Radicalism in America

Professor Norman Markowitz, V.D 007B
Office Hour MW 630-730 P.M and by appt. office phone 932-6719
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Books to be Bought
Zinn, Peoples History
Patterson, Eternal Treblinka
Brown, New Studies in U.S. Communism
Canastraro, Lost World of Italian American Radicalism
Hooks, Talkin’ About A Revolution
Sinclair, The Jungle

Course Work
We will examine radical ideas, individuals and movements in United States history as they have been reflected in the shifting American mainstream, from the beginnings of colonization to the present, centering our attention on the twentieth century. A variety of traditional and non-traditional historical narratives, documents, interviews and documentary films and videos will be used as sources. Students will be expected to have done all of the reading assigned for the week by the Wednesday class. Students will be required to do a takehome midterm, a term paper on a topic of their own choosing in the range of 10 to 15 typewritten pages (a list of suggested topics will be distributed) and a takehome final examination. Attendance will be taken and, along with class participation, counted in the assignment of final grades.

Course Outline

September 5--Introduction

Week of Sept 12- General Theme: The American Revolution as a Radical Revolution Readings Zinn, Peoples History, pp. 1-101 Video, Tea Party Etiquette Patterson, Treblinka, chap.1

Week of Sept 19 General Theme: Democracy and Manifest Destiny: The Revolution’s Completion or Betrayal Readings Zinn, Peoples History, pp. 102-166 Patterson, Treblinka, chap.2


Week of Oct 3 General Theme: The Industrial Republic and the Poverty of Progress Readings Zinn, Peoples History, 247-313 Patterson, Treblinka chap 3

Week of Oct 10 General Theme: Labor and Populist Resistance

Week of Oct 17 General Theme: Socialism and Cultural Cesistance

Week of Oct 24 General Theme: War, Repression, and 100 percent Americanism
Complete Sinclair, Canastaro, *Lost World*, chaps 4, 6 *Jungle* Video, Reds
Take home midterm due Wednesday class.

Week of Oct 31 General Theme: Communists and a New Left:Strengths and Weakness


Week of Nov 14 General Theme: Civil Rights and the Meanings of Democracy
Readings, Canastraro, *Lost World*, chaps 9-10,12 Video Berkeley in the 1960s

Week of Nov 21 General Theme: Anti-War, Women’s Rights, and the Meaning of Democracy
Readings, Canastraro, *Lost World*, chaps 9-10,12 Video Berkeley in the 1960s

Week of Nov 28 General Theme: The Counter-Culture: Cultural Revolution or Pharmacological Enlightenment
Readings Zinn, *Peoples History*, pp. 460-492, Patterson, *Treblinka*, chap 6

Week of Dec 5 General Theme: Environmentalism and Animal Rights in an Age of Fragmentation

Week of Dec 12 General Theme: American Radicalism at the Dawn of the 21st Century, Achievements and Contradictions