In this seminar we will be reading and discussing a wide range of recent books and articles in American intellectual and cultural history. Weeks 2-13 are organized on a chronological basis, while Week 14 focuses on issues of theory and methodology. The dual aim of the seminar is to survey recent work on topics of interest to historians of ideas, and simultaneously to explore the various methodologies and approaches intellectual and cultural historians use.

Reading and Assigned Papers.

At the first organizational meeting, each student will choose a book or article to read for each week. (Each student's choices should result in about a half-and-half mix of books and articles.) Each student will then write a 2-3 page essay on each week's readings and make sufficient copies (in Xerox or ditto form) for distribution to the full class, plus two copies for the instructor. (One copy will be returned to you with comments, the other is for my files.) These papers should be in the form of a 500-600 word review, such as one might write for a journal like the American Historical Review, concisely summarizing the main themes or thesis of the work; discussing the organization, style, or use of sources; and critically assessing strengths and weaknesses.

Long Paper. One of these reviews should be expanded into a longer paper of 8-12 pages in which the analytical and critical discussion is enlarged and deepened. (The reviews in Reviews in American History might serve as a model for this form.) This longer paper may be submitted at any time during the semester; it must be completed, together with all the other papers, by the final class meeting.

Class Discussion

At each class meeting, two or three 15-minute oral reports will be presented, following a schedule to be worked out at the first meeting. Each student will give two oral reports in the course of the semester. These reports should summarize and critically evaluate the work, and suggest what it contributes (or fails to contribute!) to our historical understanding. After each report, another student, designated the "Respondent", will comment for about 10 minutes on the presentation and raise questions about any matters left unclear in the report. We will then have about 15-20 minutes of general discussion. The books or articles to be the subject of these oral reports have been starred (*) on the attached lists of weekly readings.

Grading

Grading will be based on the short papers, the longer paper, and discussion participation including the oral reports.

Office Hours

Humanities 4131. Mon. 3:30-4:30; Wed. 1:30-4:30, or by appointment (263-1829).

Books and Articles Availability

These books and articles should be available in Memorial Library or the State Historical Society. If you cannot locate a book or article, please contact me immediately so an alternate may be agreed upon.
Week 2: The 17th Century: Puritans, Perry Miller, the Land

David Levin, Cotton Mather: The Young Life of the Lord's Remembrancer (1978)
Stephen Foster, Their Solitary Way: Puritan Social Ethics in ... New England (1971)
David D. Hall, The Faithful Shepherd: ... the New England Ministry in 17th C. (1972)


Francis Jennings, "Virgin Land and Savage People", AQ, 27 (1971), 519.
David D. Hall, "Understanding the Puritans", in Stanley Katz (Ed.), Essays in the Political and Social Development of Colonial America (First edn., 1971)

Francis T. Butts, "The Myth of Perry Miller", AHR, June 1982
* " " " Witchcraft and the Limits of Interpretation," New England Quarterly, June 1985
Week 3: The Eighteenth Century

* Henry May, The Enlightenment in America (1976)
Donald Meyer, The Democratic Enlightenment (1977)
Herbert Leventhal, In the Shadow of the Enlightenment: Occultism and Renaissance Science in 18th C. America (1976)
C.C. Goen, Revivalism and Separatism in New England, 1740-1800 (1962)
Richard Bushman, From Puritan to Yankee: Character and Social Order in Connecticut, 1690-1765 (1967)
Richard Hofstadter, America at 1750 (1971)

* James Henretta, "Families and Farms: Mentalité in Pre-Industrial America", W&Q, Jan. 1978
Week 4: Ideology and Culture in the Revolutionary Era

Caroline Robbins, *The 18th Century Commonwealthmen* (1968)
- - , *The Ordeal of Thomas Hutchinson* (1974)
* J.G.A. Pocock, *The Machiavellian Moment: Political Thought & the Atlantic Republican Tradition*/

Winthrop Jordan, "Familial Politics: Thomas Paine and the Killing of the King", *JAH*, Sept. '73
Bernard Bailyn, "Political Experience and Enlightenment Ideas in 18th C. Am., *AHR* 67 (1962), 339-351.
Isaac Kramnick, "Republican Revisionism Revisited," *American Historical Review* (1982) and
Week 5: The Antebellum Era - I: Political and Social Thought; Reform Currents

Fred Somkin, Unquiet Eagle: Memory and Desire in American Freedom, 1815-60 (1967)
Daniel W. Howe, The Political Culture of the Am. Whigs (1979)
Ronald G. Walters, American Reformers, 1815-1860 (1978)
Thomas Bender, Toward an Urban Vision: Ideas and Institutions in 19th-C. America (1975)
John F. Rasson, Civilizing the Machine: Technology and Republican Values in America, 1776-1900 (1976)
Susan P. Conrad, Perish the Thought: Intellectual Women in Romantic America, 1830-60 (1976)
Lawrence Foster, Religion and Sexuality: The Shakers, the Mormons, and the Oneida Community (1984)

John L. Thomas, "Romantic Reform in America", AQ, 17 (1965)
Carol Smith-Rosenberg, "The Female World of Love and Ritual: Relations Between Women in 19th-Century America", Signs, Autumn 1975
Anne Scott, "Women's Perspective on the Patriarchy in the 1850s", JAH, June 1974.
Week 6: The Antebellum Period - II: Culture, Literature, Religion, Science

Russell B. Nye, Society and Culture in America, 1830-60 (1974)

* Lewis Saum, The Popular Mood of Pre-Civil War America (1980)

Joseph J. Ellis, After the Revolution: Profiles of Early American Culture (1979)


Theodore D. Bozeman, Protestants in an Age of Science: The Baconian Ideal and Antebellum American Religious Thought (1977)


Lawrence J. Friedman, Invention of the Promised Land (1975). Patriotic literature.


Anne C. Rose, Transcendentalism as a Social Movement (1981)


Joel Porte, Emerson and Thoreau: Transcendentalists in Conflict (1966)

David Robinson, Apostle of Culture: Emerson as a Preacher and Lecturer (1984)

Leo Marx, The Machine in the Garden: Technology and the Pastoral Ideal in America (1964)

Henry Nash Smith, Virgin Land: The American West as Symbol and Myth (1950)

Klaus J. Hansen, Mormonism and the American Experience (1976)


Karen Halttunen, Confidence Men and Painted Women: Middle Class Culture in America, 1830-1870 (1983)

Mary Kelley, Private Woman, Public Stage: Literary Domesticity in 19th C. America (1984)

John R. Higham, "From Boundlessness to Consolidation: The Transformation of American Culture, 1848-1860" (Ann Arbor, 1969)

Richard M. Rollins, "Worlds as Social Control: Noah Webster and the Creation of the American Dictionary", JAH, Fall 1976


* Clifford E. Clark Jr., "Domestic Architecture as an Index to Social History: The Romantic Revival and the Cult of Domesticity in America, 1840-1870," Journal of Interdisciplinary History, Summer 1976
Week 7: The Antebellum Period - III: Black Thought and Culture; Views of Native Americans, the Pro-Slavery and Anti-Slavery Arguments; Abolitionism

Drew Gilpin Faust, A Sacred Circle: The Dilemma of the Intellectual in the Old South (1977)
Bertram Wyatt-Brown, Southern Honor: Ethics and Behavior in the Old South (1982)
Leonard I. Sweet, Black Images of America, 1784-1870 (1976)
Lawrence W. Levine, Black Culture and Black Consciousness: Afro-American Folk Thought From Slavery to Freedom (1977)
William Stanton, The Leopard's Spots: Scientific Attitudes Toward Race in Am., 1815-59 (1960)
Aileen Raditor, Means and Ends in American Abolitionism: Garrison and His Critics (1969)
Lewis Perry, Radical Abolitionism: Anarchy and the Government of God in Antislavery Thought (1973)
Robert Berkhofer, The White Man's Indian (1978)

Week 8: The Gilded Age, I: Social, Political, Religious Thought; Darwinism


* Paul Carter, The Spiritual Crisis of the Gilded Age (1971).
  Emerson, Pierce, Baldwin, Ross, Hall, Royce.
  Stephen Gottschalk, The Emergence of Christian Science... (19).


Week 9: The Gilded Age, II: Literature, Culture, Scholarship, the Professions

Daniel M. Fox, Engines of Culture: Philanthropy and Art Museums (1963)
  Kermit Vanderbilt, The Achievement of William Dean Howells (1968).
  Justin Kaplan, Mr. Clemens and Mark Twain (1966).
  Albert McLean, American Vaudeville as Ritual (1965).
  Alexandra Oleson and John Voss (eds.), The Organization of Knowledge in Modern America, 1860-1920 (1979).
Gunther Barth, City People: The Rise of Modern City Culture in 19th Century America (1980).

Dee Garrison, Apostles of Culture: The Public Librarian in Am. Society (1979)
Robert Bruce, Alexander Graham Bell and the Conquest of Solitude (1973)
Robert W. Rydell, All the World's a Fair: Visions of Empire at American International Expositions, 1876-1916 (1985)

Alan Trachtenberg, The Incorporation of America: Culture and Society in the Gilded Age (1982). Chapters 5 and 6 ("The Politics of Culture" and "Fictions of the Real").
Thomas Bender, "The Cultures of Intellectual Life: The City and the Professions," Ibid.
Week 10: The 1900-1920 Period

Daniel J. Kevles, In the Name of Eugenics: Genetics and the Uses of Human Heredity (1985).
Emily S. Rosenberg, Spreading the American Dream: American Economic and Cultural Expansion, 1890-1945 (1982).

Hamilton Cravens, "The Abandonment of Evolutionary Social Theory in America" [Academic professionalization and Am. sociological theory, 1890-1920], Am. Studies, Fall 1971.

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Week 11: The 1920s and 1930s

John P. Diggins, Mussolini and Fascism: The View From America (1972).
Paul A. Carter, Another Part of the 1920s (1977).
Alan Brinkley, Voices of Protest ( Huey Long, Father Coughlin) (1982)
Richard H. Pells, Radical Visions and American Dreams: Culture and Social Thought in the Depression Years (1973).
Andrew Bergman, We're in the Money: Films of the 1930s (1970).
Donald S. Napoli, Architects of Adjustment, Hist. of the Psychological Profession in the U.S. (1980)
Anthony Heilbut, German Refugee Artists and Intellectuals in America... (1983)

Jane D. Mathews, "Arts and the People: New Deal Quest for Cultural Dom.," JAR, Sep. '75

Richard Fox, "Epitaph for Middletown: Robert S. Lynd and the Analysis of Consumer Culture", in Lears and Fox, The Culture of Consumption.
Week 12: The Fifties


* Robert Booth Fowler, Believing Skeptics (1978)

Andrew Dowdy, Films of the Fifties (1973)
John J. Ansbro, Martin Luther King Jr.: The Making of a Mind (1983)
William Chace, Lionel Trilling: Criticism and Politics (1980)
David Caute, The Fellow-Travellers (1973)
Michael Rogin, The Intellectuals and McCarthy (1967)
Ronald Lora, Conservative Minds in America (1971)
* John P. Diggins, Up From Communism (1975)

Albert Berger, "The Magic That Works" (John W. Campbell and science fiction), Jour. of Popular Culture, Spring 1972
G. W. Domhoff and Ballard Hoyt (eds.), C. Wright Mills and the Power Elite (1968).
David Hollinger, "The Canon and Its Keepers: Modernism and Mid-20th Century American Intellectuals," in In the American Province (1985)
Week 13: The Sixties to the Present

* Peter Steinfels, *The Neo-Conservatives* (1979)
* Daniel Bell, *The Cultural Contradictions of Capitalism* (1976)

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Garth Jowell, *Film: The Democratic Art* (1976)

Lawrence Vyesey, *The Emergence of the American University* (1965)


David A. Hollinger, "Historians and the Discourse of Intellectuals," in Higham and Conkin, *New Directions*...