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Spring, 2015

211 Keene-Flint Hall  
Office hours: Mon.,  
Wedn., Fri.: 9:30-10:30;  
and by appointment

## **AMH 4316: THE HISTORY OF VIOLENCE IN AMERICA**

Texts (available at Gator Textbooks Inc., 3501 SW 2<sup>nd</sup> Avenue, Suite D):

Roger Lane, *Murder in America*  
Paul A. Gilje, *Rioting in America*  
David T. Courtwright, *Violent Land*  
William M. Tuttle, *Race Riot*  
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 23, will be worth 20 percent of your grade, and the research paper, which will be due on April 10 (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 30 (at 7:30 a.m. in 111 Keene-Flint 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 <http://www.dso.ufl.edu/sccr/honorcodes/honorcode.php>.

### Lectures and Reading Assignments:

1. Jan. 7-9                      Instinct, Neuro-Physiology, and Human Aggression  
Reading Assignment: Courtwright, *Violent Land*, chapters 1-3
2. Jan. 12-16                  Murder in Medieval England  
Reading Assignment: Lane, *Murder in America*, chapter 1
3. Jan. 21-23                  Violence, Custom, and Law in Early America  
Reading Assignment: Lane, *Murder in America*, chapter 2; Gilje, *Rioting in America*, chapter 1

4. Jan. 26-30 Mobocracy and the American Revolution  
Reading Assignment: Gilje, *Rioting in America*, chapter 2
5. Feb. 2-6 Race Relations and Southern Honor  
Reading Assignment: Lane, *Murder in America*, chapter 3
6. Feb. 9-13 Class, Masculinity, and Murder in the Industrial City  
Reading Assignment: Lane, *Murder in America*, chapter 4
7. Feb. 16-20 Recreational Violence in the Antebellum City  
Reading Assignment: Gilje, *Rioting in America*, chapter 3; Courtwright, *Violent Land*, chapters 4-9
8. Feb. 23 Midterm Examination
- Feb. 25-27 Emotion and Self-Control in Late Nineteenth-Century America  
Reading Assignment: Lane, *Murder in America*, chapter 5
9. Mar. 2-6 Spring Break (no classes)  
No Reading Assignment
10. Mar. 9-13 Racial Violence in the New South  
Reading Assignment: McGovern, *The Anatomy of a Lynching*; Gilje, *Rioting in America*, chapter 4
11. Mar. 16-20 Social Conflict and Rioting in Urban America  
Reading Assignment: Tuttle, *Race Riot*
12. Mar. 23-27 Al Capone and the American Mafia  
Reading Assignment: Gilje, *Rioting in America*, chapter 5
13. Mar. 30-Apr. 3 Murder and the Great Depression  
Reading Assignment: Lane, *Murder in America*, chapter 6
14. Apr. 6-10 Guns, Gangs, and 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. 13-17 Violence in Modern America  
Reading Assignment: Lane, *Murder in America*, chapter 9; Courtwright, *Violent Land*, chapters 10-12, Conclusion
16. Apr. 20-22 Historical Perspectives on the Future of Violence in America  
No Reading Assignment