

UNIVERSITY OF WISCONSIN
DEPARTMENT OF HISTORY
FALL 1991

HISTORY 401

MR. SCHULTZ
MR. MESSER-KRUSE

AMERICAN URBAN HISTORY 1607 TO 1870

Texts:

Kenneth A. Lockridge, A NEW ENGLAND TOWN: THE FIRST
HUNDRED YEARS
Eric Foner, TOM PAINE AND REVOLUTIONARY AMERICA
Richard C. Wade, SLAVERY IN THE CITIES
Charles E. Rosenberg, THE CHOLERA YEARS: THE UNITED STATES IN
1832, 1849, AND 1866
Reprint collection of articles (purchase at Kinko's)

Course Meetings and Requirements:

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

Grades will depend on performance on the examinations, the essay review, and attendance at and participation in the discussion sections. Steady improvement over the semester will find its reward in the final grade. We will evaluate your work on its blend of necessary factual information and thoughtful analyses of the major issues.

We have scheduled two examinations during the course; each will be in essay format. There will be a required mid-term (scheduled for October 17th) and a final examination (scheduled by the College for Sunday, December 15th at 10:45 A.M.).

Writing Assignment:

In addition to examinations, there will be one required writing assignment. All undergraduate students will write one short (4-8 double-spaced, typewritten pages) essay review (format to be provided). The essay-review will be based on a sufficient variety of materials to allow analysis of differing viewpoints on the subject. Normally, this would be two books, or one book and several articles, or 4-6 articles. Students who prefer to write a short research paper, based upon primary historical materials, rather than the essay-review, may do so.

All graduate students enrolled in the course must write a research paper based on primary sources.

The writing assignment will be due no later than December 10. We will grant no exceptions to the due date.

COURSE OUTLINE AND LECTURE TOPICS

LECTURE TOPICS	DATE
I. CITIES IN THE NEW WORLD	
Introduction to the course	Sept. 3
Theories of City Location and Growth	5
Patterns of American Colonial Urbanization	10
Planning and Planning Cities in the New World	12
The Regulation of Urban Life	17
The "Secret" of City Folk: Class Structure in the Cities	19
Social Institutions in the Cities	24
Commercial Cities and the Rise of the Merchant Classes	28
The First Urban (Urban?) American	Oct. 1
The Workshops of the Revolution	3
Urban America in War and Peace	8
Federal Cities and the Constitution	10
*** Review Session for Mid-Term Examination ***	15

MID-TERM EXAMINATION

Oct. 17

II. CITIES IN THE NEW NATION

The Rise of Western Cities	Oct. 12
Social Order on Frontiers of Urban America	14
The Urban Frontier of the Old South	19
Slaves and Free Blacks in Urban America	21
Dreamers and Schemers of Urban Imperialism	Nov. 5
Urban Industrial Growth	7
Work and Workers in Urban America	12
Entrepreneurs and the "Discovery" of Poverty	14
Order and Disorder in the Cities	19
Social Reform and "Backward in Democracy"	21
*** End of II ***	28

Thanksgiving Recess Nov. 28-Dec. 1

The Unhealthy City	Jan. 3
Technology and Visions of the Urban Future	5
Saving the Cities Through Planning	10
The Southern Riot and the Civil War	15