

CHAMINADE UNIVERSITY OF HONOLULU: HISTORY 305.50⁹⁰ On-Line
Contemporary American History:
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5/6/01
Bms

TEXT: Miller, Douglas. On Our Own: Americans in the Sixties. Lexington, Mass. D.C. Heath and Co., 1996

COURSE DESCRIPTION: This course looks in depth at the 1960s and early 1970s. We begin with the background of post World War II America, then dig into the various currents of change in the 60s/70s: politics, foreign policy, music, entertainment, civil rights movement, civil liberties, the War on Poverty, the Vietnam War, etc. We end with a look at the Watergate scandal bringing down the Nixon presidency and its implications for the growing cynicism in America.

ASSIGNMENTS: Students are expected to read the chapter and other materials for the week's discussions, participate in the on-line discussions, write the five papers, and take a final exam which will be half multiple choice and half essay. Because the course is online, students should put eight hours a week into reading and studying in preparation for the discussions and four hours a week actually reading and contributing to the on-line discussions or writing the papers. You need to be able to access the webpage for the assignments and send them in text form to me at jobickel@k12.hi.us. I urge students to look at Theodore White and Arthur Schlesinger for supplemental readings on the Kennedy era; Merle Miller on LBJ, Jonathan Schell and Kissinger's The White House Years on Nixon. The PBS video series on the Kennedys and LBJ are also excellent sources. These are the only assignments. There is no last minute extra credit.

The grading percentages are as follows:

Each discussion is worth 5 percentage points each and there are 5 of them.

Each paper is worth 5 percentage points each and there are 5 of them. The papers must be e-mailed to me at the address above in text and NOT attachment form.

The final exam is worth 50 percentage points.

COURSE OUTLINE:

DATE: ASSIGNMENT

- 4/7 First Class Meeting on Campus and beginning of Discussion 1
- 4/12 End Discussion 1 and Posting of Paper Topic 1
- 4/17 Paper 1 Due Begin Discussion 2
- 4/25 End Discussion 2 and Post Paper 2
- 5/1 Paper 2 Due and Begin Discussion 3
- 5/9 End Discussion 3 and Post Paper 3
- 5/15 Paper 3 Due and Begin Discussion 4
- 5/23 End Discussion 4 and Post Paper 4
- 5/29 Paper 4 Due and Begin Discussion 5
- 5/30 End Discussion 5 and Post Paper 5
- 6/5 Paper 5 Due
- 6/9 Final Exam