Culture of the 1960s
Professor Norman Markowitz VD007B
Office Hours, MW 6:00—7:00 PM email markowit@history.rutgers.edu

Books to be Bought
Chafe, History of Our Times
Breines and Breines, Takin it to the Streets
Raskin, For the Hell of It
Echols, Scars of Sweet Paradise

Course Work
We will examine the political and popular culture of the 1960s, its place in U.S. and global
history and in the United States of today. We will examine such “children of the 1960s” as
Bernie Sanders and Bill and Hillary Clinton (shown above) and many others who continue to
influence the U.S. politics, society and culture.
Students will complete a take-home midterm essay exam final exam. Students will be expected
to attend classes, keep up with the readings, and participate in class lecture-discussion

Course Outline
Intro—January 17


Week of January 31—General Theme: Domestic Anti-Communism as a Cultural Force.
Readings Chafe, History, pp. 41-63, Raskin, Hell of It chaps 1-2 Video, Legacy of the
Hollywood Blacklist:

Week of February 7—General Theme: The Material and Spiritual Virtues of Conformity 1950s
style Readings Chafe, History pp. 64-80 Video, YouCan’t Get There from Here

Week of February 14—General Theme: Civil Rights and Beginnings of a Culture of Protest.
Readings Chafe, History pp. 115-150 Readings Breines Streets, pp 13-84, Raskin, Hell of It,
ch. 3, Echols., Scars, chaps 1-3 Video Color Adjustment

Week of February 21—General Theme: Women’s Rights and a Developing Culture of Protest
Readings Chafe, History pp. 163-205 Breines, Streets, pp. 388-459 Video, Women’s
Liberation

Week of February 28—General Theme: The Student Movement and Mass Protest Readings
Breines, Streets, 49-102, Chafe, History, 81-113, Echols, Scars, chap 4 Video, Berkeley in
the 1960s Takehome Midterm given out

Week of March 7—- General Theme: The Beats and the Coming of a Counterculture Readings
Takehome Midterm due
Week of March 21-- General Theme: Drugs, Sex, Rock, and a Mass Counterculture   Readings Raskin, Hell of It chaps 4-7, Echols, Scars, chaps 6-7 Video, Easy Rider- Take-home midterm due.

Week of March 28- General Theme: Vietnam as It was Seen in the 1960s. Readings ,Raskin, Hell of It, chaps 8-10, Chafe, History pp. 233-260, Breines, Streets, pp.153-199 Video, Remember Mylai


Week of April 11 General Theme: Back to the Future: The Return of Richard Nixon   Readings, Breines, Streets, pp. 287- 329,Chafe History, pp297-308 Video,

Week of April 18-- General Theme: Retreat and Fragmentation   Readings: Breines, Streets, pp. 331-386 Chafe, History, pp. 277-309


April 30-- Conclusion: The 1960s as an Historical Period Take-home final exam given out