

The Sixties: The Story of a Decade

IDH2930 - Section 28671

Honors (Un)Common Read

Class Period: M/8

Location: LIT 0119

Academic term: Fall 2023

Instructor:

Zoe Golomb

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Office Hours: By appointment

Faculty Co-Instructor:

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Office Hours: TBD

Course Description

The ‘swinging sixties’ have gone down in history as a decade unlike any other. Ushering in an era of change and upheaval, the 1960’s bore witness to an outpouring of music, art, fashion, and culture that shocked the world and stylishly broke away from the convention of the past. Explore the world of psychedelia, take a walk through Carnaby Street, and jam out with the Beatles at the Cavern Club as we experience the essence of the sixties firsthand.

This class will have students explore the *zeitgeist* of the era through examining the songs, fashion, and films that defined the decade. Additionally, we will read a collection of articles published in the New Yorker’s “The Sixties: The Story of a Decade” as we study what the social, cultural, and political movements of the past can tell us about the modern day. This course will intrigue anyone interested in the sixties—regardless of whether you’re a “mod” or a “rocker.”

Course Prerequisites / Corequisites

Good-standing member of the University Honors Program or First-Year Honors Program.

Course Objectives

This one-credit course will have students observe the cultural trends occurring throughout various spheres of American and British society during the 1960’s. As students examine larger trends from both the past to learn about the present day and consider how they relate to current events, they will ultimately consider: are we undergoing our own countercultural movement today?

Required Textbooks:

The 60s: The Story of a Decade

ISBN: 0812983319

Publisher: Penguin Random House

Assignments:

Attendance & Participation (25%) – This is a discussion-based course. Students are expected to come to class prepared to participate in group discussions and be ready to be engaged and discuss weekly readings and course content.

Weekly Discussion Posts (25%) – This course will have a weekly online discussion board. Students are expected to read the assigned chapters before class and comment on the readings. In class, we will further discuss these posts as part of class discussions. Discussion posts should be thoughtful and avoid summarizing the assigned reading material.

Midterm Presentation (20%)

Final Project (30%)

Course Schedule

Week 1: Introduction

- “Introduction: *The New Yorker* in the Sixties” by David Remnick, *xi-xiv*

Week 2: Beginnings of the Counterculture Movement

- Wills, Matthew. 2019. “[How the Beat Generation Became ‘Beatniks’.](#)” *JSTOR Daily*.
- “Views of a Death” by Jonathan Miller, 241-244

Week 3: Understanding the Sixties through Music

- “Sgt. Pepper” by Lillian Ross, 342-345
- “Brian Epstein” by D. Lowe and Thomas Whiteside, 360-363
- “The Crackin’, Shakin’, Breakin’ Sounds” by Nat Hentoff, 418-433
- “Rock, etc.” by Ellen Willis, 548-556

Week 4: Fashion

- “Twiggy” by Thomas Whiteside, 372-376
- “[Introducing Mary Quant.](#)” *Victoria & Albert Museum*.

Week 5: Counterculture in Western Europe

- “Letter from Prague” by Joseph Wechsberg, 306-318
- “The Events in May: A Paris Notebook” by Mavis Gallant, 319-325
- Erlanger, Steven. 2008. “[May 1968 – a watershed in French life.](#)” *The New York Times*.
- “[‘Gammer,’ Juvenile Delinquency, and Moral Panics in 1960s West Germany.](#)” *EuropeNow*. 2019.

Week 6: Education Reform

- “An Education in Georgia” by Calvin Trillin, 124-146
- “Letter from Berkeley (The Free Speech Movement)” by Calvin Trillin, 151-164
- “Harvard Yard” by E.J. Kahn, Jr., 189-194

Week 7: Midterm Presentations

- TBD

Week 8: The Second Wave of Feminism

- “Hearing (Feminists on Abortion)” by Ellen Willis, 223-226
- *Tulips* by Sylvia Plath, 620-622

Week 9: The Psychedelic Movement

- “Maharishi Mahesh Yogi” by Ved Mehta, 389-391
- “Paterfamilias-1” by Jane Kramer, 434-457
- “Whither?” by Winthrop Sargeant, 556-560

Week 10: Protest; Introduce Final Project

- “March on Washington” by Calvin Trillin, 146-150
- “The Price of Peace is Confusion” by Renata Adler, 165-177
- “The Put-On” by Jacob Brackman, 178-186
- “Television’s War” by Michael J. Arlen, 521-525
- “The Bombs Below Go Pop-Pop-Pop,” 562-530

Week 11: The Height of the Sixties: 1968

- Note by Evan Osnos, 265-267
- “Letter from Chicago” by Richard H. Rovere, 186-188
- “Notes and Comment,” Jacob Brackman and Terrence Malick, 244-252
- “Life and Death in the Global Village” by Michael J. Arlen, 252-256

Week 12: Guest Speaker*

Week 13: Final Project Presentations

Week 14: Finish Final Project Presentations/Conclusion

Attendance Policy, Class Expectations, and Make-Up Policy

- Requirements for class attendance and make-up exams, assignments, and other work in this course are consistent with university policies. Click here to read the university attendance policies: <https://catalog.ufl.edu/UGRD/academic-regulations/attendance-policies/>
- University and Departmental guidelines will be applied to categorize excused and unexcused absences.
 - Students able should notify the instructor of excused absences via email IN ADVANCE of the planned absence; in emergency situations the notification should occur BEFORE THE END OF THE FOLLOWING WEEK
 - Regardless of whether an absence is excused or unexcused, students are responsible for any coursework missed as a result of the absence. As most assignments will be posted in advance, students should have sufficient time to complete and submit these assignments in spite of excused activities/absences, unless otherwise discussed and approved by the professor. For excused absences, students are expected to be aware of all announcements made in class and know all previous covered materials.

Late Assignments and Make-Up Policy

Late homework assignments will be accepted for 24 hours after the due date with a 30% deduction.

Medical emergencies are excluded if accompanied by a doctor’s note.

Grading Policy

You can find the University of Florida's grading policies here:

<https://catalog.ufl.edu/UGRD/academic-regulations/grades-gradingpolicies/>

Percent	Grade
94 - 100	A
90 - 93	A-
87 - 89	B+
83- 86	B
80-82	B-
77-79	C+
73 - 76	C
70 - 72	C-
67 - 69	D+
63 - 66	D
60 - 62	D-
0 - 59	F

A minimum grade of B is required to earn Academic points towards your Honors Completion Requirements. (Exception: Honors Quest I and II sections require a C). Once you have earned your final grade in this course, please upload the course information and final grade from your Unofficial Transcript into your Honors Canvas Cohort: Honors Completion module to earn Honors Completion credit.

Students Requiring Accommodations

Students with disabilities who experience learning barriers and would like to request academic accommodations should connect with the Disability Resource Center by visiting <https://disability.ufl.edu/get-started/>. It is important for students to share their accommodation letter with their instructor and discuss their access needs, as early as possible in the semester.

Course Evaluation

Students are expected to provide professional and respectful feedback on the quality of instruction in this course by completing course evaluations online via GatorEvals. Guidance on how to give feedback in a professional and respectful manner is available at <https://gatorevals.aa.ufl.edu/students/>. Students will be notified when the evaluation period opens, and can complete evaluations through the email they receive from GatorEvals, in their Canvas course menu under GatorEvals, or via <https://ufl.bluera.com/ufl/>.

Summaries of course evaluation results are available to students at <https://gatorevals.aa.ufl.edu/public-results/>.

In-Class Recording

Students are allowed to record video or audio of class lectures. However, the purposes for which these recordings may be used are strictly controlled. The only allowable purposes are (1) for personal educational use, (2) in connection with a complaint to the university, or (3) as evidence in, or in preparation for, a criminal or civil proceeding. All other purposes are prohibited. Specifically, students may not publish recorded lectures without the written consent of the instructor.

Publication without permission of the instructor is prohibited. To “publish” means to share, transmit, circulate, distribute, or provide access to a recording, regardless of format or medium, to another person (or persons), including but not limited to another student within the same class section. Additionally, a recording, or transcript of a recording, is considered published if it is posted on or uploaded to, in whole or in part, any media platform, including but not limited to social media, book, magazine, newspaper, leaflet, or third-party note/tutoring services. A student who publishes a recording without written consent may be subject to a civil cause of action instituted by a person injured by the publication and/or discipline under UF Regulation 4.040 Student Honor Code and Student Conduct Code.

University Honesty Policy

UF students are bound by The Honor Pledge which states, “We, the members of the University of Florida community, pledge to hold ourselves and our peers to the highest standards of honor and integrity by abiding by the Honor Code. On all work submitted for credit by students at the University of Florida, the following pledge is either required or implied: “On my honor, I have neither given nor received unauthorized aid in doing this assignment.” The Honor Code (<https://sccr.dso.ufl.edu/process/student-conduct-code/>) specifies a number of behaviors that are in violation of this code and the possible sanctions. Furthermore, you are obligated to report any condition that facilitates academic misconduct to appropriate personnel. If you have any questions or concerns, please consult with the instructor.

Academic Resources

E-learning technical support: Contact the UF Computing Help Desk at 352-392-4357 or via e-mail at helpdesk@ufl.edu.

Library Support: Various ways to receive assistance with respect to using the libraries or finding resources.

Teaching Center: Broward Hall, 352-392-2010 or to make an appointment 352- 392-6420. General study skills and tutoring.

Writing Studio: 2215 Turlington Hall, 352-846-1138. Help brainstorming, formatting, and writing papers.

Student Complaints On-Campus: Visit the Student Honor Code and Student Conduct Code webpage for more information.

On-Line Students Complaints: View the Distance Learning Student Complaint Process

Honors Program Contact Information: Honors Program, 201 Walker Hall, 352-392-1519

Quick questions for an Honors advisor? Email advisor@honors.ufl.edu
Need an Honors advising appointment? Schedule via Microsoft
Bookings: <https://bit.ly/ufhonorsadvising>

Important Note

The instructor reserves the right to change any of the administrative information (syllabus, readings, exams, distribution of grades, and papers) throughout the course of the semester and will inform students of such changes with due time and consideration.