

The final exam will consist of two essays. The minimum word count for each essay is 750. You must engage substantially (quote from, cite, allude to) with five of the texts listed beneath the prompts. What I'm really looking for is your engagement with the material. Many of us are bound to have opinions about these matters, and that is fine, but please undergird (back up) all assertions/arguments with evidence from the texts themselves.

1. In your first essay I want you to trace the idea of conformity and how Americans responded to Cold War cultural pressures concerning seemingly settled norms having to do with gender, race, and patriotism through 5 of the following texts:

- Cuordileone, Politics in an Age of Anxiety
- Ginsberg (Howl)
- Branch, The Montgomery Bus Boycott
- King Jr., Letter from a Birmingham Jail
- O'Brien, On the Rainy River
- Sontag, What is Happening in America
- Solanas, SCUM. Manifesto
- Schrag, The Forgotten American

2. In your second essay, I want you to trace the idea of the rise of the conservative movement beginning with the election of Richard Nixon as a new coalition motivated by a desire to curb the permissive nature of liberalism and its emphases on government intervention, individualism, and civil rights through 5 of the following texts:

- Sontag, What is Happening in America
- Schrag, The Forgotten American
- Solanas, SCUM. Manifesto
- Williams, The Gras Roots Campaign to Save the Family
- Pearlstein, "Polarization," "Tourniquet," and "Mayday"
- The Black Panther Party 10-pt plan

-Reagan, Neshoba county fair speech

-Linenthal, from History Wars

-Pat Buchanan, Culture War Speech (under discussions also on youtube) (
<https://voicesofdemocracy.umd.edu/buchanan-culture-war-speech-speech-text/>)

-Belew, The Bombing of Oklahoma City