I. Late 1970s to Present: State Subsidized Monopoly Capitalism

A. Corporatism

1. Dominate Institutions

a. large multi-national corporations

b. shared monopolies

c. power elite

i. military-industrial-surveillance complex

ii. financial complex

iii. hi-Tec

iv. corporate media

2. Political system, judicial/legal system, and the regulatory system are subordinate institutions

B. Social Construction of Corporatism

1. eternal war: cold war to global war on terror

a.arms race: permanent war economy

b. surveillance/intelligence complex

c. military-industrial intelligence complex

2. globalization

a. competition

b. free trade agreements

c. offshoring (government subsidized costs)

3. global economic crisis

a. oil embargo

b. stagflation

4. consequences

a. competition from Europe and Japan

b. deindustrialization of the economy

i.loss of middle class jobs

ii. stagnant and declining wages for middle class and working class especially unskilled or semiskilled blue collar jobs

iii. longer hours, debt, home loans, women in the workforce

v. less power to workers

v. alienated, frustrated segment of population

5. economic elite

a. develop strategies in reaction to 60s but also 30s

b.. Lewis Powell: ‘Attack on the Free Enterprise System”

i. threat from many places: religion, colleges, media, arts and sciences and politicians

ii. but biggest threat is . . .

iii. business needs to “organize, engage in long range planning, and coordinated action”

iv. Business Roundtable, think tanks, foundations, advocacy organizations, ALEC.

v. legislation, public relations, front groups, astroturf, lawsuits, control ideological institutions, PACs

vi. undermining progressive legislation and DEREGULATION

c. Samuel Huntington: “Crisis of Democracy in Americna

i. crisis: too much democracy, too much popular participation

ii. threat to elite

iii. reestablish power: “passify” the population

iv. main group: students

v. transform education: marginalize the humanities, marginalize professors who teach critical thinking, underfund education, redefine “knowledge, education, learning” as instruments to success in capitalist economy, raise cost

d. control media: eliminate Fairness Doctrine, FCC and public interest and vacate regulation of monopolistic practices, Telecommunications Act of 1996

e. nuture right wing populist movement:

i. segment of population hurt most economic problem: white working males

ii. create scapegoats: poor, women, students, people of color

iii. War on Drugs

f. Reagan to Clinton to Bush to Obama\

i. deregulation

ii. privatization

iii. cutback in social services