

Leslie Fishbein
American Studies Department 1
F.A.S., Rutgers University

Summer 2006
Ruth Adams Building 110B
M,T,W,Th: 10:30 A.M.-12:20 P.M.

**AMERICAN STUDIES 01:050:307: SEC. B1:82352:
THE CULTURE OF THE SIXTIES**

BOOKS REQUIRED FOR PURCHASE:

1. Anne Moody, *Coming of Age in Mississippi*. 1968; reprinted New York: A Laurel Book/Dell Publishing, 1976. \$7.00 new.
2. Michael Herr, *Dispatches*. 1977; reprinted New York: Vintage International, Vintage Books, A Division of Random House, Inc., 1991. \$12.95 new.
3. Tom Wolfe, *The Electric Kool-Aid Acid Test*. 1968; reprinted New York: Bantam Books, 1999. \$16.00 new.
4. Course packet available for purchase from University Publishing Solutions during first class and subsequently through American Studies Department. \$40.00. Additional copies needed may be ordered through University Publishing Solutions: (732) 220-1211. All articles available on reserve at the Mabel Smith Douglass Library and online.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS:

The design of this course has been assisted by advice from Allen Matusow of the Department of History of Rice University and from Charles Silver of the Museum of Modern Art Film Study Center.

COURSE REQUIREMENTS:

Attendance is required at all class sessions. Unexcused absences will lower your grade. Excuses must be documented. More than three unexcused absences will result in failure in the course.

4-5 page critical paper due on assigned reading and film on date specified in syllabus. Outside reading is not required, but all reading and film needs to be cited properly in footnotes and bibliography.

Thursday, July 6th: final examination.

For American Studies majors who wish to take this course to fulfill the requirement for American Studies 01:050:303: Decade in American culture: an 8-10 page term paper is due on Monday, July 3rd. Topic to be decided in consultation with instructor by Wednesday, May 31st. Preliminary bibliography to be e-mailed to instructor by Tuesday, June 6th. Thesis statement e-mailed by Wednesday, June 21st.

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PROFESSOR FISHBEIN'S OFFICE HOURS:

OFFICE: Adams Hall 024C
TELEPHONE: 732-932-8650 (direct line)
GRADING COMPONENTS:

OFFICE HOURS: By appointment
E-MAIL: fishbei@rci.rutgers.edu

Class participation.....10%
Critical paper40%
Final examination.....50%

FILM SHOWINGS:

FILM

SHOW DATE

Rebel Without a Cause (1955)

Wednesday, May 31st

Harvest of Shame (1961)

Thursday, June 1st

*"I Have a Dream": The Life of
Martin Luther King, Jr.* (1968)

Monday, June 5th

*Mississippi: Is This America?:
1962-1964, Eyes on the Prize,
Series I* (1986)

Wednesday, June 7th

*The Time Has Come, Eyes on the
Prize, Series II* (1989)

Monday, June 12th

*Black Panthers: Huey Newton/Black
Panther Newsreel* (1968)

Tuesday, June 13th

Interviews with My Lai Veterans
(1972)

Thursday, June 15th

Remember My Lai (1989)

Monday, June 19th

Underground (1976)

Tuesday, June 20th

Berkeley in the '60s (1990)

Wednesday, June 21st
Thursday, June 22nd

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FILM

Woodstock I (1970)
Woodstock II (1970)

SHOW DATE

Monday, June 26th

Growing Up Female (1971)

Wednesday, June 28th

Radcliffe Blues (1968)

Thursday, June 29th

Carnal Knowledge (1971)

Wednesday, July 5th

FILMS TO BE PLACED ON RESERVE AT THE KILMER AREA LIBRARY

Nothing but a Man (1964)

Thursday, June 1st-
Thursday, June 15th

The Graduate (1967)

Thursday, June 15th-
Monday, July 3rd

Easy Rider (1969)

Thursday, June 15th-
Monday, July 3rd

CRITICAL PAPER TOPICS:

NOTHING BUT A MAN (1964, 92 MINUTES) PAPER DUE THURSDAY, JUNE 15TH. Compare and contrast the parameters of black autonomy in the segregated South in Anne Moody's *Coming of Age in Mississippi* (1968), in *Mississippi: Is This America?, 1962-1964*, *Eyes on the Prize*, Series I (1986), and *Nothing but a Man* (1964). What factors shape the limits and possibilities of black social and economic mobility and free expression? What role is played by the church and by political organizations? What are the gender differences for black males and females in terms of their respective hopes for self-betterment and racial improvement? Do these works offer much promise for future racial democracy in the South?

THE GRADUATE (1967, 106 MINUTES) PAPER DUE MONDAY, JULY 3RD. Compare and contrast the dissatisfaction of American youth with the promise of American life in Michael Herr's *Dispatches* (1977), Mitchell Cohen and Dennis Hale's anthology *The Student Left* (1967), Jerry Farber's essay "The Student as Nigger" (1970), the documentary *Underground* (1976), the documentary *Berkeley in the '60s* (1990), Abbie

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Hoffman's *Woodstock Nation: A Talk/Rock Album* (1969), the excerpts from the films *Woodstock I* (1970) and *Woodstock II* (1970), and *The Graduate* (1967). What was the nature of youth dissatisfaction, and to what degree was its nature shaped by factors of race, class, and gender? Was that dissatisfaction largely political or cultural? What shaped whether the young responded to such dissatisfaction politically or sought a more personal and individual resolution?

EASY RIDER (1969, 95 MINUTES) PAPER DUE MONDAY, JULY 3RD: Compare and contrast the different attempts by youth to create a counterculture as represented in Mitchell Cohen and Dennis Hale's anthology *The Student Left* (1967), Jerry Farber's essay "The Student as Nigger" (1970), the documentary *Underground* (1976), the documentary *Berkeley in the '60s* (1990), Abbie Hoffman's *Woodstock Nation: A Talk/Rock Album* (1969), the excerpts from the films *Woodstock I* (1970) and *Woodstock II* (1970), Alexander Bloom and Wini Breines' chapter "'She's Leaving Home': The Women's Liberation Movement" (1995), *Radcliffe Blues* (1968), and *Easy Rider* (1969). How important were affluence, leisure, the influence of popular culture, access to drugs, greater social permissiveness in society at large, and a sexual revolution in shaping their behavior? What determined if their attempts to create a counterculture had political dimensions or was purely personal and the implications, if any, for traditional gender roles?

ACADEMIC INTEGRITY:

Except for collaborative assignments officially approved by the instructor in advance, all work a student submits must be his/her own independent effort. Students must cite properly all outside sources consulted in preparing written assignments. Students should review the university policy on Academic Integrity (see the website for the Teaching Excellence Center: <http://teachx.rutgers.edu/integrity/policy.html>). The Writing Program maintains a website that defines and discusses plagiarism: http://wp.rutgers.edu/courses/201/plagiarism_policy/. This site clarifies many issues regarding the University's policy on academic integrity. Failure to comply with this policy can result in failure of the course.

Plagiarism is the representation of the words or ideas of another as one's own in any academic exercise. To avoid plagiarism, every direct quotation must be identified by quotation marks or by appropriate indentation and must be promptly cited in the text or in a footnote. Acknowledgement is required when material from another source is stored in print, electronic, or other medium and is paraphrased or summarized in whole or in part in one's words. To

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ACADEMIC INTEGRITY, CONTINUED:

acknowledge a paraphrase properly, one might state: "to paraphrase Plato's comment ..." and conclude with a footnote identifying the exact reference. A footnote acknowledging only a directly quoted statement does not suffice to notify the reader of any preceding or succeeding paraphrased material. Information which is common knowledge, such as names of leaders of prominent nations, basic scientific laws, etc., need not be footnoted; however, all facts or information obtained in reading or research that are not common knowledge among students in the course must be acknowledged. In addition to materials specifically cited in the text, only materials that contribute to one's general understanding of the subject may be acknowledged in the bibliography. Plagiarism can, in some cases, be a subtle issue. Any questions about what constitutes plagiarism should be discussed with the faculty member. For information on proper documentation, consult Acknowledging Sources, the guide prepared by the Rutgers American Studies Department, which will be distributed in class and which is available on the departmental web site: <http://amerstudies.rutgers.edu/documents/AkcnwldgingSources.pdf>.

ASSIGNMENTS:

<u>No.</u>	<u>Date:</u>	<u>Readings and Films</u> (all on reserve at the Mabel Smith Douglass Library and online)
I.	May 30 th (T)	No readings. Introductory lecture on the Sixties as cultural continuity and discontinuity
II.	May 31 st (W)	Michael Harrington, <i>The Other America: Poverty in the United States</i> . 1962; reprinted New York: Penguin, 1963. Chapter 9: The Two Nations, pp. 167-184.
	DECISION ON TERM PAPER TOPIC	<i>REBEL WITHOUT A CAUSE</i> (1955, 111 MINUTES) SHOWN IN CLASS
		<i>NOTHING BUT A MAN</i> (1964) ON RESERVE AT KILMER AREA LIBRARY, THURSDAY, JUNE 1ST - THURSDAY, JUNE 15TH

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<u>No.</u>	<u>Date:</u>	<u>Readings and Films</u> (all on reserve at the Mabel Smith Douglass Library and online)
III.	June 1 st (Th)	Martin Luther King, Jr., <i>A Testament of Hope: The Essential Writings of Martin Luther King, Jr.</i> New York: Harper & Row, Publishers, 1986. <i>Playboy</i> Interviewers [<i>Playboy</i> (January 1965, 117 ff.), pp. 340-377. <i>HARVEST OF SHAME (1961, 55 MINUTES) SHOWN IN CLASS</i>
IV.	June 5 th (M)	Anne Moody, <i>Coming of Age in Mississippi</i> . 1968; reprinted New York: A Laurel Book/Dell Publishing, 1976. pp. 11-384. <i>“I HAVE A DREAM”: THE LIFE OF MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR. (1968, 28 MINUTES) SHOWN IN CLASS</i>
V.	June 6 th (T) PRELIMINARY BIBLIOGRAPHY E-MAILED TO INSTRUCTOR	Continue reading Moody.
VI.	June 7 th (W)	Complete reading Moody. <i>MISSISSIPPI: IS THIS AMERICA?: 1962-1964, EYES ON THE PRIZE, SERIES I (1986, 60 MINUTES) SHOWN IN CLASS</i>
VII.	June 8 th (Th)	Malcolm X, <i>Two Speeches by Malcolm X</i> . New York: Merit Publishers, 1969. Introduction, p. 2; Speech to March 12, 1964 Press Conference, pp. 3-4; Speech on “Black Revolution,” New York, April 8, 1964, pp. 5-14.

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<u>No.</u>	<u>Date:</u>	<u>Readings and Films</u> (all on reserve at the Mabel Smith Douglass Library and online)
VIII.	June 12 th (M)	Eldridge Cleaver, <i>Soul on Ice</i> . New York: A Ramparts Book, McGraw-Hill Book Company, 1968. "Initial Reactions on the Assassination of Malcolm X," pp. 50-61. <i>THE TIME HAS COME, EYES ON THE PRIZE, SERIES II (1989, 60 MINUTES) SHOWN IN CLASS</i>
IX.	June 13 th (T)	Michael Herr, <i>Dispatches</i> . 1977; reprinted New York: Vintage International, Vintage Books, A Division of Random House, Inc., 1991. pp. 3-260. <i>BLACK PANTHERS: HUEY NEWTON/BLACK PANTHER NEWSREEL (1968, 46 MINUTES) SHOWN IN CLASS</i>
X.	June 14 th (W)	Continue reading Herr.
XI.	June 15 th (Th)	Complete reading Herr. <i>NOTHING BUT A MAN (1964) PAPER DUE</i> <i>INTERVIEWS WITH MY LAI VETERANS (1972, 27 MINUTES) SHOWN IN CLASS</i> <i>THE GRADUATE (1967) ON RESERVE AT KILMER AREA LIBRARY, THURSDAY, JUNE 16TH - TUESDAY, JULY 5TH</i> <i>EASY RIDER (1969) ON RESERVE AT KILMER AREA LIBRARY, THURSDAY, JUNE 16TH - TUESDAY, JULY 5TH</i>
XII.	June 19 th (M)	Mitchell Cohen and Dennis Hale, eds., <i>The Student Left: An Anthology</i> . Boston: Beacon Press, 1967. "Agenda for a Generation," pp. 1-16, 215-218. <i>REMEMBER MY LAI (1989) SHOWN IN CLASS</i>

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XIII.	June 20 th (T)	Jerry Farber, "The Student as Nigger," in Jerry Farber, <i>The Student as Nigger: Essays and Stories</i> . 1969; reprinted New York: Pocket Books, 1970. pp. 90-100. UNDERGROUND (1976, SELECTIONS FROM 88 MINUTES) SHOWN IN CLASS
XIV.	June 21 st (W)	Abbie Hoffman, <i>Woodstock Nation: A Talk/Rock Album</i> . New York: Random House, 1969. Foreplay, pp. 2-9; The Sinclair Hospital, pp. 134-137; One More Time, Baby, pp. 146-147. BERKELEY IN THE '60S (1990, 118 MINUTES) SHOWN IN CLASS
XV.	June 22 nd (Th)	Tom Wolfe, <i>The Electric Kool-Aid Acid Test</i> . 1968; reprinted New York: Bantam Books, 1999, pp. 1-411; Epilogue: pp. 413-414; Author's Note: pp. 415-416. About the Author: p. 417.
XVI.	June 26 th (M)	Continue reading Wolfe. WOODSTOCK I (1970, 90 MINUTES) AND WOODSTOCK II (1970, 90 MINUTES) EXCERPTS SHOWN IN CLASS
XVII.	June 27 th (T)	Complete reading Wolfe.
XVIII.	June 28 th (W)	Betty Friedan, <i>The Feminine Mystique</i> . 1963; reprinted New York: W. W. Norton & Company, Inc., 1984. Chapter 2: The Happy Housewife Heroine, pp. 33-68. GROWING UP FEMALE (1970, 50 MINUTES) SHOWN IN CLASS

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XIX.	June 29 th (Th)	Alexander Bloom and Wini Breines, ed., “‘She’s Leaving Home’: The Women’s Liberation Movement,” in <i>Takin’ it to the streets”: A Sixties Reader</i> (New York: Oxford University Press, 1995) 459-460, 468-533. <i>RADCLIFFE BLUES</i> (1968, 23 MINUTES) SHOWN IN CLASS
XX.	July 3 rd (M)	Betty Friedan, <i>It Changed My Life: Writings on the Women’s Movement</i> . New York: Random House, 1976. <i>THE GRADUATE</i> (1967) PAPER DUE <i>EASY RIDER</i> (1969) PAPER DUE TERM PAPER DUE FOR STUDENTS COUNTING COURSE AS DECADE IN AMERICAN CULTURE
XXI.	July 5 th (W)	<i>CARNAL KNOWLEDGE</i> (1971, 96 MINUTES) SHOWN IN CLASS
XXII.	July 6 th (Th)	FINAL EXAMINATION