

AMH 4231: United States, World War One to World War Two  
Course Numbers 24898 (section 1JS1) and 26337 (section JS11)

### Course Syllabus

Instructor: Prof. Joseph Spillane

Classroom: FLI 105

Meeting Time: T 2-3 (8:30-10:25) and R (9:35-10:25)

Office Hours: R 10:30-12:30 in Farrison Hall 2035

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Phone: 273-4091

**Attendance:** Requirements for class attendance, make up exams, assignments, and other work in this course are consistent with university policies that can be found in the online catalog at:

<https://catalog.ufl.edu/ugrd/current/regulations/info/attendance.aspx>

**Accommodations:** Students with disabilities who experience learning barriers and would like to request academic accommodations should connect with the disability Resource Center. [Click here to get started with the Disability Resource Center](#). It is important for students to share their accommodation letter with their instructor and discuss their access needs, as early as possible in the semester.

**Academic Honesty:** 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 specifies a number of behaviors that are in violation of this code and the possible sanctions. Furthermore, you are obligated to report any condition that facilitates academic misconduct to appropriate personnel. If you have any questions or concerns, please consult with the instructor for this course, and see

<http://www.dso.ufl.edu/sccr/process/student-conduct-honor-code/>

**Evaluations:** Students are expected to provide professional and respectful feedback on the quality of instruction in this course by completing course evaluations online via GatorEvals. [Click here for guidance on how to give feedback in a professional and respectful manner](#). Students will be notified when the evaluation period opens, and can complete evaluations through the email they receive from GatorEvals, in their Canvas course menu under GatorEvals, or via [ufl.bluera.com/ufl/](http://ufl.bluera.com/ufl/). [Summaries of course evaluation results are available to students here](#).

**Audio/Video:** The success of this course depends on a high level of in-class engagement and discussion. Accordingly, students are strongly encouraged to have both audio and video engaged and on during class

meetings. Students who cannot have one or both engaged should let the instructor know—whether this is for the entire term or just (because of technical issues) for a class period. Our class sessions may be audio visually recorded for students in the class to refer back and for enrolled students who are unable to attend live. Students who participate with their camera engaged or utilize a profile image are agreeing to have their video or image recorded. If you are unwilling to consent to have your profile or video image recorded, be sure to keep your camera off and do not use a profile image. Likewise, students who un-mute during class and participate orally are agreeing to have their voices recorded. If you are not willing to consent to have your voice recorded during class, you will need to keep your mute button activated and communicate exclusively using the "chat" feature, which allows students to type questions and comments live. The chat will not be recorded or shared. As in all courses, unauthorized recording and unauthorized sharing of recorded materials is prohibited.

**COVID Policies:** For students registered for course number 24898, we will have face-to-face instructional sessions to accomplish the student learning objectives of this course. In response to COVID-19, the following policies and requirements are in place to maintain your learning environment and to enhance the safety of our in-classroom interactions.

- You are required to wear approved face coverings at all times during class and within buildings. Following and enforcing these policies and requirements are all of our responsibility. Failure to do so will lead to a report to the Office of Student Conduct and Conflict Resolution.
- This course has been assigned a physical classroom with enough capacity to maintain physical distancing (6 feet between individuals) requirements. Please utilize designated seats and maintain appropriate spacing between students. Please do not move desks or stations.
- Sanitizing supplies are available in the classroom if you wish to wipe down your desks prior to sitting down and at the end of the class.
- Follow your instructor's guidance on how to enter and exit the classroom. Practice physical distancing to the extent possible when entering and exiting the classroom.
- If you are experiencing COVID-19 symptoms ([Click here for guidance from the CDC on symptoms of coronavirus](#)), please use the UF Health screening system and follow the instructions on whether you are able to attend class. [Click here for UF Health guidance on what to do if you have been exposed to or are experiencing Covid-19 symptoms](#).
  - Course materials will be provided to you with an excused absence, and you will be given a reasonable amount of time to make up work. [Find more information in the university attendance policies](#).

**Course Objectives:** There are four core objectives to this course. At the conclusion of the course, students will...

First, be able to appropriately summarize many of the critical developments in United States history from the time of America's entry into the First World War, to the conclusion of the Second World War.

Second, be able to organize these developments into broad thematic areas that cover this period of time, and place it into a stream of time that extends both forward and backward from 1917-1945. Put another way, one might take a broad theme, like the role of women in American society in this period, and begin to connect disparate events within the period using this common theme, as well as to understand how this moment in time was influenced by events before, and how it in turn influenced the postwar period.

Third, be able to employ key historiographic debates from this period to help develop a keen sense of how historical interpretations are produced, and of how history is written.

Fourth, be able to demonstrate those same skills of historical writing and historical interpretation through the production of group and individual work. Students should finish the course not only knowing more about the United States from 1917-1941, but more about how history is produced, and have a better ability to produce quality historical work themselves.

**Required Readings:** The reading for this course include a series of short readings, which you will find on the course page in the e-Learning system (organized by class session, to make it easy to locate them), along with three books. It is very important that you have a copy of all three books, as they will be extensively used both in class and/or for your final papers. The books are briefly listed here, and more information can be found at the UF course textbook site:

Strum, *Speaking Freely*

Gordon, *The Second Coming of the KKK*

Katznelson, *Fear Itself*

### **Grading and Assignments**

Your grade for this course has these basic elements.

Group Project One (Whitney v. California)—50 Points

Group Project Two (Thirties Culture)—50 Points

Class Discussions/Primary Source Analyses—100 Points

These will be a mix of actual class discussion with some short responses submitted via Canvas, in which we apply the tools of historical research to various texts and/or cultural artifacts to learn more about their context.

Mid-Term Take Home Exam—150 Points

Final Take Home Exam—150 Points

Students will then have a total of points on a 500-point scale that translates in terms of final grades as follows:

461 points and above—A

450-460 points—A minus

437-449 points—B plus

411-436 points—B

400-410 points—B minus

388-399 points—C plus

361-387 points—C  
350-360 points—C minus  
337-349 points—D plus  
311-336 points—D  
300-310 points—D minus  
299 points and below—E

## CLASS SCHEDULE

**NOTE: PLEASE CONSULT THE E-LEARNING PAGE FOR READING AND ASSIGNMENT DETAILS**

WEEK ONE (January 12 and 14)—Course Introduction/Peace Without Victory

WEEK TWO (January 19 and 21)—America Wins the War?

WEEK THREE (January 26 and 28)—America Loses the Peace?

WEEK FOUR (February 2 and 4)—GROUP PROJECT ONE (Whitney v. California)

WEEK FIVE (February 9 and 11)—Normalcy, Modernity and Their Discontents

WEEK SIX (February 16 and 18)—Social Trends of the Twenties

WEEK SEVEN (February 23 and 25)—The Klan

WEEK EIGHT (March 2 and 4)—WELLNESS WEEK (no class-work on mid-term exam)

**MID TERM TAKE HOME EXAMS ARE DUE MARCH 8 at NOON**

WEEK NINE (March 9 and 11)—The Great Depression and Fear Itself

WEEK TEN (March 16 and 18)—The New Deal and Its Enemies

WEEK ELEVEN (March 23 and 25)—Cultural Currents of the Thirties

WEEK TWELVE (March 30 and April 1)—GROUP PROJECT TWO (30s Culture)

WEEK THIRTEEN (April 6 and 8)—The Road to Pearl Harbor

WEEK FOURTEEN (April 13 and 15)—Winning the War and Its Legacies

**FINAL TAKE HOME EXAMS ARE DUE APRIL 29 at NOON**