Course Title: Golden Gate Metropolis, Part II
A History of San Francisco, 1915-Present
Course Code: HIS 03
Instructors: Eryn Brennan and Bruce Thompson

Course Summary: This course examines San Francisco’s transformation from the industrial port city of the early twentieth century to the post-industrial metropolis we are familiar with today. Topics include: the city’s literary history and architectural history; the building of its two great bridges; the peak of industrialization and the internment of Japanese Americans during the Second World War; deindustrialization and gentrification; opposition to the ambitious development projects (office towers, freeways, “urban renewal”) that reshaped the city during the second half of the twentieth century; the emergence of the counterculture of the 1960s; the multiple crises of the 1970s and 1980s; and the city’s prospects at the dawn of the twenty-first century.

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

Grade Options and Requirements:

- No Grade Requested (NGR)
  o This is the default option. No work will be required; no credit shall be received; no proof of attendance can be provided.
- Credit/No Credit (CR/NC)
  o Students must attend at least 4 class sessions.
- Letter Grade (A, B, C, D, No Pass)
  o Students must attend at least 4 class sessions and complete an essay of 2,500 words on a San Francisco writer, photographer, architect, journalist, political figure, etc. (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.

Please contact the Stanford Continuing Studies office with any questions
365 Lasuen St., Stanford, CA 94305
continuingstudies@stanford.edu
650-725-2650
Tentative Weekly Outline:

WEEK 1: SAN FRANCISCO: NOIR AND DECO (July 11)
TOPICS: San Francisco in the 1920s—Art Deco—Hammett’s Hard-Boiled Detective Fiction
David Talbot, “Prologue: Wild Irish Rogues,” Season of the Witch, pp. 1-17
FILM: John Huston, The Maltese Falcon (1941) with Humphrey Bogart and Mary Astor

WEEK 2: ON THE WATERFRONT (July 18)
TOPICS: San Francisco in the 1930s—Modernization of Infrastructure—Strike!

WEEK 3: WARTIME (July 25)
TOPICS: San Francisco in the 1940s—Prejudice and Persecution—San Francisco Noir
Kevin Starr, Golden Gate: The Life and Times of America’s Greatest Bridge (complete)

WEEK 4: POSTWAR (August 1)
TOPICS: San Francisco in the 1950s—The Beats—Hitchcock in San Francisco
READING: “The Bookstore, the Beats, and the Poetickall Bombshell: Lawrence Ferlinghetti, 1955” in Chronicles of Old San Francisco
FILM: Alfred Hitchcock, Vertigo

WEEK 5: THE COUNTERCULTURE (August 8)
TOPICS: San Francisco in the 1960s—The Summer of Love—The Skyscraper and the Wrecking Ball
READING: Daniel Talbot, Season of the Witch: Enchantment, Terror and Deliverance in the City of Love, selected chapters
Gael Chandler, “Flower Power: Behind the Scene with Bill Graham, 1960” in Chronicles of Old San Francisco
GUEST LECTURER: Nicholas Meriwether

WEEK 6: CRISIS AND RECOVERY (August 15)
TOPICS: San Francisco in the 1970s—From the 1980s to the Present
FILM: Gus Van Zant, Milk

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