

## **War and American Society**

**21H.223 Fall 2002**

### **World War II Paper**

For this assignment, you should write a short essay of no more than **4 or 5 pages**. It is due in class on **Class #14**. Extensions will be granted only for good reasons explained well in advance. Computer malfunctions are never an acceptable excuse for a late submission. Proper academic citation is required.

One of the central questions of the course asks how Americans have been shaped by war. In this essay, you should choose a single figure from World War II (including those from fiction or film), and explain how the war changed her or him. Some possible examples—although not the only ones—include Dr. Seuss, Norman Rockwell, Rosie the Riveter, Corporal Upham, Homer Parrish, Gordon Hirabayashi, or Toshiko Sasaki.

Whichever figure you choose, you should present a clear thesis statement and support it with textual evidence from the work, using well-selected direct quotations whenever possible. The relationship between your interpretation and the text should be clearly explicated.