

**HIST 4100 T03**  
**Studies in American History Since 1877**  
**2019-2020 Fall/Winter**

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This course deals with topics in the political, social, and cultural history of the United States between the years 1877 to roughly 2000. The course readings have been selected in order to expose students to a broad range of approaches to the study of American history. We will explore the types of sources used by historians, the evolution of historiographical debates, the challenges of writing history, the accomplishments and the occasional failings of the scholars we will be reading.

The course is a seminar. Each week, students will arrive in class having completed the assigned reading, and prepared to discuss it with the rest of the group. So much of a seminar's success depends on you! Come to class ready to engage in a lively debate. Don't worry if you didn't understand an aspect of the readings – we will work this out together, and chances are, others had questions as well. To get the most out of this course, read carefully, listen to others in the class, and be confident in your own assessments of the readings.

***Grade Breakdown***

<b>Seminar Participation</b>	<b>30%</b>	
<b>Critical assessments of weekly readings</b> (You will write roughly 500 words/2 pages of analysis of any given week's assigned readings. You will be required to complete <b>ten</b> over the course of the year and hand in each before discussion of the readings in class. You may hand in more than ten, and the top marks will be recorded)	<b>25%</b>	
<b>Research Proposal (250-500 words/1-2 pages)</b>	<b>5%</b>	<b>due February 4</b>
<b>Research Presentation to class</b> (sign up in class for presentations)	<b>10%</b>	
<b>Research Paper (4500-5000 words/18-20 pages)</b>	<b>30%</b>	<b>due April 4</b>

**Grade Distribution**

Exemplary	90 and above	A+
Superior	80-89	A
Very Good	75-79	B+
Good	70-74	B
Slightly above avg.	65-69	C+
Average	60-64	C
Marginal	50-59	D
Failure	below 50	F

***The following books are available at the bookstore; other readings are available online.***

**Fall term**

Matthew Frye Jacobson, *Barbarian Virtues: The United States Encounters Foreign Peoples at Home and Abroad* (Hill and Wang, 2001)

Thomas G. Andrews, *Killing for Coal: America's Deadliest Labor War* (Harvard University Press, 2010)

Chantal Norrgard, *Seasons of Change: Labor, Treaty Rights, and Ojibwe Nationhood* (University of North Carolina Press, 2014)

Sarah Haley, *No Mercy Here: Gender, Punishment, and the Making of Jim Crow Modernity*. University of North Carolina Press, 2016

**Winter term**

Nan Enstad, *Cigarettes, Inc.: An Intimate History of Corporate Imperialism* (University of Chicago Press, 2018)

Shane Hamilton, *Trucking Country: The Road to America's Wal-Mart Economy* (Princeton University Press, 2014)

Moreton, *For God, Country and Wal-Mart* (Harvard University Press, 2010)

Meredith Lair, *Armed with Abundance: Consumerism and Soldiering in the Vietnam War* (University of North Carolina Press, 2014)

**Students are reminded that all written work submitted for the course must be original.** The University's regulations regarding plagiarism, cheating and impersonation are found in the section on "Academic Integrity" of the General Academic Regulations in the online Academic Calendar and Catalog and the Faculty of Arts regulation (online at

[http://umanitoba.ca/faculties/arts/student\\_resources/student\\_responsibilities\\_integrity.html](http://umanitoba.ca/faculties/arts/student_resources/student_responsibilities_integrity.html)) which reads:

*The common penalty in Arts for plagiarism on a written assignment is a grade of F on the paper and a final grade of F (DISC) (for Disciplinary Action) for the course. For the most serious acts of plagiarism, such as purchase of an essay and repeat violations, this penalty can also include suspension for a period of up to five (5) years from registration in courses taught in a particular department/program in Arts or from all courses taught in this Faculty. The Faculty also reserves the right to submit student work that is suspected of being plagiarized to Internet sites designed to detect plagiarism or to other experts for authentication. The common penalty in Arts for academic dishonesty on a test or examination is F for the paper, F (DISC) for the course, and a one-year suspension from courses acceptable for credit in the Faculty. For more serious acts of academic dishonesty on a test or examination, such as repeat violations, this penalty can also include suspension for a period of up to five years from registration in courses taught in a particular department or program in Arts or from all courses taught in or accepted for credit by this Faculty.*

The last date for voluntary withdrawal from this course is January 17, 2020. Evaluation and feedback will be provided to you before this date.

### **Computers, Cellular Phones, Tablets, etc.**

All phones must be on silent/vibrate mode and stored in pockets, bags or purses for the duration of the class. Texting, checking social media, instant messaging, and surfing the web are not appropriate behaviours in class.

### **Assignments and Late Policy**

All written assignments should be typed and double spaced. Further details about written assignments will be provided in class. Pay close attention to due dates. Extensions will only be granted in exceptional circumstances. Papers are due in class on the date indicated. Late papers will be penalized 2.5% per day. Students who wish to appeal a grade given for term work must do so within 10 working days after the grade for the term work have been made available to them. Uncollected term work will become the property of the Faculty of Arts and will be subject to confidential destruction.

### **Student Resources – Where to go if you need help!**

#### **Academic Resources**

There are writing tutors available to help you with your essays through the Academic Learning Centre (ALC): <http://umanitoba.ca/student/academiclearning/>. The History department will also make a writing tutor available exclusively to History students in the department on one day a week. More information about scheduling, etc., TBA.

The ALC page also has resources to help you with study skills, organization, as well as assistance for students using English as an Additional Language (EAL). Other issues, including accessibility services,

workshops, and tips about academic integrity are addressed at the Student Advocacy Services webpage ([http://umanitoba.ca/student/resource/student\\_advocacy/](http://umanitoba.ca/student/resource/student_advocacy/)).

All of the above services can also be accessed under the heading of Student Resources on the Student Affairs website: <http://umanitoba.ca/student/studentlife/index.html>.

History students can also take advantage of the huge range of academic materials (including primary and secondary sources, as well as pages to help with writing and referencing) made available by the History subject librarian, tailored just for you! They are available on the Libraries page at this link: <http://libguides.lib.umanitoba.ca/history>. Students who need research assistance can also schedule an appointment with a librarian through the website.

#### Student Counseling Centre

Contact SCC if you are concerned about any aspect of your mental health, including anxiety, stress, or depression, or for help with relationships or other life concerns. SCC offers crisis services as well as counseling. <http://umanitoba.ca/student/counselling/index.html>

#### Student Support Case Management

Contact the Student Support Case Management team if you are concerned about yourself or another student and don't know where to turn. SSCM helps connect students with on and off campus resources, provides safety planning, and offers other supports, including consultation, educational workshops, and referral to the STATIS threat assessment team. <http://umanitoba.ca/student/case-manager/index.html>

#### University Health Service

Contact UHS for any medical concerns, including mental health problems. UHS offers a full range of medical services to students, including psychiatric consultation. <http://umanitoba.ca/student/health/>

#### Student Advocacy

Contact Student Advocacy if you want to know more about your rights and responsibilities as a student, have questions about policies and procedures, and/or want support in dealing with academic or discipline concerns. <http://umanitoba.ca/student/advocacy>

#### UM History Student Association (UMHiSA)

UMHiSA is a history undergraduate student run organization that seeks to establish a sense of community for students studying all facets of history, and provide support for them in their academic career. Students interested in fun times, spirited debate, new opportunities, a community of like-minded students, or all of the above, check out UMHiSA on our instagram account [www.instagram.com/umhisa\\_undergrad/](http://www.instagram.com/umhisa_undergrad/) or emailing [umhisau@gmail.com](mailto:umhisau@gmail.com)

**Finally, I would encourage you to come by my office during office hours, or to make an appointment to come by another time, if you require any clarification about assignments or course content. A lecture course can sometimes feel intimidating to students new to the university. I welcome you to come and introduce yourself, and if you are having any problems with an upcoming assignment, come and talk to me and we can work out a solution.**

## *Class Schedule*

### **Week 1 Introduction            September 10**

### **Week 2            September 17            A crash course in American historiography**

**Suggested Readings** (you will be given further instructions in class September 12 about how to divide up the readings):

Peter Novick, *That Noble Dream*

Walter Palmer, *From Gentleman's Club to Professional Body*

John Higham, *History: Professional Scholarship in America*

T.J. Jackson Lears, "The Concept of Cultural Hegemony," *American Historical Review* 1985 90(3): 567-693

Joyce Appleby, Lynn Hunt, and Margaret Jacob, "Competing Histories of America," from *Telling the Truth About History*

James W. Cook and Lawrence B. Glickman, "Twelve Propositions for a History of U.S. Cultural History," in James W/ Cook, Lawrence B. Glickman, and Michael O'Malley, eds., *The Cultural Turn in U.S. History: Past, Present, and Future* (2008), 3-58

Richard Pells, "The Decline of American Studies" *Chronicle of Higher Education*, Vol. 62, Issue 38.

James M. Banner, ed. *A Century of American Historiography*

Anna Green and Kathleen Troup, *The Houses of History: A Critical Reader in Twentieth-Century History and Theory*

### **Week 3 The West    September 24**

Frederick Jackson Turner, "The Significance of the Frontier in American History" – this is available online in various places, including the link here:

<http://xroads.virginia.edu/~Hyper/turner/chapter1.html>

Watch online: Schoolhouse Rock, "Elbow Room" (1975):

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=FfoQBTPY7gk>

Patricia Nelson Limerick, introduction from *The Legacy of Conquest*

Limerick, "Turnerians All: The Dream of a Helpful History in an Intelligible World," *American Historical Review* 100 no 3 (June 1995): 697-716.

Pablo Mitchell, "Accomplished Ladies and Coyotes: Marriage, Power, and Straying from the Flock in Territorial New Mexico, 1880-1920," in *Sex, Love, Race: Crossing Boundaries in North American History*, ed. Martha Hodes.

Coll-Peter Thrush and Robert H. Keller, Jr. " 'I See What I have Done': The Life and Murder Trial of Xwelas, a S'Klallam Woman," *Western Historical Quarterly*, Vol. 26 No. 2 (Summer 1995): 168-183.

**Week 4 America and the World                      October 1**

Matthew Frye Jacobson, *Barbarian Virtues: The United States Encounters Foreign Peoples at Home and Abroad*

**Week 5 Gilded Age Race Relations                      October 8**

Sarah Haley, *No Mercy Here*

**Week 6 Labour and Environmental History October 15**

Andrews, *Killing for Coal*

**Week 7 Whiteness Studies    October 22**

David Roediger, *The Wages of Whiteness*, introduction

Peter Kolchin, "Whiteness Studies: the New History of Race in America," *Journal of American History* 89 no. 1 (2002): 154-173. (cont'd)

Grace Hale, excerpt from *Making Whiteness*

Roberto Orsi, "The Religious Boundaries of an Inbetween People: Street *Feste* and the Problem of the Dark-Skinned Other in Italian Harlem, 1920-1990," *American Quarterly* 44 (1992): 313-347.

**Week 8 October 29    Capitalism and Imperialism**

Nan Enstad, *Cigarettes, Inc.*

**Week 9                      November 5    Indigenous History**

Chantal Norrgard, *Seasons of Change: Labor, Treaty Rights, and Ojibwe Nationhood*

**Week 10                      November 12**

**FALL TERM BREAK, NO CLASSES**

**Week 11                      November 19                      Food History**

Jeffrey Pilcher, "Who Chased Out the 'Chili Queens'? Gender, Race, and Urban Reform in San Antonio, Texas, 1880-1943," *Food & Foodways* (July 2008): Vol. 16 no. 3: 173-200.

Katherine Leonard Turner, "Buying, Not Cooking: Ready-to-Eat Food in American Urban Working-Class Neighborhoods, 1880-1930," *Food, Culture & Society* (2006) Vol. 9 no. 1: 13-39.

Nick Cullather, "The Foreign Policy of the Calorie," *American Historical Review* Vol. 112, no. 2 (April 2007): 337-364.

Angela Jill Cooley, "'Eating with Negroes': Food and Racial Taboo in the Twentieth-Century South," *Southern Quarterly*, (January 2015) Vol. 52 no. 2: 69-89.

**Week 12                      November 26                      Environmental History**

William Cronon, "The Trouble With Wilderness: Or, getting back to the Wrong Nature," *Environmental History* 1996 1(1): 7-28.

Stephen Mosley, "Common Ground: Integrating Social and Environmental History," *Journal of Social History* 39 no 3 (2006): 915-933.

White, Richard. "From Wilderness to Hybrid Landscapes: The Cultural Turn of Environmental History," *The Historian* 66 (2004): 557-564.

Benjamin Heber Johnson, "Conservation, Subsistence and Class at the Birth of Superior National Forest," *Journal of Environmental History* 1999 4(1): 80-89.

Ellen Stroud, "Troubled Waters in Ecotopia: Environmental Racism in Portland, Oregon," *Radical History Review* 1999 (74) 65-95.

**Week 13                      December 5                      History and Scandal: The Case of Michael Bellesiles**

Michael Bellesiles, "The Origins of Gun Culture in the United States, 1760-1865," *Journal of American History* Volume 83, Issue 2 (Sept. 1996), 425-455.

Emory University, Report of the Investigative Committee on the matter of Professor Michael Bellesiles [http://www.emory.edu/news/Releases/Final\\_Report.pdf](http://www.emory.edu/news/Releases/Final_Report.pdf)

Bellesiles, "Statement on Emory University's Inquiry into Arming America"  
[http://www.emory.edu/news/Releases/B\\_statement.pdf](http://www.emory.edu/news/Releases/B_statement.pdf)

James Lindgren, "Fall from Grace: *Arming America* and the Bellesiles Scandal," *Yale Law Journal*, 2002: <http://www.yalelawjournal.org/the-yale-law-journal/content-pages/fall-from-grace:-arming-america-and-the-bellesiles-scandal/>

## HOLIDAY BREAK

### Week 1 January 7 The Great Depression

Colin Johnson, "Camp Life: The Queer History of 'Manhood' in the Civilian Conservation Corps, 1933-1937," *American Studies* (Summer 2007) Vol. 48 no. 2: 19-35.

Neil M. Maher, "'Work for others but none for us': the economic and environmental inequalities of New Deal relief," *Social History* (August 2015): 40 no. 3: 312-334.

Patsy G. Watkins, "Same People, Same Time, Same Place: Contrasting Images of Destitute Ozark Mountaineers during the Great Depression," *Arkansas Historical Quarterly* (Autumn 2011) Vol. 70 no. 3.: 288-315.

Rachel Louise Moran, "Consuming Relief: Food Stamps and the New Welfare of the New Deal," *Journal of American History* (March 2011): Vol. 97 no. 4: 1001-1022.

### Week 2 January 14 World War II

Mary Louise Roberts, "The Price of Discretion: Prostitution, Venereal Disease, and the American Military in France, 1944-1946," *American Historical Review* (October 2010) Vol. 115 no. 4: 1002-1030.

Karen J. Leong & Myla Vicenti Carpio, "Carceral Subjugations: Gila River Indian Community and Incarceration of Japanese Americans on Its Lands," *Amerasia Journal* (2016) 42:1, 103-120.

Elizabeth Escobedo, "The Pachuca Panic: Sexual and Cultural Battlegrounds in World War II Los Angeles," *Western Historical Quarterly* Vol. 38 no. 2 (Summer 2007): 133-156.

"What's Uncle Sam's last Name?" Jews and Name Changing in New York City during the World War II Era *Journal of American History* (December 2015) Vol. 102 no. 3: 719-745.

### Week 3 January 21 The Cold War

George Kennan, "Long Telegram" (Feb. 22, 1946), available online at <http://www.gwu.edu/~nsarchiv/coldwar/documents/>

Frank Costigliola, "'Unceasing Pressure for Penetration': Gender, Pathology, and Emotion in George Kennan's Formation of the Cold War," *Journal of American History* 83 ( March 1997): 1309-1339.

Mary Dudziak, "Josephine Baker, Racial Protest, and the Cold War," *Journal of American History* 81 (September 1994) 543-570.

Paul C. Rosier, "'They Are Ancestral Homelands': Race, Place, and Politics in Cold War Native America, 1945-1961," *Journal of American History* Vol. 92 no. 4 (March 2006): 1300-1326.



**Week 4 January 28 Vietnam**

Meredith Lair, *Armed with Abundance: Consumerism and Soldiering in the Vietnam War*

**Week 5 February 4 History of Sexuality**

Gillian Frank, "Discophobia: Antigay Prejudice and the 1979 Backlash against Disco," *Journal of the History of Sexuality*, May 2007 Vol. 16 No. 2: 276-306.

Betty Luther Hillman, "The Clothes I wear Help Me to Know My Own Power," *Frontiers* 2013 Vol. 34 No. 2: 155-185.

Excerpt from Tiemeyer, *Plane Queer*

**Proposal Due****Week 6 February 11 Consumption History**

Lizabeth Cohen, "From Town Center to Shopping Center: The Reconfiguration of Community Marketplaces in Postwar America," *American Historical Review* 101 no. 4 (October 1996): 1050-1081.

Elizabeth Fraterrigo, "The Answer to Suburbia: *Playboy's* Urban Lifestyle," *Journal of Urban History* 34 (2008): 747-774.

Sarah Elvins, "'A river of money flowing south': cross-border shopping in North Dakota and the insatiable Canadian desire for American goods, 1900-2001," *History of Retailing and Consumption* (2015) Vol. 1 no. 3: 230-245.

Joshua Clark Davis, "The business of getting high: head shops, countercultural capitalism, and the marijuana legalization movement," *Sixties: A Journal of History, Politics & Culture*. Vol. 8n o. 1. (June 2015): 27-49.

**Week 7 February 18 – Midterm Break, no class****Week 8 February 25 History of Capitalism**

Hamilton, *Truckin' Country*

**Week 9 March 3 Religion, Region and Capitalism**

Moreton, *To Serve God and Wal-Mart*

**Week 10 March 10 The Carceral State**

Robert T. Chase, "We Are Not Slaves: Rethinking the Rise of Carceral States through the Lens of the Prisoners' Rights Movement," *Journal of American History* (June 2015) Vol 102 No. 1: 73-86.

Heather Ann Thompson, "Lessons from Attica: from prisoner rebellion to mass incarceration and back," *Socialism and Democracy* 2014 Vo. 28 no. 3: 151-171.

Heather Ann Thompson, "Why Mass Incarceration Matters: Rethinking Crisis, Decline, and Transformation in Postwar American History," *Journal of American History* (December 2010): Vol. 97 no. 3: 703-734.

Elizabeth Hinton, "Creating Crime: The Rise and Impact of National Juvenile Delinquency Programs in Black Urban Neighborhoods," *Journal of Urban History* (Sept 2015) Vol. 41 no. 5: 808-824.

**Week 11 March 17**  
Presentations

**Week 12 March 24**  
Presentations

**Week 13 March 31**  
Presentations

**Week 14 April 4**

\*\*\*Research paper due