

# History 201: The Historians' Craft

## Protest Movements in 1960s Europe and America

Meeting Time: Tuesdays, 8:55-10:45 am (online synchronous)

Instructor: Dr. Ben Shannon

Email: [btshannon@wisc.edu](mailto:btshannon@wisc.edu)

Institution: University of Wisconsin-Madison

Office Hours: W, 1:30-3:30 pm (and by appt.)

### **Course Description**

The 1960s was a pivotal decade in the history of Europe and America. Politically speaking, it is often remembered as a period of unrest, with student protests, civil rights marches, assassinations, and Cold War tensions dominating the public consciousness. At the same time, a decline in religious practice, and the emergence of youth culture, rock music, and new sexual freedoms all signaled disorienting shifts in social norms. This course will explore these important moments from a comparative, transnational perspective. Using a variety of primary sources, such as memoirs, political tracts, news reels, popular music, posters, fliers, and ephemera, students will examine international developments in the student movement and counterculture, decolonization efforts in the so-called Third World, and the emergence of the New Left, Post-modernism, and Left-wing terrorism.

### **Course Objectives**

Upon completing this course, students should be able to:

- Identify key concepts and themes in the history of the 1960s in Europe and America
- Critically analyze and properly cite both primary and secondary sources
- Conduct original research using the methods of professional historians
- Communicate research findings through essays, discussions, and oral presentations

### **Student Workload**

This 3-credit course meets as a group for 2 hours per week (according to UW-Madison's credit hour policy, each 115-minute class counts as 2 hours). The course also carries the expectation that you will spend an average of at least 2 hours outside of class for every hour in the classroom. In other words, in addition to class time, plan to allot an average of at least 8 hours per week for reading, writing, preparing for discussions and presentations, and/or studying for for this course.

### **Grades**

Grades are based on the following scale:

100-93 = A  
92-88 = A/B  
87-83 = B  
82-77 = B/C  
76-70 = C  
69-60 = D  
59-0 = F

Final grades will be calculated accordingly:

Source Analysis Paper = 10%  
Research Proposal = 10%  
Presentations = 10%  
Rough Draft = 15%  
Peer Review = 10%  
Final Paper = 30%  
Participation = 15%

(For the full version of this syllabus, please contact me at [btshannon@wisc.edu](mailto:btshannon@wisc.edu))