

THE UNIVERSITY OF WISCONSIN  
Department of History

Semester 1 Year 72-73

<u>COURSE NO.</u>	<u>COURSE TITLE</u>	<u>INSTRUCTOR</u>
History 625	American Social History before 1860	Maris Vinovskis

COURSE DESCRIPTION:

The course will examine the antecedents of American social development in the Old World and analyze the transformations of the traditional family and the social structure in America.

The course will focus on a series of topics in American social history that will be traced throughout this period. Particular attention will be paid to the impact of political, economic and social changes on the functioning of the family and on the social system as a whole.

A major objective of this course will be to teach students to analyze critically various approaches to American social history and to develop a useful perspective for contemporary American social development.

LECTURES:

Lectures twice weekly, supplemented by discussion meetings.

EXAMINATIONS:

Two preliminary examinations will be given as well as a final examination.

GRADING SYSTEM:

The two preliminary examinations will count for approximately fifty percent of the final grade and the final examination will be worth approximately fifty percent also. Active interest and participation in the discussion will be taken into consideration in the final grade.

REQUIRED READINGS:

See the attached course outline for the required readings.

HISTORY 625

AMERICAN SOCIAL HISTORY BEFORE 1860

WEEK ONE:

August 29: "Introduction to the Study of Social History"

August 31: "Spanish Settlement in the New World"

Read: 1) \*Louis B. Wright, Life in Colonial America (New York: Capricorn Books, 1971), pp. 11-130.

WEEK TWO:

September 5: "The English Background of Immigration to America"

September 7: "Patterns of Settlement in America: Virginia and Massachusetts"

Read: 1) \*Sigmund Diamond, "From Organization to Society: Virginia in the Seventeenth Century," in Essays in Politics and Social Development, ed. Stanley N. Katz (Boston: Little, Brown and Company, 1971), pp. 3-30. Hereafter this volume will be cited as Essays.

2) \*John J. Waters, "Hingham, Massachusetts, 1631-1661: An East Anglican Oligarchy in the New World," in Essays, pp. 50-69.

3) \*Louis B. Wright, Life in Colonial America, pp. 131-245.

WEEK THREE:

September 12: "Economic Development"

September 14: "Politics and the Social Structure"

Read: 1) \*Bernard Bailyn, "Politics and Social Structure in Virginia," in Essays, pp. 135-159.

2) \*Kenneth A. Lockridge and Alan Kreider, "The Evolution of Massachusetts Town Government, 1640-1740," in Essays, pp. 203-225

- 3) \*Michael Zuckerman, "The Social Context of Democracy in Massachusetts," in Essays, pp. 226-245.
- 4) \*Gary B. Nash, "The Rattle of Rights and Privileges: Pennsylvania Politics, 1701-1709," in Essays, pp. 246-267.
- 5) \*Stanley N. Katz, "New York Government and Anglo-American Politics," in Essays, pp. 268-282.

WEEK FOUR:

September 19: "Religion and the Colonial Mind"

September 21: "Educational Development and Trends"

- Read:
- 1) \*David D. Hall, "Understanding the Puritans," in Essays, pp. 31-49.
  - 2) \*Perry Miller, "Jonathan Edwards and the Great Awakening," in Essays, pp. 283-296.
  - 3) \*Richard Bushman, "The Great Awakening in Connecticut," in Essays, pp. 297-307.
  - 4) \*James Henrietta, "Economic Development and Social Structure in Colonial Boston," in Essays, pp. 415-449.
  - 5) \*Kenneth A. Lockridge, "Land, Population and the Evolution of New England Society, 1630-1790; And an Afterthought," in Essays, pp. 466-491.

WEEK FIVE:

September 26: "Development of the Family"

September 28: "Slaves and Indians"

- Read:
- 1) \*John Demos, "Notes on Life in Plymouth Colony," in Essays, pp. 70-90.
  - 2) \*Philip J. Greven, Jr., "Family Structure in Seventeenth Century Andover, Massachusetts," in Essays, pp. 91-112.
  - 3) \*John Demos, "Underlying Themes in the Witchcraft of Seventeenth Century New England," in Essays, pp. 113-133.
  - 4) \*Oscar and Mary F. Handlin, "Origins of the Southern Labor System," in Essays, pp. 341-362.

- 5) \*Winthrop D. Jordan, "Enslavement of Negroes in America to 1700," in Essays, pp. 363-403.
- 6) \*M. Eugene Sirmans, "The Legal Enslavement of the Slave in South Carolina, 1670-1740," in Essays, pp. 404-414.

WEEK SIX:

October 3: Examination

October 5: "Causes of the American Revolution"

Read: 1) Bernard Bailyn, Ideological Origins of the American Revolution (Cambridge, Mass.: Harvard University Press, 1967), pp. 55-159.

WEEK SEVEN:

October 10: "Social Consequences of the American Revolution"

October 12: "Party Formation in the New Republic"

- Read: 1) \*William H. Nelson, "The Revolutionary Character of the American Revolution," AHR, 1964-65, pp. 998-1014 (Bobbs Merrill Reprint H-308)
- 2) \*Frederick B. Tolles, "The American Revolution Considered as a Social Movement: A Re-Evaluation," AHR, 1954, pp. 1-12 (Bobbs Merrill Reprint H-211)
  - 3) \*Staughton Lynd, "Who Should Rule at Home? Dutchess County New York in the American Revolution," WMQ, 1961, pp. 330-359 (Bobbs Merrill Reprint \*H-291)
  - 4) Bruce G. Merritt, "Loyalism and Social Conflict in Revolutionary Deerfield, Massachusetts," Journal of American History, Vol. 62 (1970), 277-289.

WEEK EIGHT:

October 17: "Economic Change in the New Republic"

October 19: "The War of 1812 and the Rise of American Nationalism"

Read: 1) \*Louis B. Wright, Life on the American Frontier  
(New York: Capricorn Books, 1971), pp. 11-180.

WEEK NINE:

October 24: "Urban Growth and Life"

October 26: "Industrialization"

- Read: 1) \*James C. Bonner, "Profile of a Late Ante-Bellum Community," AHR, pp. 663-680 (Bobbs Merrill Reprint H-241)
- 2) Stephen Thernstrom and Peter R. Knights, "Men in Motion: Some Data and Speculations About Urban Population Mobility in Nineteenth-Century America," in The Anonymous Americans: Explorations in Nineteenth Century Social History, ed. Tamara K. Hareven (Englewood Cliffs, N.J.: Prentice-Hall, 1971), pp. 17-47.
- 3) Maris A. Vinovskis, "Mortality Rates and Trends in Massachusetts before 1860," Journal of Economic History, XXXII, No. 1 (March 1972), 184-213.
- 4) Maris A. Vinovskis, "A Multivariate Analysis of Fertility Differentials Among Massachusetts Towns in 1860," Paper presented at the Conference on Early Industrialization, Shifts in Fertility, and Changes in the Family Structure, Princeton University, June 18-July 10, 1972.

WEEK TEN:

October 31: "The American West"

November 2: "Immigration in the Ante-Bellum Period"

- Read: 1) \*Frederick Jackson Turner, "The Significance of the Frontier in American History," American Historical Association Annual Report for 1893, pp. 199-227 (Bobbs Merrill Reprint H-214)
- 2) \*Stanley Elkins and Eric McKittrick, "A Meaning for Turner's Frontier, Part I: Democracy in the Old Northwest; Part II: The Southwest Frontier and New England," PSQ, 1954, pp. 321-353; 565-602 (Bobbs Merrill Reprint \*\*H-64)

- 3) \*Gene M. Gressley, "The Turner Thesis----A Problem in Historiography," Agricultural History, 1958, pp. 227-249 (Bobbs Merrill Reprint H-91)
- 4) \*Paul F. Sharp, "Three Frontiers: Some Comparative Studies of Canadian, American and Australian Settlement," PHR, 1955, pp. 369-377 (Bobbs Merrill Reprint H-196)

WEEK ELEVEN:

November 7: "Jacksonian Democracy"

November 9: "Religious Changes"

- Read: 1) Barbara Welter, "The Cult of True Womanhood," American Quarterly (summer 1968)
- 2) Carroll Smith Rosenberg, "Beauty, the Beast and the Militant Woman: A Case Study in Sex Roles and Social Stress in Jacksonian America," American Quarterly, XXIII, No. 4 (October 1971), 562-584.
  - 3) Anne L. Kuhn, The Mother's Role in Childhood Education: New England Concepts, 1830-1860 ("Yale University Studies in Religious Education, Vol. XIX; New Haven Conn.: Yale University Press, 1947), pp. 3-70; 175-190.

WEEK TWELVE:

November 14: Examination

November 16: "Family Life"

- Read: 1) T.K. Hareven, "The Family as an Interdisciplinary Field," Journal of Interdisciplinary History, II, No. 2 (Autumn 1971), 399-414.
- 2) Joseph F. Kett, "Adolescence and Youth in Nineteenth-Century America," The Journal of Interdisciplinary History, II, No. 2 (Autumn 1971), 283-298.
  - 3) William Bridges, "Family Patterns and Social Values in America, 1825-1875," American Quarterly (Spring 1965).
  - 4) Frank Furstenberg, "Industrialization and the American Family: A Look Backwards," American Sociological Review (June 1966).

WEEK THIRTEEN:

November 21: "Educational Practices and Changes"

- Read: 1) Dean May and Maris A. Vinovskis, "A Ray of Millennial Light: Early Education and Social Reform in the Infant School Movement in Massachusetts, 1826-1840," paper presented at the Clark University Conference on The Family and the Social Structure, April 22, 1972.
- 2) Michael B. Katz, The Irony of Early School Reform: Educational Innovation in Mid-Nineteenth Century Massachusetts (Cambridge, Mass.: Harvard University Press, 1968), pp. 1-93.

WEEK FOURTEEN:

November 28: "Poverty in the New World"

November 30: "Slavery and Abolitionism"

- Read: 1) \*Stanley Elkins, Slavery: A Problem in American Institutional and Intellectual Life (2nd. ed.; New York: Grosset & Dunlap, ? ), Part III.
- 2) \*Harold D. Woodman, "The Profitability of Slavery: A Historical Perennial," JSH., 1963, pp. 303-325 (BOBBS Merrill Reprint H-341)
- 3) \*Martin Duberman, "The Abolitionists and Psychology," Journal of Negro History, 1962, pp. 183-191 (Bobbs Merrill Reprint H-352)

WEEK FIFTEEN:

December 5: "Coming of the Civil War"

December 7: "Overview: 1630-1860"

- Read: 1) \*Henry David Thoreau, Walden, ed. Sherman Paul (Boston: Houghton Mifflin Company, 1960), pp. 1-227.

\* Indicates that the material may be purchased

Section meetings will be arranged after the beginning of classes.