

UNIVERSITY OF WISCONSIN  
DEPARTMENT OF HISTORY  
SPRING 1994

HISTORY 402

MR. SCHULTZ

AMERICAN URBAN HISTORY 1870 TO THE PRESENT

Texts:

Howard P. Chudacoff (ed.), MAJOR PROBLEMS IN AMERICAN URBAN HISTORY

Jon C. Teaford, THE TWENTIETH-CENTURY AMERICAN CITY: PROBLEM, PROMISE, AND REALITY

Sam Bass Warner, Jr., STREETCAR SUBURBS: THE PROCESS OF GROWTH IN BOSTON, 1870-1900

Terrence J. McDonald (ED.) PLUNKITT OF TAMMANY HALL

COURSE MEETINGS AND REQUIREMENTS:

We require all students to attend two lectures (75 minutes) and one (50 minute) discussion section each week. We will take attendance at the discussion section meetings. All examinations will be in essay format. There will be a mid-term (scheduled for March 17), and a final examination, scheduled by the College.

Writing Assignment:

All undergraduate students enrolled in the course will write one short (7-10 pages) essay-review based upon a sufficient variety of materials to allow analysis of differing viewpoints on the subject. Reading for the essay-review will be in addition to that required for the course in general. We will hand out in class a format for the essay-review and a selected set of suggested readings. You are not confined to that list. You may choose other materials after consultation with either the Teaching Assistants or the Instructor. Students eager to do a research paper based on primary materials rather than the essay-review may do so. Any and all graduate students enrolled in the course must write an original research paper as must any undergraduate honors students.

Readings:

We will give the specific order of reading assignments in discussion sections.

Grading Policies:

We will evaluate your work in the course based upon the essay examinations, the writing assignment, and attendance at and participation in the required discussion sections. Improvement in performance over the semester will always result in a higher grade; in cases where a final grade hovers between two possibilities, the student whose work has shown improvement will receive the higher of the two possibilities.

## COURSE OUTLINE AND LECTURE TOPICS

LECTURE TOPICS	DATE
I. URBAN AMERICA: AN OVERVIEW	
Introduction: The Problems of Urbanization	Jan. 25
The City in American Thought and Fiction	27
Cities, Law, and Government	Feb. 1
II. THE PHYSICAL RISE OF THE MODERN CITY	
Steel Rails and the National Web of Cities	Feb. 3
After "Tara": Cities in the New South	8
The Decline of the "Walking City"	10
The Rise of Industrial Urban America	15
III. THE SOCIAL GEOGRAPHY OF AMERICAN CITIES	
Work and Workers in Urban America	Feb. 17
The "New" Immigration to Urban Villages	22
Black Migration and Urbanization	24
The Rise of the Ghetto	Mar. 1
Housing the Urban Masses	3
The City as Sewer	8
A Rush to Suburbia	10
* * * * Open Study Day for Mid-Term Examination * * * *	15
* * * MID-TERM EXAMINATION * * *	
Mar. 17	
IV. POLITICS AND REFORM IN THE CITIES	
City Bosses and the Politics of Survival	Mar. 22
Oiling the Urban Machine	24
SPRING RECESS	
Mar. 29-Apr. 4	
The Urban Origins of Progressive Reform	Apr. 5
Social Reform in Urban America	7
Cities in the Great Depression	12
Last Hurrah or New Hello for the Urban Machines?	14
V. A NATION OF CITIES	
Planning the Metropolis	19
City Planning as Social Engineering	21
Running Cities from the White House: I	26
Running Cities from the White House: II	28
The Pitiful Path to Public Housing	May 3
Urban Renewal or "Removal"?	5
The Tanning of the Nation	10
Cities for Sale? The Future of Urban America	12