

THE UNIVERSITY OF WISCONSIN
Department of History

Semester I Year 1980-81

<u>COURSE NO.</u>	<u>COURSE TITLE</u>	<u>INSTRUCTOR</u>
399	Representative Americans	Mr. Risjord

COURSE DESCRIPTION

The course will cover the period from the mid-eighteenth century to the early nineteenth century. Representative persons will be selected from a variety of fields, from politics to the fine arts. Sketches of varying length will be given of the following persons:

Benjamin Franklin	James Wilkinson
Samuel Adams	Tecumseh
George Washington	Noah Webster
Eli Whitney	Charles Willson Peale
John Jacob Astor	Charles Bulfinch
Isaac Backus	Thomas Jefferson
William Ellery Channing	

LECTURES

The course will meet three times a week -- two lectures and a discussion section. There will be weekly reading assignments for discussion, taken from the following books, which are available in the bookstores:

Charles Sydnor, American Revolutionaries in the Making
Robert Gross, The Minutemen and their World

O V E R

WRITTEN ASSIGNMENTS and EXAMINATIONS

There will be two mid-term exams, each about 50 minutes in length, and a two-hour final. In computing final grades, oral performance in the discussion sections will count as much as one of the mid-term exams.

GRADING SYSTEM

REQUIRED READINGS

A term paper is not required in this course. However, those students who would like to earn some extra grade credit may write a short essay connected with one of the reading assignments (and be prepared to give an oral report on your findings in the discussion section). The details on this can be arranged with me or with the teaching assistant.

Eric Foner, Tom Paine and Revolutionary America

Gore Vidal, Burr

Jackson T. Main, The Social Structure of Revolutionary America