Henry Binford  
History 300-0-20  
THE EVOLUTION OF CHICAGO  
Day/Time: MW 9:30-10:50  
Office Address: Harris Hall Room 240  
Office Phone: (847) 491-7262  
Email Address: hcbin@northwestern.edu  
Maximum Enrollment: 90

COURSE DESCRIPTION: This course will employ a chronological and topical approach to survey major developments in the history of Chicago, with an emphasis on the city as a built environment. It will examine Chicago from the 1830s to the turn of the twenty-first century in terms of a series of major human-made structures and institutions that both reflected the larger events and ideas that created them and left a lasting mark on the cityscape. Among subjects to be considered are the creation of the canal and the railroads in the middle decades of the nineteenth century; the construction of the Union Stock Yard and the model town of Pullman in the period following the Civil War; response to perceived urban problems in such forms as settlement houses, suburbs, and city planning; the formation of hypersegregated areas such as the “Black Belt,” and massive recent public projects, from universities (e.g., UIC) to parks (e.g., Millennium Park) under the mayoralties of Richard J. and Richard M. Daley. In addition to lectures and sections, there will be two field trips on selected Saturdays during the term.

AREA OF CONCENTRATION: Americas

PREREQUISITES: None, though some knowledge of American history from 1830 to the present will be helpful

TEACHING METHOD: Lecture, discussion Sections, field trips

EVALUATION METHOD: A midterm paper or exam (the choice may be up to the student), final paper or exam (again, the choice may be up to the student), brief writing assignments, contribution to discussion sections, participation in field trips. Midterm approximately 25%, final approximately 50%, shorter assignments and participation (including field trips) approximately 25%.

TENTATIVE READING LIST:
Carl Smith, The Plan of Chicago: Daniel Burnham and the Remaking of the American City (Chicago), 9780226764733.

Course Reader

GRADING BASIS: ANC

NOTES: No PN. Attendance at first class mandatory except with permission of the instructor.

INSTRUCTOR PROFILE: Henry Binford is an historian of urbanization in the United States, specializing in the nineteenth and twentieth centuries.