

HISTORY 2137A

Draft Dodgers, Hippies and Black Panthers:

The U.S. in the 1960s

Fall 2022-23

Tuesdays 12:30 – 3:30 p.m.

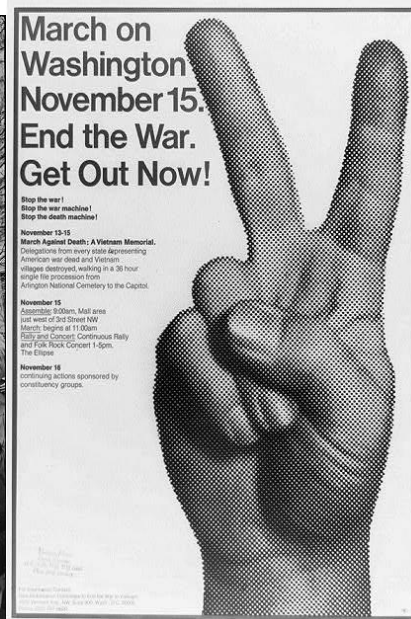
In-person: Biological & Geological Sciences Building (BGSB), Room 0153

Instructor: Professor Aldona Sendzikas

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Office Hours: TBA



- (1) Yippies Heckling Troops and Police at Inauguration, 20 Jan. 1969. Photo by John T. Bledsoe.
- (2) New Mobilization Committee to End the War in Vietnam poster, c. 1967-75.
- (3) Black Power Sign at Anti-Draft Demonstration, Central Park Bandshell, NYC, 1968. Photo by Bernard Gottfried. (All photos: U.S. Library of Congress collection.)

This is a draft syllabus. Please see your course OWL site for the final syllabus.

Course delivery with respect to the COVID-19 pandemic:

The intent is for this course to be delivered in-person, but should the COVID-19 landscape shift, the course will be delivered online synchronously (*i.e.*, on Zoom at the times indicated in the timetable). The grading scheme will not change. The course will return to an in-person mode of delivery when the University and local health authorities deem it safe to do so.

Course Description:

The 1960s are often perceived as a period of radical change, especially in the United States. We examine the Civil Rights movement, the Vietnam War and anti-war protests, the Free Speech and Women's Liberation movements, Great Society programs, and the development of a counterculture.

Antirequisite(s):

History 3327F/G.

Course Syllabus:***Course Content:***

In this course, we will examine many of the events and forces in 1960s America that changed and shaped the nation. We will study the various movements that flourished during this turbulent period (including the Free Speech Movement, Women's Lib, anti-war activism, protest rock music, Black Power, Red Power, and the hippie subculture), and discuss their origins, execution, impact and legacy. We will examine a selection of primary documents from the period, representing a wide range of points of view, to determine the actual significance of the 1960s. How unique was this decade? To what extent were Americans divided on the issues of the decade? How did the events of the 1960s change America? Were these changes temporary or do they still affect America today?

Learning Outcomes:

By the end of this course, students will have:

- developed a general knowledge of key events and issues of 1960s American society and their significance;
- critically analyzed various historical interpretations of the decade;
- familiarized themselves with a number of key primary documents of the period and evaluated their historical value and significance, alone and in relation to other sources;
- examined some of the cultural artifacts of the period and learned to understand their significance (*egs.*: music, films, photographs, and media coverage);
- learned to understand current events, such as the Black Lives Matter protests, in historical context.

Expectations:

- Attendance at all lectures.
- Completion of each week's assigned readings.
- Courtesy and respect towards other members of the class.
- Be present! Turn off cell phones and other electronic devices. Laptops are allowed if they are used to take notes; they are NOT to be used in class for any other purpose.
- Completion and submission of a weekly reaction paper, answering a question posed during the lecture, and incorporating the readings for that week.

Course Materials:

Required texts:

- David Farber, *The Age of Great Dreams: America in the 1960s*. Hill and Wang, 1994.
- Alexander Bloom and Wini Breines, eds., *Takin' It to the Streets: A Sixties Reader*. Oxford University Press, 2011 (3rd edition) **OR** 2015 (4th edition).

These books will be available for purchase through the Western Bookstore. Note that *Takin' It to the Streets* is available in e-book format.

Methods of Evaluation:

Assignments and Marks Distribution:

- Weekly reaction papers (each approx. one page in length, typed and single-spaced), based on weekly readings and lectures: 35%
- mid-term examination (in class, October 18th): 30%
- final examination (to be held during the December final exam period): 35%

Reaction Papers:

Each week, students will be required to write and submit a brief (one page) reaction paper, incorporating material from the course readings and lectures, and based on a question posed by the instructor. These papers will be graded on the basis of demonstrated comprehension of course readings, and effective synthesis of information gleaned through course readings, lectures and other sources in order to create and express a coherent argument.

The paper will be due by midnight of the day following the lecture, and submitted via OWL. These reaction papers are to be submitted as Word documents via the submission link on the OWL course website. (Your paper will automatically be submitted to Turnitin.com.)

Late papers will not be accepted, unless the student has provided to the instructor documentation from Academic Counseling excusing the absence. In that case, the student must contact the professor before the next lecture (*i.e.*, within one week of the paper being assigned) to discuss an alternate assignment and/or due date.)

Grades assigned to these reaction papers will, together, constitute 35% of the student's final grade. (One reaction paper—*i.e.*, the paper receiving the lowest grade—will not be counted towards the 35% total.)

Mid-term Examination:

There will be a two-hour mid-term exam that will be written in class on October 18th. This exam will consist of short answer/identification questions and essay questions.

Final Examination:

There will be a two-hour final exam for this course, which will take place during the December exam period (December 10th-22nd, 2022). Students are advised not to make travel plans or other commitments for this period until the university publishes the exam schedule.

The final exam will cover course material since the mid-term exam (October 18th), and will consist of short answer/identification questions and essay questions.

No aids (notes, textbooks, cell phones, computers, other electronic devices, *etc.*) will be allowed during either exam.

Further instructions regarding the above assignments and exams will be provided in class and posted on OWL.

Accommodation for missed mid-term exams:

Students with an approved absence from the in-class mid-term exam will be required to write a make-up exam. The make-up exam will not necessarily be in the same format, be of the same duration, or cover the same material as the original test.

For in-person classes, make-up exams will be written at one of the Department of History make-up midterms. Dates for the make-ups will be listed on the Department of History website under [Important Dates](#).

IMPORTANT: In the event the University moves to online learning make-up exams will take place online via OWL. The date for the make-up may differ from the date listed above.

No other make-up opportunities will be provided unless further academic consideration is granted by Academic Counselling. Students who fail to write a make-up exam in a designated time slot will receive a grade of zero on that assessment.

Course professors may not be available to respond to questions during the make-up test slots.

Course Schedule:

- Week 1 (September 13th):*
- **Introduction.**
 - **Review of syllabus.**
 - **Lecture: America in the 1950s.**
- Week 2 (September 20th):*
- **“We stand today on the edge of a new frontier”: JFK’s 1960s**
 - **Reaction Paper #1 assigned. Due by midnight on Sept. 21st.**
- Week 3 (September 27th):*
- **“We want our freedom and we want it now”: The Civil Rights Movement -- Sit-ins, Freedom Rides, and Marching on Washington**
 - **Reaction Paper #2 assigned. Due by midnight on Sept. 28th.**
- Week 4 (October 4th):*
- **“That bitch of a war killed the lady I really loved”: LBJ, The Great Society, and the Vietnam War**
 - **Reaction Paper #3 assigned. Due by midnight on Oct. 5th.**
- Week 5 (October 11th):*
- **“A small minority of hippies, radicals, and filthy speech advocates”: Student Protests and the Free Speech Movement**
- Week 6 (October 18th):*
- **Mid-term exam.**
- Week 7 (October 25th):*
- **“Hell, no, we won’t go!” The Anti-War Movement.**

- **Reaction Paper #4 assigned. Due by midnight on Oct. 26th.**

November 1st:

READING WEEK. No lecture today.

Week 8 (November 8th):

- **“Turn on, tune in, drop out”: The ‘60s Counterculture -- From Hippies to Yippies**
- **Reaction Paper #5 assigned. Due by midnight on Nov. 9th.**

Week 9 (November 15th):

- **“The times they are a-changin’”: The Music of the 1960s**
- **Reaction Paper #6 assigned. Due by midnight on Nov. 16th.**

Week 10 (November 22nd):

- **“Power to determine our own destiny”: The Radicalization of Black Americans, Native Americans, Latino Americans, and Asian Americans**
- **Reaction Paper #7 assigned. Due by midnight on Nov. 23rd.**

Week 11 (November 29th):

- **“The feminine mystique has succeeded in burying millions of American women alive”: The Sexual Revolution -- The Women’s Liberation and Gay Rights Movements**
- **Reaction Paper #8 assigned. Due by midnight on Nov. 30th.**

Week 12 (December 6th):

- **“Tin soldiers and Nixon coming”: The Beginning of the End – Chicago, Altamont, and Kent State.**
- **The Legacy of the 1960s: “The thing the sixties did was to show us the possibilities and the responsibility that we all had. It wasn’t the answer. It just gave us a glimpse of the possibility.” (John Lennon)**

Additional Statements:

Please review the Department of History Course Must-Knows document,

<https://www.history.uwo.ca/undergraduate/Docs/Department%20of%20History%20Course%20Must-Knows.pdf>,

for additional information regarding:

- Academic Offences
- Accessibility Options
- Medical Issues
- Plagiarism
- Scholastic Offences
- Copyright
- Health and Wellness