

THE UNIVERSITY OF WISCONSIN
Department of History

Semester I, 1989-90

History 572 Rebellious and Revolutionary Peasantries Mr. Donnelly

COURSE DESCRIPTION

Peasant studies have attracted considerable scholarly attention during the past two decades. Within this general field the subject of peasant rebellion and revolution has been a particular focus of investigation for numerous historians and social scientists. The seminar will address three of the broad issues which have tended to dominate scholarly discussion of this subject. First, how have peasant societies been affected by and responded to the impact of modernization? Has modernization substantially increased the likelihood of peasant revolts? Second, what social factors tend to promote or to retard the mobilization of peasants in collective action, especially in revolutionary movements? And third, what classes or types of peasants have displayed the greatest potential for revolution? Though the instructor is particularly interested in Irish agrarian rebellions of the late eighteenth and early nineteenth centuries, this seminar will be concerned with peasant upheavals in a wide variety of geographical and temporal settings. The theoretical issues mentioned above will be explored through a concrete examination of revolutionary movements in France, Russia, Latin America, and especially China and Vietnam.

WRITTEN ASSIGNMENTS AND EXAMINATIONS

There will be three written assignments: (1) a report of about six pages on the assigned reading and related discussion questions for one session of the seminar; (2) a critical book review, eight to ten pages in length, and (3) a research proposal of about fifteen pages, to include a detailed outline of the project and a comprehensive bibliography of primary and secondary sources.

GRADING SYSTEM

Though the exact weighing of the different elements will be decided after general discussion at our first meeting, I suggest the following distribution: (1) seminar report (15 percent); (2) critical book review (15 percent); (3) research proposal (30 percent); (4) informed participation in seminar discussion (40 percent).

REQUIRED READINGS

(See attached sheet.)

REQUIRED TEXTBOOKS

Robert Conquest, The Harvest of Sorrow (Oxford University Press).

William Hinton, Fanshen: A Documentary of Revolution in a Chinese Village (Vintage Books).

James C. Scott, The Moral Economy of the Peasant (Yale University Press).

Theda Skocpol, States and Social Revolutions (Stanford University Press).

Eugen Weber, Peasants into Frenchmen (Stanford University Press).

Eric R. Wolf, Peasant Wars of the Twentieth Century (Harper Torchbooks).

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Fall, 1989

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A Select Bibliography

* Available in paperback

Aya, Roderick, The Missed Revolution: The Fate of Rural Rebels in Sicily and Southern Spain, 1840-1950. Amsterdam, 1975.

*Banfield, Edward C., The Moral Basis of a Backward Society, New York: The Free Press, 1958.

Bew, Paul, Land and the National Question in Ireland, 1858-82, Dublin: Gill and Macmillan, 1978.

*Bianco, Lucien, Origins of the Chinese Revolution, 1915-1949, Stanford: Stanford University Press, 1971.

*Blok, Anton, The Mafia of a Sicilian Village: A Study of Violent Peasant Entrepreneurs, New York: Harper & Row, 1974.

*Blum, Jerome, Lord and Peasant in Russia from the Ninth to the Nineteenth Century, New York: Atheneum, 1964.

*Blum, Jerome, The End of the Old Order in Rural Europe, Princeton: Princeton University Press, 1978.

Chesneaux, Jean, Peasant Revolts in China, 1840-1949, New York, 1973.

Clark, Samuel, Social Origins of the Irish Land War, Princeton: Princeton University Press, 1979.

*Clark, Samuel, and James S. Donnelly, Jr., eds., Irish Peasants: Violence and Political Unrest, 1780-1914, Madison: University of Wisconsin Press, 1983.

*Conquest, Robert, The Harvest of Sorrow: Soviet Collectivization and the Terror-Famine, New York: Oxford University Press, 1986.

*Critchfield, Richard, The Golden Bowl Be Broken: Peasant Life in Four Cultures, Bloomington: University of Indiana Press, 1973.

Donnelly, James S., Jr., The Land and the People of Nineteenth-Century Cork: The Rural Economy and the Land Question, London: Routledge & Kegan Paul, 1975.

Dunbabin, J.P.D., Rural Discontent in Nineteenth-Century Britain, London: Faber & Faber, 1974.

*Fitzgerald, Frances, Fire in the Lake, New York: Vintage Books, 1972.

- *Hamerow, Theodore, S., Restoration, Revolution, Reaction: Economics and Politics in Germany, 1815-1871, Princeton: Princeton University Press, 1958.
- *Hay, Douglas, et al., Albion's Fatal Tree: Crime and Society in Eighteenth-Century England, New York: Random House, 1975.
- *Hilton, Rodney, Bond Men Made Free: Medieval Peasant Movements and the English Rising of 1381, London: Methuen & Co., 1973.
- *Hinton, William, Fanshen: A Documentary of Revolution in a Chinese Village, New York: Vintage Books, 1966.
- Hinton, William, Shenfan, New York: Random House, 1983.
- *Hobsbawn, Eric J., Primitive Rebels: Studies in Archaic Forms of Social Movement in the 19th and 20th Centuries, New York: W.W. Norton & Co., 1965.
- *Hobsbawn, Eric J., Bandits, New York: Delacorte Press, 1969.
- Hobsbawn, Eric J., and George Rudé, Captain Swing, New York: Random House, 1968.
- *Huberman, Leo, and Paul Sweezy, Socialism in Cuba, New York: Monthly Review Press, 1969.
- Kaplan, Temma, Anarchists of Andalusia, 1868-1903, Princeton: Princeton University Press, 1977.
- Landsberger, H.A., ed., Latin American Peasant Movements, Ithaca, N.Y.: Cornell University Press, 1969.
- Landsberger, H.A., ed., Rural Protest: Peasant Movements and Social Change, London, 1974.
- *Lefebvre, Georges, The Coming of the French Revolution, 1789, trans. R.R. Palmer, Princeton: Princeton University Press, 1967.
- *Le Roy Ladurie, Emmanuel, The Peasants of Languedoc, trans. John Day, Urbana: University of Illinois Press, 1974.
- *Lockwood, Lee, Castro's Cuba, Cuba's Fidel, New York: Random House, 1969.
- Margadant, Ted W., French Peasants in Revolt: The Insurrection of 1851, Princeton: Princeton University Press, 1979.
- Migdal, J.S., Peasants, Politics, and Revolution, Princeton: Princeton University Press, 1974.
- Paige, J.M., Agrarian Revolution: Social Movements and Export Agriculture in the Underdeveloped World, New York, 1975.

- *Popkin, Samuel L., The Rational Peasant: The Political Economy of Rural Society in Vietnam, Berkeley: University of California Press, 1979.
- *Redfield, Robert, The Little Community and Peasant Society and Culture, Chicago: University of Chicago Press, 1960.
- *Robinson, Geroid T., Rural Russia under the Old Regime: A History of the Landlord-Peasant World and Prologue to the Peasant Revolution of 1917, Berkeley: University of California Press, 1967.
- *Ruiz, Ramon, Cuba: The Making of a Revolution, New York: W.W. Norton & Co, 1970.
- *Scott, James C., Weapons of the Weak: Everyday Forms of Peasant Resistance, New Haven: Yale University Press, 1985.
- *Selden, Mark, The Yanan Way in Revolutionary China, Cambridge: Harvard University Press, 1971.
- Shanin, Teodor, ed., Peasants and Peasant Societies, Harmondsworth: Penguin Books, 1971.
- *Stern, Steve J., ed., Resistance, Rebellion, and Consciousness in the Andian Peasant World, 18th to 20th Centuries, Madison: University of Wisconsin Press, 1987.
- *Thompson, E.P., Whigs and Hunters: The Origin of the Black Act, New York: Random House, 1975.
- *Tilly, Charles, The Vendée, New York: John Wiley & Sons, 1967.
- *Tutino, John, From Insurrection to Revolution in Mexico: Social Bases of Agrarian Violence, 1750-1940, Princeton: Princeton University Press, 1986.
- *Weber, Eugen, Peasants into Frenchmen: The Modernization of Rural France, 1870-1914. Stanford: Stanford University Press, 1976.
- *Wolf, Eric R., Peasants, Englewood Cliffs, N.J.: Prentice-Hall, 1966.
- *Womack, John, Jr., Zapata and the Mexican Revolution, New York: Vintage Books, 1970.
- *Wright, Gordon, Rural Revolution in France: The Peasantry in the Twentieth Century, Stanford: Stanford University Press, 1964.