

THE UNIVERSITY OF WISCONSIN
Department of History

Semester II Year 1984-85

<u>COURSE NO.</u>	<u>COURSE TITLE</u>	<u>INSTRUCTOR</u>
572	Rebellious and Revolutionary Peasantries	Donnelly

COURSE DESCRIPTION

Peasant studies have attracted considerable scholarly attention during the past two decades. Within this general field the subject of peasant rebellion and revolution has been a particular focus of investigation for numerous historians and social scientists. The seminar will address three of the broad issues which have tended to dominate scholarly discussion of this subject. First, how have peasant societies been affected by and responded to the impact of modernization? Has modernization substantially increased the likelihood of peasant revolts? Second, what social factors tend to promote or to retard the mobilization of peasants in collective action, especially in revolutionary movements? And third, what classes or types of peasants have displayed the greatest potential for revolution? Though the instructor is particularly interested in Irish agrarian rebellions of the late eighteenth and early nineteenth centuries, this seminar will be concerned with peasant upheavals in a wide variety of geographical and temporal settings. The theoretical issues mentioned above will be explored through a concrete examination of revolutionary movements in France, Russia, Latin America, and especially China and Vietnam.

LECTURES

WRITTEN ASSIGNMENTS and EXAMINATIONS

There will be three written assignments: (1) a report of about six pages on the assigned reading and related discussion questions for one session of the seminar; (2) a critical book review, eight to ten pages in length, and (3) a research proposal of about fifteen pages, to include a detailed outline of the project and a comprehensive bibliography of primary and secondary sources.

GRADING SYSTEM

Though the exact weighting of the different elements will be decided after general discussion at our first meeting, I suggest the following distribution: (1) seminar report (15 percent); (2) critical book review (15 percent); (3) research proposal (30 percent); (4) informed participation in seminar discussion (40 percent).

REQUIRED READINGS

(See attached sheet.)

) HISTORY 572
Professor Donnelly
Semester II, 1984-85

REQUIRED TEXTBOOKS:

Samuel Clark, Social Origins of the Irish Land War, Princeton University Press.

Frances Fitzgerald, Fire in the Lake, Vintage Books.

William Hinton, Fanshen, Vintage Books.

James C. Scott, The Moral Economy of the Peasant in Southeast Asia, Yale University Press

Mark Selden, The Yen-an Way, Harvard University Press.

Theda Skocpol, States and Social Revolutions, Cambridge University Press.

Eric R. Wolf, Peasant Wars of the Twentieth Century, Harper Torchbooks.