

UNIVERSITY OF WISCONSIN DEPARTMENT OF HISTORY

Semester II Year 1982-83

<u>Course No.</u>	<u>Course Title</u>	<u>Instructor</u>
392	Women in History	Lindstrom

Course Description

This course surveys American women from 1619 to the present. It is designed to introduce students to a variety of historical approaches and a range of sources. Students will read primary documents, traditional narratives, and novels and view Hollywood films. Most attention is directed to the nineteenth and twentieth centuries. Four topics receive particular emphasis; sex roles and socialization; women in families; paid work; and women's rights.

Written Work

Students will take two exams and a final. The exams during the term may be in class or take-home depending upon a majority vote. The final is in class.

Grades

Calculated as follows: Six Weeks, 20%; Twelve Weeks, 20%; Discussion Section Attendance and Participation, 10%; and Final 50%.

SEE ATTACHED.

Required Texts:

- Alcott, L., Little Women
Chafe, W., The American Woman: Her Changing Social, Economic, and Political Roles, 1920-1970
Chopin, K., The Awakening
Evans, S., Personal Politics
Friedman, J.E., and W.G. Shade, Our American Sisters (3rd Edition)
Morrison, T., The Bluest Eye
Schneir, M., Feminism: The Essential Historical Writings

Lecture Topics and Reading Assignments:

UNIT I: To 1868

- Jan. 24 Themes in Women's History
26 The Colonial Family
28 Work

Read: Friedman & Shade, pp. 41-86

- 31 Witchcraft

- Feb. 2 Women's Status on the Eve of the American Revolution
4 The Cult of True Womanhood: I

Read: Friedman & Shade, pp. 87-153

- 7 The Cult of True Womanhood: II
9 The Cult of True Womanhood: III
11 Feminization of Religion & Culture

Read: Friedman and Shade, pp. 196-212, Alcott

- 14 Women's Work in Industrializing America
16 Women in Slavery
18 Missionary, Moral Reform, and Antislavery Societies

Read: Friedman and Shade, pp. 183-196, 213-226, 267-290;
Schneir, pp. 49-61

- 21 The First Woman Question
23 Women's Rights, 1848-1868
25 Legal and Educational Advances

Read: Friedman and Shade, pp. 291-316; Schneir, pp. 2-24, 35-48, 62-131

- 28 EXAM

UNIT II: 1869-1929

- March 2 Education and the Professions
4 Social Feminism

No Discussion Sections

- 7 **Black Women in Reform**
9 Women in the Marketplace: I
11 Women in the Marketplace: II

Read: Friedman and Shade, 348-71, 393-410, 432-43

History 392 (Women in History) - 2

- 14 Women's Rights, 1869-1890
- 16 The Second Woman Question
- 18 Charlotte Perkins Gilman

Read: Schneir, pp. 132-59, 230-46; Friedman and Shade, 329-47; Chopin

- 21 Feminism & Socialism
- 23 Woman Suffrage, 1890-1910
- 25 Winning the Vote

Read: Friedman and Shade, pp. 372-92, 411-31; Schneir, pp. 308-34

- April 4 1920s: Decline of Feminism
- 6 1920s: The Feminine Mystique
- 8 Sexuality and Birth Control

Read: Chafe, pp. 25-132; Friedman and Shade, 457-78

- 11 EXAM

UNIT III: 1930-

- 13 Women at Home: Housework
- 15 Women at Home: Children

No Discussion Sections

- 18 Women at Home: Consumption
- 20 Golddiggers of 1933
- 22 Mildred Pierce

Read: Friedman and Shade, pp. 500-40

- 25 Ambivalent Legacy of Eleanor Roosevelt
- 27 From Depression Through War
- 29 The 1950s

Read: Chafe, pp. 135-225

- May 2 Women in the Marketplace
- 4 Origins of the Modern Movement
- 6 Women's Rights

Read: Evans

- 9 Sexuality and the Family
- 11 Backlash
- 13 Review

Read: Morrison; Friedman and Shade, pp. 579-91