

UNIVERSITY OF WISCONSIN-MADISON
Department of History

Semester I Year 1986-87

<u>COURSE NO.</u>	<u>COURSE TITLE</u>	<u>INSTRUCTOR</u>
462	History of the American West, 1780-1980	Bogue, A.

COURSE DESCRIPTION

In the first section of this course, we examine the ways of life and resource use of the Native Americans, the fur traders, the miners, the lumbermen, the cattlemen, and the farmers. The second section deals with the impact that frontier processes may have had upon American institutions as well as upon the American people themselves; the role of women, religion, violence, etc. A final segment of topics considers the twentieth century heritage that the frontiering experience left us in the field of natural resources, specifically conservation, reclamation and other adaptive mechanisms, and environmental issues, including the Alaska and sage brush rebellion issues of the 1970s and 1980s.

LECTURES

If the course is taught with the assistance of TAs, there will be two lectures (M.W.) and one discussion section per week; when a movie is presented on Friday there will be no discussion section that week. If budgetary constraints eliminate the possibility of using TAs, the class will meet on a regular Monday, Wednesday, Friday basis. In this case the Friday meeting will involve some discussion of the reading materials and provide a question period. Lecture presentations involve an alternation of lecture and discussion with considerable audiovisual material included, both slides and movies. See course outline for specific lecture topics.

WRITTEN ASSIGNMENTS and EXAMINATIONS

Three credit students may submit short research papers or book reviews in lieu of test scores that they consider unsatisfactory. This option is also available to four credit students who, in addition, will prepare an analytical paper of 8-10 pages in length dealing specifically with conservation and environmental matters or a topic in Native American History. (Alternatives to these particular subjects may be negotiated.) There will be a six week and an optional twelve week exam. Students **may choose** between a take-home and a conventional final. Test and conventional final questions will be mostly essay with some short answer type.

GRADING SYSTEM

Flexible, depending upon options selected by students.

REQUIRED READINGS

Agnes M. Cleaveland, No Life for a Lady (Paper)
Charles A. Siringo, A Texas Cowboy (Paper)

A.B. Guthrie, The Big Sky (Paper)
Robert V. Hine, The American West: An Interpretive History (Paper)
John Ise, Sod and Stubble: The Story of a Kansas Homestead (Paper)
Donald Worster, The Dust Bowl: The Southern Plains in the 1930s (Paper)

Articles on Library Reserve:

Joe B. Frantz, "The Frontier Tradition: An Invitation to Violence"
Samuel P. Hays, "From Conservation to Environment: Environmental Politics
in the United States since World War II"
Wilbur Jacobs, "The Great Despoliation: Environmental Themes in American
Frontier History"
Clarence Schoenfeld, "Aldo Leopold Remembered"
William Tucker, "Environmentalism and the Leisure Class: Protecting Birds,
Fishes, and above all, Social Privilege"
Frederick Jackson Turner, "The significance of the Frontier in American History"
Charles Twining, "Plunder and Progress: The Lumbering Industry in Perspective"