, ch. 1).

XV. REVIEW

12/13 Course Review
12/15 Party

12/17 Exam at 10:05 a.m.
WOMEN IN AMERICAN SOCIETY, 1870 TO THE PRESENT

Course 521
T & TR: 9:30-10:45
All assignments are due at
the beginning of the week.

Course Description:

The course will offer an overview of the history of women in America. The
emphasis will always be on seeing women as active agents in history and on
studying them comparatively, in consideration of variables as to class, race,
and ethnicity.

Students will work with primary and secondary sources and become familiar
with different historiographic interpretations.

Lectures:

There will be class discussion as part of each lecture period. Section meetings
will be scheduled during the first week of classes.

Requirements:

Attendance at lectures and participation in class discussion following the lectures;
reading preparation in advance of each lecture; participation in weekly section dis-
cussion, and of course, the taking of tests.

Honor students and graduate students working for credit must do additional work
based on some of the suggested readings. See instructor for individual assignments.

Absences:

Unexcused absences from sections will be reflected in the grade. Students having
problems about attendance at lectures and sections are urged to see the instructor
after class or during office hours.

Restrictions:

Juniors and seniors. Sophomores only with the instructor's permission. Graduate
students may audit or take course for credit, except for American History graduate
students, who may audit only. Auditors must do all class reading assignments.

Exams:

In-class Midterm. In-class final. Additional credit may be earned by submitting
one or more book report(s) based on suggested readings.

Grading System:

Fulfillment of requirements ........................................ 10% of grade.
Section attendance and participation .......................... 25% of grade.
Midterm ................................................................. 30% of grade.
Final ................................................................. 35% of grade.
This is a poem for a woman doing dishes.
This is a poem for a woman doing dishes.
It must be repeated.
It must be repeated.
again and again,
again and again,
because the woman doing dishes
because the woman doing dishes
has trouble hearing.
has trouble hearing.

And this is another poem for a woman cleaning the floor
who cannot hear at all.
Let us have a moment of silence
for the woman who cleans the floor.

And here is one more poem
for the woman at home
with children.
You never see her at night.
Stare at an empty space and imagine her there,
the woman with children
because she cannot be here to speak
for herself,
and listen
to what you think
she might say.

If women's lives were fables
and kitchen feats adventures,
this bowl would be a talisman,
tell tales
and even fly.

But now it is an ordinary bowl.

The place those first women in my world taught me to shape more
than necessary bread my life.

--Susan Griffin, "Three Poems for Women," 1970s