

North Central **Michigan College**

NCMC MASTER COURSE SYLLABUS

Last Date Revised: 3/07/07

DIVISION/AREA: Liberal Arts

DEPARTMENT: History

ASSOCIATE DEAN: Samantha McLin

ORIGINATOR: Phil Moore

DEAN OF INSTRUCTION: Dr. Timothy Dykstra

HOURS OF INSTRUCTION:

Credit hours: 3
Lecture: 3
Lab:
Contact hours: 52.80

COURSE TITLE: America in the Sixties

COURSE ALPHA: HST

COURSE NUMBER: 258

CATALOG DESCRIPTION: A course on America in the 1960's and its impact on America today. The course is about War and Peace, Black and White, Women and Men, Poetry and Power and the monumental social and cultural explosions in dress, music, life styles and sex. Specific areas of study will include the Kennedy Administration and his assassination, the struggle for racial and gender equality, the Vietnam War at home and abroad, and how these events are connected to the cultural movements that permeated the entire era.

PREREQUISITE(S): None

COREQUISITE(S): None

GENERAL EDUCATION/PROGRAM OUTCOMES: The general outcomes of the course include the following:

- to think critically and analytically
- to draw connections between disparate events or issues and see how they are connected
- to research and independently acquire knowledge;
- to write and organize thoughts so that they are presented in a clear and concise manner
- to understand how historical events can influence the present
- to gain an understanding of major ideas, values and events of American Society together with a functioning knowledge of the workings of the American Political system

COURSE OBJECTIVES AND OUTCOMES:

COURSE TITLE AND NUMBER: HST 258 AMERICA IN THE 60'S

- Students will be familiar with the facts and events occurring in America during the 60's era
- Students will gain an understanding of the social and political forces affecting the era
- Students will gain a specific and working knowledge of the civil rights movement in the United States
- Students will have an historical perspective of the War in Vietnam; how it impacted society in the sixties and how it impacts the country in the present time
- Students will have knowledge of specific events and issues in history that get repeated in subsequent times.

METHODS OF INSTRUCTION: Lectures, guest speakers, video news clips and movies, class participation and discussion

METHODS OF EVALUATION: research papers (at least one); exams (2), class participation

REQUIRED TEXT AT TIME OF COURSE ADOPTION/REVISION:

TEXTS: will be excerpts from various books some of which are listed below. In addition, the course will rely extensively on original speeches and other documents from the era; numerous video news clips depicting events covered in the course and movies exemplifying the era.

Arthur M. Schlesinger, Jr. The Cycles of American History (excerpts)

Jack Kerouac, On The Road

Don DeLillo, The Underworld (pps. 1-60)

Theodore H. White, The Making of the President 1960 (chs. 11,14,15)

Robert Kennedy and Arthur Schlesinger, Thirteen Days

Taylor Branch, America in the King Years (3 volumes, covering Race from 1954-1968)

Sally Belfrage: Freedom Summer

David Halberstam, The Best and the Brightest

Neil Sheehan, A Bright Shining Lie: John Paul Vann and America in Vietnam

Ward Just, A Dangerous Friend

Betty Friedan, The Feminine Mystique

OPTIONAL SUPPLEMENTARY MATERIALS: There will be an extensive recommended reading/video list of suggested reading topics for students to follow up on the course or research for papers of independent study projects.

Reasonable accommodations can be provided to students with documented disabilities. Please contact Learning Support Services at 348-6817 to arrange these.

SUGGESTED TIME ALLOWANCE AND SEQUENCE OF INSTRUCTION:
(List general content description of what is being covered each week)

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| WEEK 1 | Growing into the sixties; when did it begin and end? Discussion of Arthur Schlesinger's book "Cycles of History" |
| WEEK 2 | Background: seeds of the sixties; the fifties from Eisenhower to Kennedy |
| WEEK 3 | The Kennedy Administration - the end of the fifties; "ask not..." "I have a dream..." the Cuban missile crisis; Camelot |
| WEEK 4 | Kennedy Assassination: the end of Camelot: the beginning of the sixties; |
| WEEK 5 | Poetry and Power 1: cultural and social movements: the pill; LSD and Timothy Leary; Bob Dylan and Joan Baez and the Beatles; Beatty Freidan; Hunter Thompson and Truman Capote introduce us to "Gonzo" journalism and Television takes off |
| WEEK 6 | Race in America 1: Introduction: History and Background; School desegregation; Freedom Rides |
| WEEK 7 | Race in America 2: Black and white together, America wakes up to civil rights; 1962 - 1965 |
| WEEK 8 | Race in America 3: Shifting alliances; race goes its own way into the streets and the courts; Riots and assassinations (Malcolm X and Martin Luther King) |
| WEEK 9 | Poetry and Power 2: Race, Politics and the emergence of Vietnam...America shifts gears the music, the movies and television. Love and war do battle; flower children; women lead the way - in the streets, in the bedroom and in the Congress |
| WEEK 10 | War and Peace 1: The war in Vietnam: Dien Bien Phu to the Tet offensive to the evacuation From the roof top of the U.S. Embassy in Saigon in 1975 |
| WEEK 11 | War and Peace 2: The war at home; opposition grows sit-ins to conventions; "the body count Chicago 1968; |
| WEEK 12 | War and Peace 3: The politics of war: the elections of '64 (Johnson); '68 (Nixon, with the Help of the Chicago convention), and 72 (Nixon and Watergate) |
| WEEK 13 | Poetry and Power 3: Women in the sixties: the cultural and political impact of women on the sixties: Bella Abzug; Shirley Chisholm; Gloria Steinem; Jane Fonda; |
| WEEK 14 | Poetry and Power 4: "Breaking boundaries and testing limits" sex, drugs and rock 'n roll |
| WEEK 15 | Poetry and Power 5: Movies and Television |
| WEEK 16 | The cycles of history redux: lessons learned from the sixties |

APPROVED FOR ADOPTION/REVISION BY THE CRD/AP COMMITTEE ON 3/14/07