

THE UNIVERSITY OF WISCONSIN
Department of History

Semester I Year 1980-81

<u>COURSE NO.</u>	<u>COURSE TITLE</u>	<u>INSTRUCTOR</u>
405	AMERICAN CULTURAL HISTORY, 1600 to Civil War	Lovejoy

COURSE DESCRIPTION

No doubt there are as many kinds of "cultural history" as there are definitions of "culture." This course is aimed at using literature (fiction, poetry, histories, etc.), painting and design, and architecture and the crafts as a way of getting at the mind and heart of America from its colonial beginnings to the Civil War. It is a study of art and literature as sources of that history. It is a history of creative culture and what that culture can tell us about American society from its Tudor-Gothic frame of mind in the seventeenth century, through its awakening in the Enlightenment and Revolution of the eighteenth century, to an explosion of Romanticism in the nineteenth century.

LECTURES

Three lectures each week plus a discussion section--4 credits.

WRITTEN ASSIGNMENTS and EXAMINATIONS

There will be one written examination about the sixth week. Other evaluations will be through short papers.

GRADING SYSTEM

REQUIRED READINGS will include:

Louis B. Wright, The Cultural Life of the American Colonies
Russel B. Nye, Society and Culture in America, 1830-1860
Wavne Andrews, Architecture, Ambition, and Americans
Neil Harris, The Artist in American Society, 1790-1860