512:316: History of American Radicalism

We will study radical movements, ideas, and individuals in the United States as they both influenced and were influenced by the mainstream, from the beginnings of colonization to the present, with a special focus on the 20th century. We will use a variety of traditional and non-traditional historical narratives, document collections, works of fiction, and documentary and fiction films as sources. Students will be expected to have completed all the reading for the week at the second class of the week. Students will be required to write a takehome midterm, a ten to fifteen page term paper and a takehome final as their written work for the class. Attendance will be taken and attendance and student participation will be factored into final grades at the end of the semester.