

UNIVERSITY OF WISCONSIN-MADISON
DEPARTMENT OF HISTORY
FALL, 1987

COURSE SYLLABUS

HISTORY 102

MR. ALLEN RUFF

UNITED STATES HISTORY FROM THE CIVIL WAR TO THE PRESENT

Course Texts:

- Henry Bedford & Trevor Colbourn, The Americans - A Brief History Since 1865 (3rd ed., Part II) (Harcourt, Brace & Jovanovich).
- Howard Zinn, The Twentieth Century - A People's History (Harper & Row, 1984)
- Walter LaFeber, Inevitable Revolutions - The United States in Central America (Norton, 1984)
- Upton Sinclair, The Jungle (Penguin Classic ed.)
- Malcom X, The Autobiography of Malcom X (Ballantine or Grove Press, 1987 ed.)
- Michael Herr, Dispatches (Avon, 1984)

Examinations and Assignments:

There will be two examinations during the course; each will be in essay format. Study questions, similar to those that will appear on each exam, will be handed out in class at least one week prior.

There will be a required Mid-Term (scheduled for October 22) and a Final Examination (scheduled by the College as printed in the Timetable).

In addition to the exams, there will be one required writing assignment. This will be a short (3-6 double-spaced, typewritten pages) essay review of a book mutually agreed upon by the instructor and student. (Instructions for the writing of an essay review and the due date for the assignment will be given out in class.)

Discussion Sections and Grading:

Students will attend two lectures (75 minutes each) and one required discussion section (50 minutes) per week. Mr. Ruff will lead the discussion sections which normally will focus on the reading assignments for the course.

Cumulative grade will be based on the two exams, the essay review, and attendance at and participation in the discussion sections.

COURSE OUTLINE AND LECTURE TOPICS

LECTURE TOPICS	DATE
I. AMERICAN SOCIETY COMES OF AGE, 1865-1920.	
The Historian & Critical Thinking	Sept. 3
Reconstruction: A Country Still Divided	8
The "Gilded Age"	10
The Worker's Search for Power	15
Wars at Home I.: From Little Big Horn to Haymarket	17
The "New Immigrant"	22
The Populist Moment	24
The Crisis of the Nineties	29
Empire as Solution: The "China Market" & Beyond	Oct. 1
The "Progressive Era"	6
A Socialist Interlude	8
The "Great War," 1919 & After	13
The Great Migration	15
An Early Long, Hot Summer	20
* * * <u>MID-TERM EXAMINATION</u> * * *	
OCTOBER 22	
II. BOOM & BUST: 1920-1941	
The "Jazz Age": Diversion & Reaction	27
The Great Crash and The Great Depression	29
Reshuffle & New Deal	Nov. 3
III. HOT & COLD WAR: AMERICAN ASCENDANCY, 1941-1963	
"The Big One" At Home and Abroad	Nov. 5
The Big Chill in a Hostile World	10
"Pax Americana"	12
The Move to the Front of the Bus	17
"Somethin's Happenin' But You Don't Know What It Is, Do You Mr. Jones?"	19
"Johnnie, We Hardly Knew Ye!"	24
* * * Thanksgiving Break * * *	
November 26	
IV. A TURNING POINT? THE 1960S AND BEYOND	
The "Great Society," At Home & Abroad	Dec. 1
Viet Nam I: A Logic Fullfilled	3
Nam II.: The Wars at Home	8
Watergate Under the Bridge & the "Vietnam Syndrome"	10
Failure of a Dream?	15