

WE 99

P.

Chaminade University  
Tripler Campus

COURSE OUTLINE

Winter Session 1999

Saturdays, 8 a.m. to 12:10 p.m.

History 305 The U.S. After World War II

Instructor: Bill Boryk

Phone: 455-0357--M & W (2-3 p.m.)

Office hours: after class, as practical

Required textbook: Douglas T. Miller's *On Our Own* (1996)

Other course materials: Handouts and videos will supplement the textbook.

Course description: History 305 is primarily a lecture course, seeking to delineate the main political and social events of, and tensions in, the United States after World War II. Although concentrating on domestic affairs in America, foreign affairs as they relate to the Cold War--and its hot flare-ups in Korea and Vietnam--will be noted, as well.

We shall observe a post-war "conformity" settle upon the United States as its economy booms, only to be challenged by an energized dissident subculture, marked by rock 'n' roll, and the anti-establishment "beats." Short-comings of the *status quo* are then further exposed by larger, more serious, protest movements that demand minority and women's civil rights and an end to an unpopular war. The early consensus and the transforming liberal challenge to it make up the core of the course and is the main theme of the textbook.

Thoughtful student input is welcomed and encouraged.

Course objectives: By the end of the course, students should be familiar with the dominant political and intellectual movements in America after World War II, their most influential leaders, and "classic" statements of the views of these factions.

Grading: Grades will be determined by the scores achieved on two quizzes (15 pts. each), a midterm exam (30 pts.), a final exam (30 pts.), plus points given for written and oral participation (10 pts.) on a 90%=A, 80%=B, 70%=C, 60%=D, below 59%=F scale.

The instructor reserves the right to curve grades in the interests of fairness. Makeups for quizzes and exams are at the discretion of the instructor, for good reason (e.g., duty, documented illness). Quiz #1 will be given on the 4th week, the Midterm on the 6th week, Quiz #2 on the 8th week, and the Final on the last week.

## Tentative General Schedule

- Week One      The Late 1940s: The Truman Doctrine and the Fair Deal; The Early Years of the Cold War; Anti-Communism at home; The advent of Suburbia and television...
- Week Two      The Early 1950s: The Korean War; Americans "Like Ike"; Consumerism and Consensus; Americans come home to "Lucy"...
- Week Three     More 1950s: The Eisenhower Years; Early steps in the Civil Rights Movement; Living in the shadow of the bomb; Youth find ways to rebel--Brando in the movies, Ginsberg in the coffee houses, "Elvis" at the hop; America reacts to Sputnik...
- Week Four     Moving into the 1960s: Transition to the New Frontier; Shepard and Glenn fly into space; Cuban Missile Crisis; the Civil Rights movement matures; Assassination and the search for the Great Society...  
QUIZ #1
- Week Five     More 1960s: Fighting communism in Vietnam and protesting the war at home; the Feminist movement gains momentum; Blacks seek Power; Johnson withdraws from the presidential race...
- Week Six      "1968" and Beyond: Nixon initiates the Vietnamization of the war, goes to China, enters into Detente; Americans step on the moon; plumbers enter a hotel in Washington...  
MIDTERM EXAM
- Week Seven    The 1970s: "The Watergate Scandal" undoes an administration; the oil crisis and the thought that bigger might not be better; Carter succeeds Ford; double digit misery...
- Week Eight    The 1980s: Conservatism makes a comeback with the new Reagan consensus; prosperity or "greed"; the Iran-Contra episode; Reagan and Gorbachev begin to change the world...  
QUIZ #2
- Week Nine     End of the Cold War: Reagan hands the reigns to Bush; The Berlin Wall comes down; the Soviet Union breaks apart; Gulf War popularity gives way to recessionary doubt; Clinton enters the White House...
- Week Ten      Recent days.  
FINAL EXAM