

UNIVERSITY OF WISCONSIN
Department of History
Semester I, 1985-86

History 102

Prof. Paul Boyer

THE UNITED STATES SINCE 1865

ASSIGNED BOOKS: Available in University Bookstore and on Reserve in Helen C. White.

Horatio Alger, RAGGED DICK.
Harold Livesay, ANDREW CARNEGIE AND THE RISE OF BIG BUSINESS.
John Morton Blum, WOODROW WILSON AND THE POLITICS OF MORALITY.
George E. Mowry (ed.), THE TWENTIES: FORDS, FLAPPERS AND FANATICS.
David Shannon, BETWEEN THE WARS: AMERICA, 1919-1949.
Studs Terkel, HARD TIMES
John Hersey, HIROSHIMA
Harvard Sitkoff, THE STRUGGLE FOR BLACK EQUALITY
(Optional) Charles Sellers, Henry May, Neil McMillen, A SYNOPSIS
OF AMERICAN HISTORY, Vol. II. (Available on Reserve in Helen C. White)

OFFICE HOURS: Prof. Boyer, Hum. 4131
M-W: 2:30-4:30 or by appointment

GRADING: Discussion participation: 20% Midterm Exam: 20%
Family History Research Paper: 30% Final Exam: 30%

RESEARCH PAPER: American History/Family History. The aim of this 8-10 page paper, due Dec. 4, is to relate your own family's experience to the "History" of the textbooks. Not a family chronicle or genealogy, it should use some member(s) of your family as a source for learning more about an historical episode or process covered in this course. Your research should include interviews; letters, clippings, family records, photographs, etc. (as available); and published historical works relating to the theme or period dealt with in your paper. Possible topics: the immigrant experience; life in the Depression; Work (factory, farm, self-employed, professional); Education (high school; college; War (WWI, Korea, Vietnam) at the front/at home; Growing up in the Fifties (Twenties, Thirties, Sixties, etc.); Living with the nuclear threat; Changing expectations and opportunities for women. (These are merely illustrative; you may decide on quite a different topic.) Early in the semester, you will be asked for a statement of your proposed topic and research approach. The final paper should be well-organized and written in usual term-paper form: title page, footnotes, bibliography, etc.

LECTURE SCHEDULE:

W 9/4 Course Introduction.
F 9/6 The United States in Your Great-Grandparents Day: An Overview.

The Late 19th Century: A New Urban-Industrial Order Takes Shape

- M 9/9 The Impact of Industrialization.
- W 9/11 The Shock of Immigration: For the Newcomers.
- F 9/13 The Shock of Immigration: For the Native-Born.
- M 9/16 Growing Pains of the Cities.
- W 9/18 The Varieties of Urban Reform.
- F 9/20 The Black Experience, 1865-1920.
- M 9/23 Working People I: Factories and Mills.
- W 9/25 Rascals and Reformers: Politics in the Gilded Age.
- F 9/27 Working People II: Farmers.
- M 9/30 Agrarian Protest.
- W 10/2 Popular Culture in the Gilded Age: Nostalgia in the Music Halls.

The Early Twentieth Century: Political Responses to the New Urban-Industrial Order

- F 10/4 Roots of the "Progressive Movement."
- M 10/7 Teddy Roosevelt: The Politics of Morality.
- W 10/9 Woodrow Wilson: The Politics of Nostalgia.
- F 10/11 The Woman's Movement: 1865-1920.
- M 10/14 The Social Impact of World War I.
- W 10/16 MIDTERM EXAMINATION.

The 1920s: Stresses and Strains of Prosperity and Social Change

- F 10/18 Politics I: The Republican Ascendancy.
- M 10/21 Social Strains in American Society.
- W 10/23 Politics II: Rumblings Beneath the Surface.
- F 10/25 Crash and Depression: Hoover's Response.

1933-1945: FDR, The New Deal, and War

- M 10/28 Beginnings of the New Deal.
- W 10/30 The Later New Deal.
- F 11/1 The New Deal: A Balance Sheet.
- M 11/4 Popular Culture in the 1930s.
- W 11/6 Dawn of the Nuclear Age: The Decisions to Build and Use the Atomic Bomb.

The Uneasy Fifties

- F 11/8 Nuclear Weapons in American Culture - I: 1945-1963.
- M 11/11 American Society in the 1950s: Affluence and Its Toll.
- W 11/13 "Modern Republicanism": They Liked Ike.
- F 11/15 Roots of the Cold War.
- M 11/18 The Cold War Gets Hotter: Korea.
- W 11/20 McCarthyism: The Politics of Fear.
- F 11/22 The Black Experience, 1940-1970.

Kennedy to Reagan: Society and Politics Since 1960

- M 11/25 Nuclear Weapons in American Culture, 1963-1985.
- W 11/27 Politics, Culture, and Society in the 1960s.
- F 11/29 HOLIDAY
- M 12/2 Origins of Modern Feminism.
- W 12/4 Vietnam I: Origins of a Quagmire. (Term Paper Due Today)
- F 12/6 Vietnam II: The Final Phase.
- M 12/9 The War at Home.
- W 12/11 The "Me Generation": American Society Since 1970.
- F 12/13 Watergate and Beyond: American Politics Since 1970.