512: 377 Culture of the 1960s

We will study the political and popular culture of 1960s as an historical period (for our purposes, 1947 to 1974) in order to understand its place in U.S. and global history and its legacies for our time. Among the themes that we will address are the domestic and international cold wars, the rise of the installment plan consumerist society, suburbanization, and the social movements which developed to challenge the status quo, most significantly the Civil Rights, Women's Rights, anti-war and mass counter-culture movements of the period. We will use of wide variety of sources, biographies of prominent cultural figures, documents of activists, articles by historians, many films and videos and music to study the period. Students will write a takehome midterm, a ten to fifteen page paper, and a takehome final as their written work for the course. Attendance will be taken and attendance and student participation will be factored into the final grades.

--