

Dr. J. Adler
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Spring, 2016

211 Keene-Flint Hall
Office hours: Mon.,
Wedn., Fri.: 9:25-10:25;
and by appointment

AMH 4316: THE HISTORY OF VIOLENCE IN AMERICA

Texts:

Roger Lane, *Murder in America*
Paul A. Gilje, *Rioting in America*
David T. Courtwright, *Violent Land*
William Ivy Hair, *Carnival of Fury*
James McGovern, *Anatomy of a Lynching*
Fox Butterfield, *All God's Children*

Course Requirements:

This course will explore the history of violent behavior, particularly violent crime, in America. A midterm examination, a short research paper, and a final examination will be required. The midterm examination, which will be given on February 22, will be worth 20 percent of your grade, and the research paper, which will be due on April 8 (at the beginning of class), will be four pages in length and will be worth 20 percent of the course grade. An additional 20 percent of your grade will be based on attendance, which is mandatory, and class participation. A cumulative final examination will be given on April 28 (at 12:30 p.m. in 2346 Turlington Hall) and will be worth 40 percent of your grade. Students cannot pass this course unless they complete both examinations and submit the required paper, and there will be no make-up examinations, except in cases of medical emergencies. This course will employ UF's grading scale (A=4.0; A-=3.67; B+=3.33; B=3.0; B-=2.67; C+=2.33; C=2.0; C-=1.67; D+=1.33; D=1.0; D-=0.67; E=0.0). Anyone requiring special classroom accommodations must register with the Dean of Students Office and discuss his or her particular needs with me during the first three weeks of the semester. Finally, students must conform to the university's honesty policy regarding cheating and the use of copyrighted materials, which can be reviewed at <https://www.dso.ufl.edu/sccr/>.

Lectures and Reading Assignments:

1. Jan. 6, 8 The Neurophysiology of Human Aggression
Reading Assignment: Courtwright, *Violent Land*, chapter 1
2. Jan. 11, 13, 15 Theoretical Perspectives on Violence and Interpersonal Conflict
Reading Assignment: Courtwright, *Violent Land*, chapters 2-3
3. Jan. 20, 22 Murder in Early America
Reading Assignment: Lane, *Murder in America*, chapters 1-2; Gilje, *Rioting in America*, chapter 1

4. Jan. 25, 27, 29 Mobocracy in the Age of Revolution
Reading Assignment: Gilje, *Rioting in America*, chapter 2
5. Feb. 1, 3, 5 Eye Gouging and Dueling in the Old South
Reading Assignment: Lane, *Murder in America*, chapter 3
6. Feb. 8, 10, 12 Class, Masculinity, and Anger in the Industrial City
Reading Assignment: Lane, *Murder in America*, chapter 4
7. Feb. 15, 17, 19 Recreational Violence in the Antebellum City
Reading Assignment: Gilje, *Rioting in America*, chapter 3; Courtwright, *Violent Land*, chapters 4-9
8. Feb. 22 Midterm Examination
- Feb. 24, 26 Industrialization and Emotional Restraint in the Late Nineteenth Century
Reading Assignment: Lane, *Murder in America*, chapter 5
9. Feb. 29, Mar. 2, 4 Spring Break (no classes)
No Reading Assignment
10. Mar. 7, 9, 11 Lynching and Racial Violence
Reading Assignment: McGovern, *The Anatomy of a Lynching*; Gilje, *Rioting in America*, chapter 4
11. Mar. 14, 16, 18 Social Conflict in the Early Twentieth-Century City
Reading Assignment: Hair, *Carnival of Fury*
12. Mar. 21, 23, 25 The American Mafia
Reading Assignment: Gilje, *Rioting in America*, chapter 5
13. Mar. 28, 30, Apr. 1 Poverty and Murder during the Great Depression
Reading Assignment: Lane, *Murder in America*, chapter 6
14. Apr. 4, 6, 8 Street Crime in the Late Twentieth-Century City
Reading Assignment: Lane, *Murder in America*, chapters 7-8; Gilje, *Rioting in America*, chapter 6; Butterfield, *All God's Children*
15. Apr. 11, 13, 15 Violence in Modern America
Reading Assignment: Lane, *Murder in America*, chapter 9; Courtwright, *Violent Land*, chapters 10-12, Conclusion
16. Apr. 18, 20 Historical Perspectives on the Future of Violence in America
No Reading Assignment