Course Title: The Literature of the 1960s Counterculture: Inside Stanford’s Special Collections
Course Code: LIT 39
Instructor: Adena Spingarn

Course Summary:

Please note that most weeks we will spend half of our class time in Special Collections examining rare materials related to the course readings and the other half in a seminar-style discussion of the course readings.

Note on course texts: Please make sure to buy the specified edition of each course text (use the ISBN number) so that we can all reference the same pages during class discussion.

*Please see course page for full description and additional details.

Grade Options and Requirements:

- No Grade Requested (NGR)
  - This is the default option. Just show up for class! No work will be required; no credit shall be received; no proof of attendance can be provided.

- Credit/No Credit (CR/NC)
  - Students must attend at least 75% of class sessions.

- Letter Grade (A, B, C, D, No Pass)
  - Students must attend at least 75% of class sessions, and complete a piece of written work (to be discussed further in class).

*Please Note: If you require proof that you completed a Continuing Studies course for any reason (for example, employer reimbursement), you must choose either the Letter Grade or Credit/No Credit option. Courses taken for NGR will not appear on official transcripts or grade reports.

Tentative Weekly Outline:

Week 1: The Beats
Allen Ginsberg, *Howl* (1956)
Week 2: Civil Rights

Week 3: Anti-War Poetry
Denise Levertov, “Life at War” (1966)

Week 4: Women’s movements
Sylvia Plath, “Lady Lazarus” (1963)
Marge Piercy, “Marriage is a Matter of Give and Take, from *Small Changes* (1973)

Week 5: Hippies and Drug Culture
Joan Didion, “Slouching Towards Bethlehem” (1967)
Tom Wolfe, excerpt from *The Electric Kool-Aid Acid Test* (1968)

Week 6: The Black Arts Movement and Black Power
LeRoi Jones, “Black Art” (1965)
Larry Neal, “The Black Arts Movement” (1968)

Week 7: Sexual Revolution
BeginRita Mae Brown, *Rubyfruit Jungle* (1973)

Week 8: Gay and Lesbian Liberation
Rita Mae Brown, *Rubyfruit Jungle* (1973)