

HIST 4000

Christopher Huff

Fall 2009

Office: LeConte Room 334

MWF: 1:25 to 2:15 PM

Office Hours: MW 9:45 to 11:00 AM

LeConte Room 323

Email: CAHuff@uga.edu

THE 1960s IN AMERICA

The 1960s remains the most influential and turbulent era in recent American history. This period witnessed an explosion of social, cultural and political movements that helped alter significantly how the nation thought about race, gender, sexuality, citizenship and personal expression. Course content will be based on two central concepts. First, this class will employ the notion of the “long Sixties” (1954-1974), which will allow for a more complete examination of the forces, people, movements, and organizations that define the era. Second, while the Sixties has been defined in the past as a period of extremism on the Left, this course will explore the era as one in which the nation became polarized, with activists on both the Right and the Left moving toward the far edges of their belief systems.

Core Questions

While this course will cover a great deal of material, no one-semester course can adequately discuss all the issues and topics relevant to the 1960s. To help guide lectures and discussions, this class will focus on **seven** core questions. These questions will help you identify key sections in the readings and prepare for lectures and discussions. Additionally, these questions will provide the foundation for essay questions on the midterm and final exams.

1. How did the civil rights movement from 1954-1965 impact the development of other movements of the 1960s?
2. How did the Vietnam War influence the development of political movements and elections?
3. Was the resurgence of conservatism in the early 1970s the result of a “backlash” against the excesses of the Sixties or did its roots lay deeper?
4. How did issues of gender and sexuality impact movements of the 1960s?
5. What impact did the 1950s have on the 1960s?
6. Did the rise of “Identity Politics” in the late 1960s and early 1970s have a positive impact on social and political activism?

Required Texts

America's Uncivil Wars: The Sixties Era from Elvis to the Fall of Richard Nixon, Mark Hamilton Lytle

Takin' it to the Streets: A Sixties Reader, Alexander Bloom and Wini Breines

Lyndon B. Johnson and American Liberalism, Bruce J. Schulman

Debating the Civil Rights Movement, 1945-1968, Steven F. Lawson and Charles Payne

A Generation Divided: The New Left, the New Right, and the 1960s, Rebecca Klatch

If I Die in a Combat Zone, Tim O'Brien

The Presidency of Richard Nixon, Melvin Small

Additional readings will be placed on electronic reserve at the library or are available through GALILEO. The electronic reserve password is SIXTIES.

All of the books listed above will be available at the university bookstore. They can also be purchased online, which I recommend doing since it will save you a good deal of money. If you do not wish to purchase all the books, make sure to buy the Lytle and Bloom/Breines book since they will be used continually throughout the semester. Also, print out online readings and those from electronic reserve and bring them to class on the day they are assigned.

Attendance Policy

It is expected that you will attend class on a regular basis. You can miss up to **five** classes without being penalized. I do not differentiate between excused and unexcused absences. For each absence after the fifth, you will lose three percentage points off your final grade. I will take attendance at the beginning of each class. If you are not present when I take roll, it is your responsibility to see me at the end of class to make sure I mark you as present.

Written Assignments

You will write two papers over the course of the semester. Each paper will be 1500 pages in length. You will receive more detailed instructions regarding what you will need to do for each paper as the semester progresses but, for now, I have provided below a brief description of each assignment.

1. Georgia in the Sixties: For this paper you will choose a topic from a list provided by me. All topics will deal with events that occurred in Georgia during the Sixties. Papers will use both primary and secondary sources.
2. Sixties Movements: This paper will ask you to write about a key event, person, organization, or place connected to one of the movements we discuss in class. As with the first paper, you will choose from a list provided by me and papers will include both primary and secondary sources.

Exams

There will two exams, a midterm and a final. These exams will not be cumulative.

Reading Responses

We will have weekly discussions that focus in-depth on a particular aspect of the Sixties. To help focus your thoughts and facilitate the discussion you will write a 250 word “response” to the readings for that discussion. You will receive a handout that describes the assignment more fully.

Grading and Due Dates

Georgia in the Sixties Paper (September 11) – 15%
Midterm (October 5) – 15%
Sixties Movements Paper (November 9) – 20%
Final Exam (December 16) – 25%
Reading Responses – 15%
Class Participation – 10%

A+= 97 to 100, A = 93 to 96, A- = 90 to 92
B+= 87 to 89, B = 83 to 86, B- = 80 to 82
C = 70 to 79 (see B for plus/minus scale)
D = 60 to 69 (see B for plus/minus scale)
F = 00 to 59

The instructor reserves the option to administer pop quizzes on lecture days to determine if students have completed assigned readings. The results of these quizzes will be used when determining the class participation grade.

Academic Honesty, Plagiarism, and Cheating

This course has absolutely no tolerance for cheating. Students need to review and understand the University of Georgia's policy on cheating, *A Culture of Honesty: Policy on Academic Honesty at The University of Georgia*, which can be found online at http://www.uga.edu/honesty/ahpd/culture_honesty.htm

Any work that violates this policy will, at minimum, receive a "0" grade. The instructor reserves the right to pursue official disciplinary action up to and including suspension or expulsion.

Technology in the Classroom

Classroom technology is meant to enhance, not distract from, the learning experience. Cell phones and portable listening devices are not to be seen or heard in the classroom. Laptop computers can be used ONLY to take notes

ANY INTERRUPTION DUE TO CELL PHONES WILL RESULT IN TWO POINTS OFF YOUR FINAL GRADE!

Disability Services

If you have any condition that will make it difficult to complete work as outlined in this syllabus, please notify both the instructor and the Disability Resource Center in the first two weeks of class. Appropriate arrangements will be made to help you succeed in this class and all information and documentation will remain confidential.

Classroom Expectations

It is required that students actively participate during each and every class. This means more than simply showing up and participating in discussions. It also means that, while in the classroom, students are expected to be quietly listening to the instructor and taking notes when appropriate. Any other behavior is distracting and disrespectful to both the instructor and the other students in the class. At minimum, disruptive behavior will negatively affect the class participation grade. The instructor also reserves the right to withdraw officially any student from the class who repeatedly disrupts the classroom and ignores warnings from the instructor to cease such behavior.

You are also expected to show up on time and stay until class is dismissed. Please inform the instructor before class on any days you will be late or need to leave early.

From time to time, class discussions may touch on topics that appeal emotionally to students. It is important that, when making a contribution to discussions, students do so in a respectful manner. Disagreeing with other students' positions on an issue is fine, being derogatory or insulting when responding is, without exception, unacceptable.

This syllabus acts as a guide to the course, not a binding contract between the student and instructor. The instructor reserves the right to make changes to the syllabus if the need arises.

Course Schedule

Week 1

Mon. Aug 17 – Introduction to the course

Wed. Aug 19 – Cold War Politics

READING: Lytle, 1-25

Bloom/Breines, 1-11

Fri. Aug 21 – Cold War Culture

READING: Lytle, 26-43

Week 2

Mon. Aug 24 – Origins of the Civil Rights Movement, 1954-1959

READING: Bloom/Breines, 15-18

Wed. Aug 26 – Discussion: The Cold War Woman

READING: Elaine Tyler May, “Containment at Home: Cold War, Warm Hearth,”

electronic reserve

Joanne Meyerowitz, “Beyond the Feminine Mystique: A

Reassessment of Postwar Mass Culture, 1946-1958,” *Journal of American History* Vol. 79 No. 4 (Mar. 1993), 1455-1482. **JSTOR**

Bloom/Breines, 388-393

Fri. Aug 28 – Massive Resistance

FILM: *Eyes on the Prize* I, Episode 2, “Fighting Back”

Week 3

Mon. Aug 31 – Roots of Discontent

READING: Lytle, 44-71

Wed. Sep 2 – Discussion: Rock ‘n’ Roll is Here to Stay

READING: Glenn C. Altschuler, “‘Yakety Yak, Don’t Talk Back’: Rock ‘n’ Roll and Generational Conflict,” **electronic reserve**

Fri. Sep. 4 – The Kennedy Years

READING: Lytle, 96-115

Schulman, 60-78

Week 4

Mon. Sep 7 – NO CLASS: LABOR DAY

Wed. Sep 9 – The Civil Rights Movement, 1960-1965

READING: Lytle, 116-140, 147-152

Bloom/Breines, 18-38, 43-48

Fri. Sep 11 – The New Right and the Election of 1964

READING: Lytle, 160-166

Bloom/Breines, 287-294

Schulman, 78-86

GEORGIA IN THE SIXTIES PAPER DUE

Week 5

Mon. Sep 14 – SDS, Freedom Summer, and Free Speech

READING: Lytle, 72-95, 143-147, 152-160, 166-173
Bloom/Breines, 89-96

Wed. Sep 16 – Discussion: Grassroots and the Feds

READING: Lawson and Payne, *Debating the Civil Rights Movement*, all

Fri. Sep 18 – Johnson and the Great Society

READING: Schulman, 87-133

Week 6

Mon. Sep 21 – The War on Poverty

FILM: *America's War On Poverty*, Episode #1, "In This Affluent Society"

Wed. Sep 23 – Discussion: Turning to the Right

READING: John Andrew, "The Origins of the 'New Right,'" **electronic reserve**

Fri. Sep 25 - The Vietnam War, 1960-1967

READING: Bloom/Breines, 153-173
Schulman, 133-166

Week 7

Mon. Sep 28 – Black Power: SNCC, BPP and Urban Riots

READING: Lytle, 224-239
Bloom/Breines, 103-135

Wed. Sep 30 – Discussion: Urban Conditions and the Idea of Nonviolence

READING: Timothy B. Tyson, "Robert F. Williams, "Black Power," and the Roots of the African American Freedom Struggle," *Journal of American History* Vol. 85 No. 2 (Sep. 1998); p. 540-570 **JSTOR**
Thomas J. Sugrue, "Crabgrass-Roots Politics: Race, Rights, and Reaction against Liberalism in the Urban North, 1940-1964," *Journal of American History* Vol. 82 No. 2 (Sep. 1995), p. 551-578 **JSTOR**

Fri. Oct 2 – The Growth of the Antiwar Movement

READING: Lytle, 240-246
Bloom/Breines, 174-191

Week 8

Mon. Oct 5 - MIDTERM

Wed. Oct 7 – The Counterculture and the Sexual Revolution

READING: Lytle, 194-224
Bloom/Breines, 237-246, 254-278
Fri. Oct 9 - Discussion: Counterculture Consumerism
READING: Thomas Frank, "Think Young: Youth Culture and Creativity,"
electronic reserve
Warren J. Belasco, "Organic Force: An Alternative Infrastructure,"
electronic reserve

Week 9

Mon. Oct 12 – 1968 in America
READING: Lytle, 246-265
Bloom/Breines, 299-304, 331-345, 353-364, 366-375
Wed. Oct 14 – Discussion: Fighting the Vietnam War
READING: Tim O'Brien, *If I Die in a Combat Zone*, all
Fri. Oct 16 - The International 1968
Bloom/Breines, 346-353

Week 10

Mon. Oct 19 – Origins of the Women's Movement
READING: Lytle, 269-282
Bloom/Breines, 38-43, 422-428, 434-441
Wed. Oct 21 – Discussion: Varieties of Feminism
READING: "'We Were the True Aquarians: ' Hippie Women, Feminism, and the
New Age'" **electronic reserve**
Bloom/Breines, 394-421
Fri. Oct 23 – Nixon and Vietnam
READING: Small, 1-30, 59-81
Bloom/Breines, 476-489

Week 11

Mon. Oct 26 – FILM: *The Weather Underground*
READING: Bloom/Breines, 379-382
Wed. Oct 28 – FILM: *The Weather Underground*
Fri. Oct 30 – NO CLASS: FALL BREAK

Week 12

Mon. Nov 2 – Antiwar Movement, Part 2
READING: Tom Wells, "1969: Part II," **electronic reserve**

Melvin Small, "The War and the Movement Wind Down," **electronic reserve**

Bloom/Breines, 203-209

Wed. Nov 4 – Discussion: Environmentalism

READING: Adam Rome, "Give Earth a Chance: The Environmental Movement and the Sixties," *Journal of American History* Vol. 90 No. 2 (Sep. 2003), 525-554 **JSTOR**

Andrew Kirk, "Appropriating Technology: The *Whole Earth Catalog* and Counterculture Environmental Politics,"

Environmental History Vol. 6 No. 3 (Jul. 2001), 374-394 **JSTOR**

Fri. Nov 6 – NO CLASS

Week 13

Mon. Nov 9 – Red Power, Brown Power and Gay Liberation

READING: Lytle, 283-287, 289-315

Bloom/Breines, 138-145, 148-152, 429-434, 453-457, 499-508

SIXTIES MOVEMENTS PAPER DUE

Wed. Nov 11 – Discussion: Religion in the Sixties

READING: John G. Turner, "The Jesus Revolution from Berkeley to Dallas"

electronic reserve

Bloom/Breines, 246-254

Eileen Luhr, "The Jesus Movement: The Counter to the Counterculture," **electronic reserve**

Stephen A. Kent, "The Hare Krishnas," **electronic reserve**

Fri. Nov 13 – Détente and the End of the Vietnam War

READING: Small, 81-95, 97-125

Week 14

Mon. Nov 16 – Nixon Domestic Policy and the Supreme Court

READING: Small, 153-214

Wed. Nov 18 – FILM: *In the Spirit of Crazy Horse*

Fri. Nov 20 – FILM: *Four More Years*

Week 15

Mon. Nov 23 – NO CLASS: THANKSGIVING BREAK

Wed. Nov 25 – NO CLASS: THANKSGIVING BREAK

Fri. Nov 27 – NO CLASS: THANKSGIVING BREAK

Week 16

Mon. Nov 30 – The Rise of the New Conservatism

READING: Matthew Lassiter, "Inventing Family Values," **electronic reserve**

Bruce Shulman, "The Rise of the Sunbelt South and the 'Reddening' of America," **electronic reserve**

Wed. Dec 2 – Discussion: Beyond the New Left and the New Right
 READING: Rebecca Klatch, *A Generation Divided*, all
Fri. Dec 4 – Watergate
 READING: Small, 241-296

Week 17

Mon. Dec 6 – Discussion: The Legacy of the Sixties
 READING: David Farber, “The Sixties Legacy: ‘The Destructive Generation’ or
 ‘Years of Hope’?” **electronic reserve**
 Todd Gitlin, “On the Burden of History, or Several Warped Ways of
 Looking at the Sixties,” **electronic reserve**
Tues. Dec 8 – Last Day of Class: Review for Final Exam

FINAL EXAM: Wednesday, December 16, Noon – 3 P.M.