

AMH 6290—MODERN AMERICA

Instructor: Joseph Spillane

Meeting Time: Thursdays, period 8-10 (3:00-6:00 pm)

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Readings in the History of Modern America

This is a readings seminar, designed to introduce you to the major themes and significant works in twentieth-century United States history. The objectives are pretty basic, but pretty important as well:

- To help prepare students to teach courses in modern U.S. history, especially the survey course, by encouraging critical thinking about organizing and making sense of the existing historical literature.
- To help prepare students for their qualifying exam in modern U.S. history, by presenting students with an appropriate survey of themes and works in this field.
- To nurture your skills (and mine) in the areas of critical reading and writing, by focusing on thoughtful analysis of assigned texts. We will pay attention to argument, sources, and organization.

Readings for this seminar include a mix of more recent works of historical scholarship with more established classics in the field, all of which have had (or appear that they will have) significant impact on their field. Remember that there has been much work of value published before 1994—the publication date of the “oldest” work we will read for the seminar—and remember that the notes in most monographs provide a ready way to work backwards through the essential literature in the field. You can create a very good roadmap by paying attention to the author’s footnotes. Please note as well that while we have it easy in some ways—one country, one century—there is still no way to fully do justice to every field or subject. Some of you may find Populism, the First World War, Vietnam, or labor history slighted, and you are probably right. Some of you may find too much politics and policy, and you may be right as well! Make sure that you develop final papers that allow you to pursue that which is most interesting to you, regardless of what we have done in the course.

Please remember that this course intendeds to be helpful. Toward that end, please remember that collegiality and mutual support are essential. Respecting your comrades’ voices and views—even as you may freely choose to voice your disagreements—is essential. Please bear this in mind as we go through the semester.

Assignments and Grading

The breakdown of the course grade is simple.

Class Participation (30%)—This grade is based on different elements of your class participation. Each week, you are expected to attend seminar—and to demonstrate during the seminar that you have read and understood that week’s required reading! You demonstrate this understanding through meaningful participation in the discussion at hand. Your class participation grade also includes your performance the week you set the discussion agenda and lead discussion. Setting the agenda involves two important steps. First, you must submit SIX focused and interesting (!) questions related to the week’s reading to the instructor and the other students, and you must do this by the Monday night before our Tuesday class. Second, you should take about ten minutes at the start of the class session to present an overview of the critical issues, then get the discussion going.

Book Reviews (30%)—You will have two different 3-page critical reviews to turn in, and each is worth 15% toward your final grade. In each, you will be asked to present a critical review of the required reading for that week. You may choose to do one of these reviews on the week you are leading discussion!

Final Paper (40%)—Your final paper (15 pages in length) is worth 40% of your final grade. This paper should provide a comprehensive review of a specific historiographic literature—the area on which you choose to focus is something that you’ll do in collaboration with the instructor. You’ll have to do readings beyond those in the syllabus to put together the best possible paper, and I will work with each of you to help guide you to the most appropriate sources. These papers are due WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 4, by noon in my office!

Students Requiring Accommodations

Students with disabilities requesting accommodations should first register with the Disability Resource Center (352-392-8565, <https://www.dso.ufl.edu/drc>) by providing appropriate documentation. Once registered, students will receive an accommodation letter which must be presented to the instructor when requesting accommodation. Students with disabilities should follow this procedure as early as possible in the semester.

University Honesty Policy

UF students are bound by The Honor Pledge which states, “We, the members of the University of Florida community, pledge to hold ourselves and our peers to the highest standards of honor and integrity by abiding by the Honor Code. On all work submitted for credit by students at the University of Florida, the following pledge is either required or implied: “On my honor, I have neither given nor received unauthorized aid in doing this assignment.” The Honor Code (<https://www.dso.ufl.edu/sccr/process/student-conduct-honor-code/>) specifies a number of behaviors that are in violation of this code and the possible sanctions.

Course Evaluations

Students in this class are participating in the pilot evaluation of the new course evaluation system called GatorEvals. The new evaluation system is designed to be more informative to instructors so that teaching effectiveness is enhanced and to be more seamlessly linked to UF's CANVAS learning management system. Students can complete their evaluations through the email they receive from GatorEvals, in their Canvas course menu under GatorEvals, or via

https://urldefense.proofpoint.com/v2/url?u=https-3A_ufl.bluera.com_ufl_&d=DwIGaQ&c=sJ6xIWYx-zLMB3EPkvcnVg&r=1qtWVKU2uNohMAWR5pYYVu0F_ty9jxk4wL-DcSEfmKub76k8eaDIYyGQkZMpCQZ6&m=KCQMaruvDccGkQ95LBWWejChKpHpd3olzGps63zo0Ao&s=2ry1lk1Sd2MT9xMTXgaRslOLmzE7-Mky8W2E_HUO3wQ&e= . Please note your other classes this semester may be evaluated in the current GatorRater online evaluation system at <https://evaluations.ufl.edu><<https://evaluations.ufl.edu/>> . Thank you for serving as a partner in this important effort.

The Books, Briefly

Here are the twelve books required for the seminar. If circumstances permit, you should try and purchase as many as you're able. A copy of each has been held on reserve in Library West, and I have marked with an * those books that are available through the UF Library as E-books. E-books (which includes seven of the assigned texts) can be a helpful way of reducing the cost for the seminar. The actual schedule of readings follows.

*Kate Brown, *Plutopia: Nuclear Families, Atomic Cities, and the Great Soviet and American Plutonium Disasters* (2013)

*George Chauncey, *Gay New York: Gender, Urban Culture, and the Making of the Gay Male World 1890-1940* (1994)

Lizabeth Cohen, *A Consumers' Republic: The Politics of Mass Consumption in Postwar America* (2003)

*Jerrold Hirsch, *Portrait of America: A Cultural History of the Federal Writers' Project* (2003)

Matthew Frye Jacobson, *Barbarian Virtues* (2000)

*Julilly Kohler-Hausmann, *Getting Tough: Welfare and Imprisonment in 1970s America* (2017)

Vanessa May, *Unprotected Labor: Household Workers, Politics, and Middle-Class Reform in New York, 1870-1940* (2011)

Richard A. McKay, *Patient Zero and the Making of the AIDS Epidemic* (2017)

*Barbara Ransby, *Ella Baker and the Black Freedom Movement: A Radical Democratic Vision* (2003)

*Daniel Rodgers, *Atlantic Crossings: Social Politics in a Progressive Age* (1998)

*Robert O. Self, *American Babylon: Race and the Struggle for Postwar Oakland* (2003)

James T. Sparrow, *Warfare State: World War II Americans and the Age of Big Government* (2011)

Weekly Schedule of Topics and Readings

Week One (August 22)—Making Sense of the Century

Our first week is a bit different from the rest. Rather than a single monograph and a long list of recommended readings, we simply have two articles to discuss. Each helps us sort out what it means to tell the story of the twentieth-century United States. Ross helps us consider what it means to tell a story in the first place, while Kramer explores the boundaries of our explorations.

Required Reading(s):

Paul A. Kramer, "Power and Connection: Imperial Histories of the United States in the World," *American Historical Review* (December 2011), 1348-1391.

Dorothy Ross, "Grand Narrative in American Historical Writing," *American Historical Review* (June 1995), 651-677.

Week Two (August 29)—A Modern Nation and Its People

This week, we turn our attention to the emergence of the "modern" United States. The historian's challenge here is to develop and understand issues of race, class, ethnicity, and gender within the currents of a rapidly urbanizing and industrializing nation and its highly mobile population. We will follow some of these threads through Matthew Frye Jacobson's *Barbarian Virtues*, which remains a foundational text for scholars interested in these questions.

Required Reading:

Matthew Frye Jacobson, *Barbarian Virtues* (2000)

Recommended Readings:

Judith A. Allen, *The Feminism of Charlotte Perkins Gilman* (2009)

Eiichiro Azuma, *Between Two Empires: Race, History, and Transnationalism in Japanese America* (2005)

John Bodnar, *The Transplanted: A History of Immigrants in Urban America* (1985)

Donna Gabbacia, *Militants and Migrants: Rural Sicilians Become American Workers* (1988)

Gary Gerstle, *American Crucible* (especially the first three chapters)

Greg Grandin, *Empire's Workshop: Latin America, the United States, and the Rise of the New Imperialism* (2006)

James Grossman, *Land of Hope: Chicago, Black Southerners, and the Great Migration* (1989)

Linda Gordon, *The Great Arizona Orphan Abduction* (1999)

Grace Elizabeth Hale, *Making Whiteness: The Culture of Segregation in the South, 1890-1940* (1998)

Oscar Handlin, *The Uprooted: The Epic Story of the Great Migration That Made the American People* (1951)

Jonathan Hansen, *The Lost Promise of Patriotism: Debating American Identity, 1890-1920* (2003)

Kelly Lytle Hernandez, *Migra! A History of the U.S. Border Patrol* (2010)

Kristin L. Hoganson, *Consumer's Imperium: The Global Production of American Domesticity, 1865-1920* (2007)

Desmond King, *Making Americans: Immigration, Race, and the Origins of the Diverse Democracy* (2002)

Matthew Frye Jacobson, *Special Sorrows: The Diasporic Imagination of Irish, Polish, and Jewish Immigrants in the United States* (1995)

Shelley Sang-Hee Lee, *Claiming the Oriental Gateway: Prewar Seattle and Japanese America* (2010)

Mary Ting Yi Lui, *The Chinatown Trunk Mystery: Murder, Miscengenation, and Other Dangerous Encounters in Turn-of-the-Century New York City* (2005).

Joanne Meyerowitz, *Women Adrift: Independent Wage Earners in Chicago, 1880-1930* (1988)

Natalia Molina, *How Race is Made in America: Immigration, Citizenship, and the Historical Power of Racial Scripts* (2014)

Louise Newman, *White Women's Rights: The Racial Origins of Feminism in the United States* (1999)

Mae M. Ngai, *Impossible Subjects: Illegal Aliens and the Making of Modern America* (2004)

Robert Anthony Orsi, *The Madonna of 115th Street: Faith and Community in Italian Harlem, 1880-1950* (1985)

Noah Pickus, *True Faith and Allegiance: Immigration and American Civic Nationalism* (2005)

Nayan Shah, *Stranger Intimacy: Contesting Race, Sexuality, and the Law in the North American West* (2011)

Allison Sneider, *Suffragists in an Imperial Age: U.S. Expansion and the Woman Question, 1870-1929* (2008)

Joe William Trotter, *Black Milwaukee* (1985)

Week Three (September 5)—Progressive Reform and Politics

This week, we take on the era of Progressive reform and the ways in which historians have tried to make sense of the period. Your required reading for the week is an impressive contribution to the conversation, another foundational text for the field, which remains highly relevant after two decades. It is also rather dense (the footnotes alone can keep you occupied for some time), so your task is to read this for the argument (Chapters 1-6 should give you the basic flavor of what Rodgers is trying to say). The recommended reading list can help steer you in the direction of more recent work.

Required Reading: Daniel Rodgers, *Atlantic Crossings: Social Politics in a Progressive Age* (1998)

Recommended Readings:

Christopher Capozzola, *Uncle Sam Wants You: World War I and the Making of the Modern American Citizen* (2008)

Alan Dawley, *Changing the World: American Progressives in War and Revolution* (2003)
 Nick Salvatore, *Eugene V. Debs: Citizen and Socialist* (1982)
 Leon Fink, *Progressive Intellectuals and the Dilemmas of Democratic Commitment* (1997)
 Maureen Flanagan, *America Reformed: Progressives and Progressivisms, 1890s-1920s* (2007)
 Richard Hofstadter, *Age of Reform: From Bryan to FDR* (1955)
 Julia F. Irwin, *Making the World Safe: The American Red Cross and a Nation's Humanitarian Awakening* (2013)
 Mara L. Keire, *For Business and Pleasure: Red-Light Districts and the Regulation of Vice in the United States, 1890-1933* (2010)
 Morton Keller, *Regulating a New Economy: Public Policy and Economic Change in America 1900-1933* (1990)
 James T. Kloppenberg, *Uncertain Victory: Social Democracy and Progressivism in European and American Thought 1870-1920* (1986)
 William Link, *The Paradox of Southern Progressivism* (1993)
 Erez Manela, *The Wilsonian Moment: Self-Determination and the International Origins of Anticolonial Nationalism* (2007)
 Michael McGerr, *A Fierce Discontent: The Rise and Fall of the Progressive Movement in America, 1870-1920* (2003)
 John Louis Recchuiti, *Civic Engagement* (2006)
 Elizabeth Sanders, *Roots of Reform: Farmers, Workers, and the American State, 1877-1917* (1999)
 Michael Willrich, *City of Courts: Socializing Justice in Progressive Era Chicago* (2003)

Week Four (September 12)—Women, Labor, and Reform

This week, we'll examine the concept of "maternalist social policy" and the ways in which historians have considered women's roles and authorities in social welfare. What are the benefits and the limitations of Muncy's "female dominion"? How does this work speak to the larger questions about Progressivism that we considered the previous week?

Required Reading:

Vanessa May, *Unprotected Labor: Household Workers, Politics, and Middle-Class Reform in New York, 1870-1940* (2011)

Recommended Readings:

Lynn Dumenil, *The Second Line of Defense: American Women and World War I* (2017)
 Estelle Freedman, *Maternal Justice: Miriam Van Waters and the Female Reform Tradition* (1998)
 Glenda Gilmore, *Gender and Jim Crow: Women and the Politics of White Supremacy in North Carolina, 1896-1920* (1996)
 Joanne L. Goodwin, *Gender and the Politics of Welfare Reform: Mother's Pensions in Chicago, 1911-1929* (1997)
 Nancy Hewitt, *Southern Discomfort: Women's Activism in Tampa, Florida, 1880s-1920s* (2001)
 Evelyn Brooks Higginbotham, *Righteous Discontent: The Women's Movement in the Black Baptist Church, 1880-1920* (1993)
 Sarah Haley, *No Mercy Here: Gender, Punishment, and the Making of Jim Crow Modernity* (2016)

Alice Kessler-Harris, *In Pursuit of Equity: Women, Men, and the Quest for Economic Citizenship in 20th-Century America* (2001)
 Louise W. Knight, *Citizen: Jane Addams and the Struggle for Democracy* (2005)
 Seth Koven and Sonya Michel, eds., *Mothers of a New World: Maternalist Politics and the Origins of Welfare States* (1993)
 Molly Ladd-Taylor, *Mother-Work: Women, Child Welfare, and the State, 1890-1930* (1994)
 Gwendolyn Mink, *The Wages of Motherhood: Inequality in the Welfare State, 1917-1942* (1995)
 Robyn Muncy, *Creating a Female Dominion in American Reform, 1890-1935* (1991) and *Relentless Reformer: Josephine Roche and Progressivism in Twentieth-Century America* (2014)
 Theda Skocpol, *Protecting Soldiers and Mothers: The Political Origins of Social Policy in the United States* (1992)
 Virginia W. Wolcott, *Remaking Respectability: African American Women in Interwar Detroit* (2001)
 Nancy Woloch, *A Class By Herself: Protective Laws for Women Workers, 1890s-1990s* (2015)

Week Five (September 19)—Culture, Identity, and Conflict

This week, we're exploring issues of culture and identity (individual and collective). The readings listed below cover the period before World War II rather broadly, but clearly the "pivot point" seems to be the 1920s. Does George Chauncey's work help us make sense of the "Twenties" as a distinct cultural moment, and how does it help make sense of the shift from "Victorian" to "modern"? More broadly, Chauncey's work helps us come to terms with the dynamism of masculine identity, and the spatial dimension of social life.

Required Reading: George Chauncey, *Gay New York: Gender, Urban Culture, and the Making of the Gay Male World 1890-1940*

Recommended Readings:

Gail Bederman, *Manliness and Civilization* (1996)
 Nan Alamilla Boyd, *Wide Open Town: A History of Queer San Francisco to 1965* (2005)
 Julio Capo, *Welcome to Fairyland: Queer Miami before 1940* (2017)
 Joel Dinerstein, *Swinging the Machine: Modernity, Technology, and African American Culture Between the World Wars* (2003)
 Ann Douglas, *Terrible Honesty: Mongrel Manhattan in the 1920s* (1995)
 Lisa Duggan, *Sapphic Slashes: Sex Violence, and American Modernity* (2000)
 Lewis Erenberg, *Steppin' Out: New York Nightlife and the Transformation of American Culture* (1981)
 Lewis Erenberg, *The Greatest Fight of Our Generation: Louis v. Schmeling* (2006)
 Paula Fass, *The Damned and the Beautiful: American Youth in the 1920s* (1977)
 Saidiya Hartman, *Wayward Lives, Beautiful Experiments: Intimate Histories of Social Upheaval* (2019)
 Sherrie A. Inness, ed. *Delinquents and Debutantes: Twentieth-Century American Girls' Cultures* (1998)
 Colin R. Johnson, *Just Queer Folks: Gender and Sexuality in Rural America* (2013)
 George Sanchez, *Becoming Mexican American: Ethnicity, Culture, and Identity in Chicano Los Angeles, 1900-1945* (1993)

Nayan Shah, *Stranger Intimacy: Contesting Race, Sexuality and the Law in the North American West* (2012)
Daniel Joseph Singal, *The War Within: From Victorian to Modernist Thought in the South, 1919-1945* (1982)
C. Riley Snorton, *Black on Both Sides: A Racial History of Trans Identity* (2017)
Christine Stansell, *American Moderns: Bohemian New York and the Creation of a New Century* (2001)

Week Six (September 26)— The New Deal and Modern Liberalism

This week, we will resume a conversation about the competing understandings of the American state and the meaning of citizenship, this time through the lens of the cultural politics of the New Deal. How does this work help explain what the “New Deal” era really was? What are the competing theories of the American nation here? Does it build a bridge to postwar social, cultural and political life in America?

Required Reading: Jerrold Hirsch, *Portrait of America: A Cultural History of the Federal Writers Project*

Recommended Readings:

Edwin Amenta, *Bold Relief: Institutional Politics and the Origins of Modern American Social Policy* (1998)
Anthony Badger, *The New Deal: The Depression Years, 1933-1940* (1989)
Anthony Badger, *Prosperity Road: The New Deal, Tobacco, and North Carolina* (1979)
Alan Brinkley, *Voices of Protest: Huey Long, Father Coughlin, and the Great Depression* (1982)
Barry Cushman, *Rethinking the New Deal Court: The Structure of a Constitutional Revolution* (1998)
Colin Gordon, *New Deals: Business, Labor, and Politics in America, 1920-1940* (1994)
Linda Gordon, *Pitied But Not Entitled: Single Mothers and the History of Welfare* (1994)
Michael Johnston Grant, *Down and Out on the Family Farm: Rural Rehabilitation in the Great Plains, 1929-1945* (2002)
Ellis W. Hawley, *The New Deal and the Problem of Monopoly* (1966)
Ira Katznelson, *Fear Itself: The New Deal and the Origins of Our Time* (2014)
Robin Kelley, *Hammer and Hoe: Alabama Communists During the Great Depression* (1990)
David Kennedy, *Freedom From Fear: The American People in Depression and War, 1929-1945* (1999)
William Leuchtenberg, *Franklin D. Roosevelt and the New Deal* (1963)
Kiran Klaus Patel, *The New Deal: A Global History* (2016)
Kim Phillips-Fein, *Invisible Hands: The Businessman's Crusade Against the New Deal* (2010)
Edward A. Purcell, *The Crisis of Democratic Theory: Scientific Naturalism and the Problem of Value* (1973)
Jason Scott Smith, *Building New Deal Liberalism: The Political Economy of Public Works* (2005)
Patricia Sullivan, *Days of Hope: Race and Democracy in the New Deal Era* (1996)

Week Seven (October 3)— World War II and the United States

This week, we examine the wartime homefront and the corresponding changes in the development of the wartime state. (NB: There is an enormous literature on the military and political dimensions of the war, and those of you interested might begin by consulting David Kennedy's bibliography in *Freedom From Fear*, noted above).

Required Reading: James Sparrow, *Warfare State*

Recommended Readings:

- Michael C.C. Adams, *The Best War Ever: America and World War Two* (1994)
Sheri Chinen Biesen, *Blackout: World War II and the Origins of Film Noir* (2005)
John Morton Blum, *V Was for Victory* (1976)
Susan L. Carruthers, *The Good Occupation: American Soldiers and the Hazards of Peace* (2016)
Alistair Cooke, *The American Home Front* (2006)
Paul Fussell, *Wartime: Understanding and Behavior in the Second World War* (1989)
Glen Jeansonne, *Women of the Far Right: The Mothers' Movement and World War Two* (1996)
Marilyn S. Johnson, *The Second Gold Rush: Oakland and the East Bay in World War II* (1993)
Daniel Kryder, *Divided Arsenal: Race and the American State During World War II* (2000)
David Levering Lewis, *The Improbable Wendell Willkie* (2018)
Nelson Lichtenstein, *Labor's War At Home: The CIO in World War Two* (1982)
Kenneth P. O'Brien and Lynn H. Parsons, *The Home-Front War: World War II and American Society* (1995)
William O'Neill, *A Democracy At War: America's Fight At Home and Abroad*
Mary Louise Roberts, *What Soldiers Do: Sex and the American GI in World War II France* (2014)
Lawrence R. Samuel, *Pledging Allegiance: American Identity and the Bond Drive of World War II* (1997)
Ronald Takaki, *Double Victory: A Multicultural History of World War Two*
William M. Tuttle, Jr., *Daddy's Gone to War: The Second World War in the Lives of America's Children* (1995)
Julian E. Zelizer, *Taxing America: Wilbur D. Mills, Congress, and the State, 1945-1975* (1998)

Week Eight (October 10)— Mass Consumption, Consumers, and Economic Citizenship

This week, we'll take a look at the evolution of historians' understanding of "consumer culture." From the margins of historical interest, consumer culture emerged as an important but often distinct subject of investigation. Over the course of the last 20 years, consumption has gradually been brought into the social, political, and economic histories of Twentieth-Century America.

Required Reading: Lizabeth Cohen, *A Consumers' Republic: The Politics of Mass Consumption in Postwar America* (2003)

Recommended Readings:

Lizabeth Cohen, *Making a New Deal: Industrial Workers in Chicago, 1919-1939* (1991)

Daunton and Hilton, eds. *The Politics of Consumption: Material Culture and Citizenship in Europe and America* (2001)

Joshua Clark Davis, *From Head Shops to Whole Foods: The Rise and Fall of Activist Entrepreneurs* (2017)

Kathleen G. Donahue, *Freedom From Want: American Liberalism & The Idea of the Consumer* (2003)

Lawrence Glickman, *Buying Power: A History of Consumer Activism in America* (2009)

Carolyn M. Goldstein, *Creating Consumers: Home Economists in Twentieth-Century America* (2012)

Cheryl Greenberg, *“Or Does it Explode? Black Harlem in the Great Depression* (1991)

Meg Jacobs, *Pocketbook Politics: Economic Citizenship in Twentieth-Century America* (2005)

Lisa Jacobson, *Raising Consumers: Children and the American Mass Market in the Early Twentieth Century* (2004)

David K. Johnson, *Buying Gay: How Physique Entrepreneurs Sparked a Movement* (2019)

Mark Kurlansky, *Ready For a Brand New Beat: How ‘Dancing in the Street’ Became the Anthem for a Changing America* (2013)

T.J. Jackson Lears, *Fables of Abundance: A Cultural History of Advertising in America* (1994)

Roland Marchand, *Advertising the American Dream: Making Way for Modernity, 1920-1940*

Larry May, *Screening Out the Past: The Birth of Mass Culture and the Motion Picture Industry* (1980)

Kathleen Newman, *Radio Active: Advertising and Consumer Activism, 1935-1947* (2004)

Steven J. Ross, *Working-Class Hollywood: Silent Film and the Shaping of Class in America* (1998)

Brian Ward, *Just My Soul Responding: Rhythm and Blues, Black Consciousness, and Race Relations* (1998)

Tone and Watkins, eds. *Medicating Modern America: Prescription Drugs in History* (2007)

Sharon Zukin, *Point of Purchase: The Transformation of Shopping Into Public Culture* (2004)

Week Nine (October 17)—Cold War and the Cold War Era

This week, we consider the Cold War. The list of recommended readings contains many readings related to “Cold War Era” politics and society, readings with which I strongly urge you to familiarize yourself. Other work on the list focuses on the Cold War itself—the great contest between the US and the Soviet Union, and works that discuss both causes, periodization, and global dimensions. Still others situate the Cold War in the longer arc of American history. In reflecting on these readings, if you choose to, you might consider how broad stories of this period might best integrate international conflict with domestic social conflict? For our own reading this week, however, I have chosen a rather unique comparative study, tracing the parallel stories of US and Soviet plutonium cities. It is a different take on the era, also a stellar example of comparative history.

Required Reading:

Kate Brown, *Plutopia: Nuclear Families, Atomic Cities, and the Great Soviet and American Plutonium Disasters* (2013)

Recommended Readings:

- Jonathan Bell, *The Liberal State on Trial: The Cold War and American Politics in the Truman Years* (2004)
- Thomas Borstelmann, *The Cold War and the Color Line* (1994)
- Paul Boyer, *By the Bomb's Early Light: American Culture and Thought at the Dawn of the Atomic Age* (1985)
- Tom Englehardt, *The End of Victory Culture: Cold War America and the Disillusioning of a Generation* (1998)
- John Fousek, *To Lead the Free World: American Nationalism and the Cultural Roots of the Cold War* (2000)
- John Lewis Gaddis, *The Cold War: A New History* (2005)
- Michael Hogan, *A Cross of Iron: Harry S. Truman and the Origins of the National Security State* (1998)
- Michael H. Hunt and Steven I. Levine, *Arc of Empire: America's Wars in Asia from the Philippines to Vietnam* (2012)
- David K. Johnson, *The Lavender Scare: The Cold War Persecution of Gays and Lesbians in the Federal Government* (2003)
- Melvyn P. Leffler, *For the Soul of Mankind: The United States, the Soviet Union, and the Cold War* (2007)
- Nelson Lichtenstein, *The Most Dangerous Man in Detroit: Walter Reuther and the Fate of American Labor* (1995)
- Elaine Tyler May, *Homeward Bound: American Families in the Cold War Era* (1988)
- Richard Gid Powers, *Not Without Honor: A History of American Anticommunism* (1995)
- Andrew Preston, *Sword of the Spirit, Shield of the Faith: Religion in American War and Diplomacy* (2012)
- Ellen Schrecker, *Many Are The Crimes: McCarthyism in America* (1998)
- Benn Steil, *The Marshall Plan: Dawn of the Cold War* (2018)
- Odd Arne Westad, *The Global Cold War: Third World Interventions and the Making of Our Times* (2005)
- Odd Arne Westad, *The Cold War: A World History* (2017)
- Stephen Whitfield, *The Culture of the Cold War* (1991)

Week Ten (October 24)—Building Postwar America

This week's reading doesn't waste much time. Robert O. Self's first line reads: "The most significant political, economic, and spatial transformation in the postwar United States was the overdevelopment of suburbs and the underdevelopment of cities." This week, we'll see if he's right about that. More to the point, we'll explore the author's contention that one cannot speak of one without the other.

Required Reading: Robert O. Self, *American Babylon: Race and the Struggle for Postwar Oakland* (2003)

Recommended Readings:

John Findlay, *Magic Lands: Western Cityscapes and American Culture after 1940* (1993)

Howard Gillette, Jr., *Camden After the Fall: Decline and Renewal in a Post-Industrial City* (2005)
 Arnold Hirsch, *Making the Second Ghetto: Race and Housing in Chicago, 1940-1960* (rev. ed. 1998)
 Jesse Hoffnung-Garskof, *A Tale of Two Cities: Santo Domingo and New York after 1950* (2008)
 Jane Jacobs, *The Death and Life of American Cities* (1961)
 Kenneth Jackson, *Crabgrass Frontier* (1985)
 Michael Johns, *Moment of Grace: The American City in the 1950s* (2003)
 Becky M. Nicolaides, *My Blue Heaven: Life and Politics in the Working Class Suburbs of Los Angeles, 1920-1965* (2002)
 Jerald Podair, *City of Dreams: Dodger Stadium and the Birth of Modern Los Angeles* (2017)
 Judith Stein, *Pivotal Decade: How the United States Traded Factories for Finance in the Seventies* (2011)
 Thomas J. Sugrue, *The Origins of the Urban Crisis: Race and Inequality in Postwar Detroit* (1996)
 Jon Teaford, *The Rough Road to Renaissance: Urban Revitalization in America, 1940-1985* (1990)
 Walter Thabit, *How East New York Became a Ghetto* (2003)
 Andrew Wiese, *Places of Their Own: African American Suburbanization in the Twentieth Century* (2004)

Week Eleven (October 31)—The Fight for Rights

This week, for the first time this semester, we take on a biography as our guide to the subject. Although I'm tempted each week to assign a biography, this recent work stands out as a particularly notable example of the biographical approach to writing history.

Required Reading: Barbara Ransby, *Ella Baker and the Black Freedom Movement: A Radical Democratic Vision* (2003)

Recommended Readings:

Carol Anderson, *Eyes Off the Prize: The United Nations and the African American Struggle for Human Rights, 1944-1955* (2003)
 Terry Anderson, *The Movement and the Sixties: Protest in America from Greensboro to Wounded Knee* (1995)
 Raymond Arsenault, *Freedom Riders: 1961 and the Struggle for Racial Justice* (2006)
 Chris Myers Asch, *The Senator and the Sharecropper* (2011)
 Keisha N. Blain, *Set the World on Fire: Black Nationalist Women and the Global Struggle for Freedom* (2018)
 Taylor Branch, *At Canaan's Edge: America in the King Years, 1965-1968* (2006); see also *Parting the Waters* and *Pillar of Fire*
 Dorothy Sue Cobble, *The Other Women's Movement: Workplace Justice and Social Rights in Modern America* (2004)
 John Dittmer, *Local People: The Struggle for Civil Rights in Mississippi* (1996)
 Mary L. Dudziak, *Cold War Civil Rights: Race and the Image of American Democracy* (2000)
 Sara Evans, *Personal Politics: The Roots of Women's Liberation in the Civil Rights Movement and the New Left* (1979)
 Ashley D. Farmer, *Remaking Black Power: How Black Women Transformed an Era* (2017)

Michael J. Klarman, *From Jim Crow to Civil Rights: The Supreme Court and the Struggle for Racial Equality* (2004)

Robert Korstad, *Civil Rights Unionism: Tobacco Workers and the Struggle for Democracy in the Mid-Twentieth Century South* (2003)

Steven Lawson, *Civil Rights Crossroads: Nation, Community, and the Black Freedom Struggle* (2003)

Lisa Levenstein, *A Movement Without Marches: African American Women and the Politics of Poverty in Postwar Philadelphia* (2009)

Arnold A. Offner, *Hubert Humphrey: The Conscience of the Country* (2018)

Jill Quadagno, *The Color of Welfare: How Racism Undermined the War on Poverty*

James Patterson, *Brown v. Board of Education: A Civil Rights Milestone and Its Troubled Legacy* (2001)

Timothy Tyson, *Radio Free Dixie: Robert F. Williams and the Roots of Black Power* (1999)

Julian E. Zelizer, *The Fierce Urgency of Now: Lyndon Johnson, Congress, and the Battle for the Great Society* (2015)

Week Twelve (November 7)—Mass Incarceration and the Ascendancy of Modern Conservatism

Traditionally, we have used this week to examine the rise of modern conservatism, consider its links with traditional conservatism, try and locate its genesis, and consider its scope and meaning. We shall do some of that, but also take a closer look at what is ostensibly a marker of modern conservative politics, the age of mass incarceration. The recommended readings focus on the former—the footnotes to “Getting Tough” can fill in the literature on drugs/crime/mass incarceration.

Required Reading: Julilly Kohler-Hausmann, *Getting Tough: Welfare and Imprisonment in 1970s America* (2017)

Recommended Readings:

William Berman, *America’s Right Turn From Nixon to Clinton* (2nd ed. 1998)

Dan Carter, *The Politics of Rage: George Wallace, the Origins of the New Conservatism, and the Transformation of American Politics* (1995)

Donald T. Critchlow, *Phyllis Schlafly and Grassroots Conservatism: A Woman’s Crusade* (2005)

Darren Dochuk, *From Bible Belt to Sunbelt: Plain-Folk Religion, Grassroots Politics, and the Rise of Evangelical Conservatism* (2012)

Thomas Edsall and Mary Edsall, *Chain Reaction: The Impact of Race, Rights, and Taxes on American Politics* (1992)

Frances FitzGerald, *The Evangelicals: The Struggle to Shape America* (2018)

Ronald Formisano, *Boston Against Busing: Race, Class, and Ethnicity in the 1960s and 1970s* (1991)

Michael Katz, *The Undeserving Poor: From the War on Poverty to the War on Welfare* (1990)

Kevin Kruse, *White Flight: Atlanta and the Making of Modern Conservatism* (2005) also *One Nation Under God: How Corporate America Invented Christian America* (2015)

Lisa McGirr, *Suburban Warriors: The Origins of the New American Right* (2001)

Rick Perlstein, *Before the Storm: Barry Goldwater and the Unraveling of the American Consensus* (2001)

Jonathan Reider, *Canarsie: The Jews and Italians of Brooklyn Against Liberalism* (1985)
Judith Stein, *Running Steel, Running America: Race, Economic Policy and the Decline of Liberalism* (1998)
Natasha Zaretsky, *No Direction Home: The American Family and the Fear of National Decline, 1968-1980* (2007)

Week Thirteen (November 14)—Public Health in Modern America

Required Reading: Richard McKay, *Patient Zero and the Making of the AIDS Epidemic* (2017)

Recommended Readings: This list is being revised...I'll add this once the term begins.

Week Fourteen (November 21)—No class meeting today. I'll be available this week for consultations on the historiographical papers.