

UNIVERSITY OF WISCONSIN
Department of History
Spring 1989

History 571:
Communities in American History

Professor Christopher Lee
4122 Humanities

Office Hours: Mondays 1:30 p.m. - 3:00 p.m.
Fridays 11:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m.
or by appointment

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COURSE DESCRIPTION: This course examines various American communities from the seventeenth to the twentieth centuries. Some are as obscure as Sugar Creek, Ill., others as notorious as Salem, Mass. Each is distinct. The sources we will use are mostly historical monographs, but include sociological works and a novel. The aims of the course are two fold. First we shall consider the relationship between individualistic and communitarian ideals in different places and different times. Topics considered will include how communities are formed, who is involved in them, the relative degree of equality in them, and what forces make them functional or dysfunctional. The other major thrust of the course is methodological. We will consider how the authors gathered and processed their data and its relative reliability.

GRADING: Students are expected to be prepared and to participate in class discussions. In addition, each student will prepare three brief papers (two of which will be revised and rewritten during the course).

REQUIRED TEXTS: Paul Boyer and Steven Nissenbaum, Salem Possessed
John Farrager, Sugar Creek
Christopher Jedrey, John Cleaveland and His World
Charles Joyner, Down by the Riverside
Suzanne Lebsack, The Free Women of Petersburg
Harper Lee, To Kill a Mockingbird
Lockridge, Kenneth, A New England Town
Robert Lynd and Helen Lynd, Middletown
Moody, Anne, Coming of Age in Mississippi
Kai T. Erikson, Everything in its Path
Robert N. Bellah, Habits of the Heart

CLASS SCHEDULE

January 23 Introduction to the seminar

January 30 Read: Lockridge, A New England Town

February 6 Read: Articles on the Chesapeake

February 13 Read: Boyer and Nissenbaum, Salem Possessed
Paper I due

February 20 Read: Jedrey, John Cleaveland and his World

February 27 Read: Lebsack, The Free Women of Petersburg
Paper I (revised) due

March 6 Read: Farrager, Sugar Creek

March 13 Read: Joyner, Down by the Riverside

MIDTERM RECESS

April 3 Read: Lynd and Lynd, Middletown

April 10 Read: Lee, To Kill a Mockingbird

April 17 Movie
Paper II due

April 24 Read: Moody, Coming of Age in Mississippi

May 1 Read: Erikson, Everything in its Path
Paper II (revised) due

May 8 Read: Bellah, Habits of the Heart

May 13 Paper III due

UNIVERSITY OF WISCONSIN-MADISON
Department of History
Spring Semester, 1988

History 571

Mr. Coffman

American Military Biography

Jan. 20	Introduction
Jan. 27	Lecture
Feb. 3	Millis
Feb. 10	1775-1814
Feb. 17	1815-1860 Written report due
Feb. 24	Civil War Written report due
Mar. 2	1865-1917
Mar. 9	1917-1940 Written report due
Mar. 23	World War II
Mar. 30	1945-1975 Written report due
Apr. 6	Oral History
Apr. 13	No class
Apr. 20	Term Reports
Apr. 27	Term Reports
May 4	Term Reports

Requirements

Walter Millis, Arms and Men is the only required book. Each week, you are expected to read a book from the indicated time group and then give a brief (10 minute) oral report. The four written reports are review essays (750 words or three double-spaced typed pages) on two books (except for the one on the Civil War). The term paper is a review essay of (1500 words or six double-spaced typed pages) on three additional books. You will give a 20 minute oral report on it at one of the last three class meetings. The term papers are due on May 4. There is no final exam.

Grading

A maximum of 18 points for each report and 28 for the term paper.