REVOLUTIONARY AMERICA

History 901
Wednesday, 10 a.m.-noon

J. B. Lee

COURSE DESCRIPTION: The American Revolution has been characterized as the "paramount event" in American history. This seminar explores its nature and impact. The usual reading load will be one book and two periodical articles per week or the equivalent. (Note: for some topics the assigned readings will be divided among class members.) Students will also receive a supplementary reading list for each weekly topic.

READINGS: Assigned readings are on three-hour reserve at the State Historical Society of Wisconsin. The following titles are also available at the University Bookstore.


SCHEDULE:

Jan. 20 ORGANIZATIONAL MEETING: THE AMERICAN REVOLUTION IN HISTORICAL PERSPECTIVE

Jan. 27 A REVOLUTIONARY AGE

THE IMPERIAL CONNECTION

Feb. 3

Ian R. Christie, Wars and Revolutions: Britain, 1760-1815 (1982), 3-44.

COLONIAL LANDSCAPES

Feb. 10


THE WORLD ACCORDING TO THE RADICAL WHIGS

Feb. 17

Feb. 24

THE GATHERING STORM


Mar. 3

A UNIQUE MOMENT IN HUMAN HISTORY


Mar. 10

SPRING VACATION

Mar. 17

FOUNDED IN BLOOD


Jean B. Lee, "Revolution, War, and Nationhood: Charles County, Maryland, 1750-1800," chaps. 5-6.

Charles Royster, "Founding a Nation in Blood: Military Conflict and American Nationality," in Arms and Independence: The Military Character of the
Mar. 24

THE UNCERTAIN NATION


Mar. 31

LIBERTY'S DAUGHTERS


Apr. 7

THE PROBLEM OF SLAVERY


Apr. 14  ENTERPRISING AMERICANS


Apr. 21  THE DEMOCRATIZATION OF RELIGION


Apr. 28  THE REVOLUTIONARY FRONTIER


May 5  LEGACIES

WRITTEN ASSIGNMENTS: Papers are due at the beginning of class. Except in extraordinary circumstances, no late papers will be accepted. Maximum length: 6 pages, typewritten and double-spaced.

Due Feb. 24: Assess the causes of the American Revolution.


Due Apr. 28: Assess the extent to which revolution and war transformed American society.

GRADING: 30% class discussion; 20% first paper; 25% each for the second and third papers.

INSTRUCTOR’S OFFICE HOURS: 11:00 a.m. to noon, Tuesdays and Thursdays; also by appointment. 4116 Humanities Building. Phone: 263-1661 or 263-1800.