

THE UNIVERSITY OF WISCONSIN
Department of History

Semester I Year 1978-79

<u>COURSE NO.</u>	<u>COURSE TITLE</u>	<u>INSTRUCTOR</u>
101	America to 1877	Mr. Archdeacon

COURSE DESCRIPTION

The lecture course is divided into 3 parts, each of which conveys a general interpretation of a major segment of American history. The 1st describes the almost two centuries between 1607 and 1800, during which the settlers attempted to recreate European society in the New World, came to recognize the impossibility of the endeavor, and ultimately established a unique political and social order and a new nation. The second attempts to revitalize the old themes of Jeffersonian and Jacksonian Democracy by discussing the American interpretation of their national identity in terms of social equality and economic opportunity. The shift from the deferential first party system to the democratic second provides a major focus. The third portion of the survey deals with the Civil War both as an outcome of earlier American history and as an entry point to the modern age. Beginning with the maturation of a balanced two party system, the bloc examines the disastrous effects of introducing the moral issue of slavery into a politics designed for practicality and accommodation, and concludes with a look at the new industrial order which emerged in the Civil War era.

LECTURES

Tuesday, Thursday 8:25-9:40

WRITTEN ASSIGNMENTS and EXAMINATIONS

2 Midterms and End-term assignment

GRADING SYSTEM

Mid-terms and end-term -- 30% apiece. Participation 10%

REQUIRED READINGS

Irwin Unger, These United States
Edmund S. Morgan, The Puritan Dilemma
Bernard Bailyn, Origins of American Politics
Fore Vidal, Burr
Oscar Handlin, Boston's Immigrants
John Blassingame, The Slave Community
David Donald, ed., Why the North Won the Civil War