

AMH 4930
The US on the Move: Travel, Tourism, and Transportation
Tuesdays 1:55 PM - 2:45 PM Thursdays 1:55 PM - 3:50 PM
Keene-Flint Hall 111

Description

This class explores why travel and mobility became intertwined with American ideals. From the railroad as an agent of nation building to the open road as a symbol of freedom, the history of travel, transportation, and tourism doubles as a window into US culture, politics, and society from the nineteenth century to the present. More than just ideas, the class will explore the politics, socio-economic relationships, and technology of movement. Topics will range widely and include the self-fashioning of identity, spatial discrimination, how tourism shaped American views of the world, municipal corruption, the glamor of air travel, and the labor behind transporting goods.

Like all classes numbered 4930, The US on the Move is a research seminar. Therefore, throughout the semester you will complete a high-quality work of original historical scholarship. Together we will break down this project into smaller tasks so that you receive feedback every step of the way. You will have considerable leeway to pursue a topic of interest related to the class, drawing from the ample material found in UF's world-class archives. Professor Glotzer expects a high caliber of work, especially as most of you will have practiced the historian's craft in previous classes. However, we will also take deep dives into how to find and interpret the kinds of primary sources that might be particularly relevant to the class subject matter. As such, you will get hands-on experience in the archives with old newspapers, postcards, advertisements, everyday objects, and more. We will also treat popular culture as a rich terrain of historical analysis, including film, television, literature, and poetry.

Contact Information

Professor Paige Glotzer
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Office: Keene-Flint 204
Phone: (352) 392-0271

Office Hours

The purpose of office hours is to provide a regular time where you can talk about any topic related to class. This may include questions about the reading or assignments, concerns about your grades, or chatting about a topic that sparked your interest. No appointment is necessary. Professor Glotzer can also help with techniques for better succeeding in class. For example, visit office hours to discuss study and note-taking strategies.

Date and time: Thursdays, 11:30-1:30

Location: Keene-Flint 204

Course Objectives

- Produce an original historical research paper of scholarly significance using a variety of primary and secondary sources

- Utilize UF library and archival resources for research
- Critically engage with historical scholarship
- Understand the relationship between the history of travel, tourism, transportation and United States history
- Formulate historical questions related to major class themes such as mobility, culture, and nation

Readings

The readings for this class are excerpts from books. They are available on Canvas and through Course Reserves. The books are also available for purchase. You do not have to pay money to take this class. If a topic interests you for research, the best way to begin is to look at additional chapters from the reading that week beyond what was assigned.

Grade Scale

94-100%—A

90-93—A-

87-89—B+

84-86—B

80-83—B-

77-79—C+

74-76—C

70-73—C-

67-69—D+

64-66—D

60-63—D-

59 or below—E

Grade Distribution

Attendance 10%

Participation 10%

Historical Silences Assignment 5%

Essay Components 40%

Essay 35%

Grade Explanation

Attendance

For each class meeting you will receive an attendance grade of 100 for present and on time, 75 for more than five minutes late, or 0 for absent. The final attendance grade will be the average for the semester. Absences related to physical health, mental health, well-being, and emergencies are excused with no documentation needed, but Professor Glotzer must be notified (by you or an advocate) or she has no way of knowing whether an absence falls into this category. You do not have to share specifics. If you're sick or think you might be sick, stay home.

Note that this policy is flexible and can be modified in conversation with Professor Glotzer. We should work together to make the attendance policy suit your needs.

Participation

Participation can include class-wide contributions and small group participation as well as written and oral communication. The best way to ensure a high participation grade is to come to class having done the readings and show a willingness and curiosity to engage with what is going on in class. Participation is *not* about always having the right answer or having the most answers. Think of it as a cumulative set of varied contributions to our classroom community. Professor Glotzer knows participation can be difficult for some students and would love to brainstorm what it can mean for you if you fall into this category. Contact her to begin that conversation.

Historical Silences Activity

Silences are a part of all historical sources, archives, and scholarship. What can't a source tell us? What ends up in an archive and what doesn't? Which aspects of a story get saved, discarded, reproduced, or shifted? After learning about silences in class, you will complete an assignment on Canvas in which you will identify and discuss the silences of various primary and secondary sources.

Essay Components

Essay components are graded on whether they are on time and complete. They are not graded for content because they are draft pieces of your final essay in which you test ideas, build skills, get feedback, and change direction.

- Paper topic and historical question
- Prospectus
- Draft introduction and outline
- One body paragraph containing a primary source analysis

Final Essay

You will turn in an 18-20-page double-spaced essay in size-12 font with one-inch margins at the end of the semester.

Because you have most of the semester to build toward your final essay, receiving detailed feedback, the standards for the final essay are high. This essay will conform to the professional norms of the historical profession, complete with an introduction, topic sentences, analysis, conclusion, footnotes, and bibliography. The bibliography and any optional figures you include do not count toward the page limit. It will use appropriate primary and secondary sources. You will make an original argument defended through your strong authorial voice.

A rubric with all criteria is available on Canvas. There should be no ambiguity about how you will be graded. If you are unclear on any element of what to do, it is imperative that you talk to Professor Glotzer. She is here to help you write your best possible essay.

Late Submission Policy

Beyond 12 hours after an assignment's due date (a grace period,) you will lose 5 points per every 24 hours for an unsubmitted assignment.

Each assignment builds upon the previous one. Because of this, please make every effort to submit your assignments on time. Note that “on time” and “due date” are in accordance with individual arrangements students have due accommodations or unforeseen circumstances.

It’s usually better to submit something done than something perfect.

Accommodations

Professor Glotzer is committed to creating a class where everyone can feel welcomed, included, and ready to learn. Disability will not be stigmatized in this class and should not be treated as something “bad” or “less than” in general. Accommodations are all about acknowledging that default university and workplace settings have been created with a narrow vision of who might use them; accommodations help alter those short-sighted decisions to be more reflective of human diversity. If you have or think you may have a disability (e.g. attentional, learning, chronic health, sensory, or physical) speak directly with Professor Glotzer and/or contact the UF Disability Resource Center to get started.

Disability Resource Center Link: <https://disability.ufl.edu/students/get-started/>

Disability Resource Center Phone Number: (352) 392-8565

Disability Resource Center Address: 001 Reid Hall

Resources for Personal and Academic Success

A list of resources related to health, wellness, and academic success is available on Canvas. It includes links for tutoring, writing help, counseling, and stress management.

Policies

Plagiarism and Cheating

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 Conduct Code specifies a number of behaviors that are in violation of this code and the possible sanctions. You can read the Conduct Code at <https://sccr.dso.ufl.edu/process/student-conduct-code/>

Artificial Intelligence

The use of AI such as ChatGPT is an evolving and complex issue. As AI becomes a more widely used part of our lives, you might be considering using it to produce part or all of an assignment. Do not do this without discussing it with Professor Glotzer beforehand. Again, you are required to discuss any plans to use AI with Professor Glotzer *in advance* of assignment submission. This includes, but is not limited to, using AI for translation, writing, research, presentations, outlining, analysis, locating resources, producing citations, or generating ideas. Remember that this is a *process-based* class. If Professor Glotzer cannot trust that she’s seeing *your* thought process playing out in an assignment, the assignment becomes irrelevant to both you and her.

When in doubt, talk with Professor Glotzer in advance. Failure to abide by this policy might result in academic honor code violations, failing the assignment, or failing the class.

Other University Policies and Procedures

You can read more about UF class attendance and make-up work policies at <https://catalog.ufl.edu/UGRD/academic-regulations/attendance-policies/>

You can read more about UF grades and grading policies at <https://catalog.ufl.edu/UGRD/academic-regulations/grades-grading-policies/>

Students are expected to provide professional and respectful feedback on the quality of instruction in this course by completing course evaluations online via GatorEvals. Guidance on how to give feedback in a professional and respectful manner is available at <https://gatorevals.aa.ufl.edu/students/>. 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 <https://ufl.bluera.com/ufl/>. Summaries of course evaluation results are available to students at <https://gatorevals.aa.ufl.edu/public-results/>.

List of Due Dates

- Wednesday, September 4th – Historical Silences Activity
- Wednesday, September 25th – Topic and Question
- Wednesday, October 30th – Prospectus
- Wednesday, November 13th – Introduction and Paper Outline
- Wednesday, November 20th – Body Paragraph
- Wednesday, December 4th – Final Essay

Schedule

All reading should be completed before Tuesday of that week. All assignments are due on Wednesday night at 11:59 PM unless otherwise noted.

Introduction

Week 1

August 22 (Thursday only)

Reading:

- No reading due

“What Do People Mean by Rail-Roads?”

Week 2

August 27, 29

Reading:

- David Schley, *Steam City*, p25-39; 48-56
- Richard White, *Railroaded* 140-178

Tuesday: Meet in the Library West lobby for Library Research Resources Workshop

The Frontier and Nation Building

Week 3

September 3, 5

Reading:

- Richard White, "Frederick Jackson Turner and Buffalo Bill," 1-74

Historical Silences Activity Due

Urban Travel

Week 4

September 10, 12

Reading:

- Chad Heap, *Slumming*, Chapter 3

Turkish Rugs and Avocadoes: Imagining the World at the Turn of the Century

Week 5

September 17, 19

- Kristin Hoganson, *Consumers' Imperium* Introduction and Chapter 1

The Great Migration and the Great Depression

Week 6

September 24, 26

Reading:

- James Gregory, *The Southern Diaspora*, Chapter 2
- John Lennon, *Boxcar Politics*, Chapter 5

Thursday: The second half of class will be a periodicals workshop held in Library West.

Topic and Question Due

World War I and II Soldier Experiences

Week 7

October 1, 3

Reading:

- Chad Williams, *Torchbearers of Democracy* Chapter 4

Thursday: The second half of class will be a visit to the Map and Images Library

Childhood: The Formation of National Ideals?

Week 8

October 8, 10

Thursday: The second half of class will be held in the Judaica Suite of the 2nd Floor of Smathers Library for a visit to the Baldwin Library of Historical Children's Literature

Postwar Prosperity and Leisure

Week 9

October 15, 17

Reading:

- Jerry T. Watkins III, *Queering the Redneck Riviera* Introduction, Chapters 1-2.

Tuesday: Meet in the Judaica Suite of the 2nd Floor of Smathers Library for a visit to the P.K. Yonge Library of Florida History

From Texas to the Tropics: Imagining the World in the Mid-Twentieth Century

Week 10

October 22, 24

Reading:

- Jenifer Van Vleck, *Empire of the Air* Chapter 7

Thursday: Meet in the Judaica Suite of the 2nd Floor of Smathers Library for a visit to the University Archives

Bikers, Beats, and Beach Bums

Week 11

October 29, 31 (You're welcome to dress up for Halloween.)

Reading:

- Kirse Granat May, *Golden State, Golden Youth* Chapters 5-6
- The following three poems by Allen Ginsberg
 - [A Supermarket in California](#)
 - [Sunflower Sutra](#)
 - [In the Baggage Room at Greyhound](#)

Thursday: Visit from Dr. Marsha Bryant to our classroom at 3:00 to discuss beat poetry

Prospectus Due

“Here lies John Rambo...killed for vagrancy”

Week 12

November 5

Reading:

- Lennon, *Boxcar Politics*, Afterward

Thursday, November 7th: Independent research and writing time. No class meeting

Deindustrialization and Nostalgia

Week 13

November 12, 14

Reading:

- Shane Hamilton, “The Populist Appeal of Deregulation: Independent Truckers and the Politics of Free Enterprise, 1935-1980,” *Enterprise and Society* 10.1 (2009): 137-177.

Draft Introduction and Outline Due

A Globalized World

Week 14

November 19, 21

Reading:

- Hoffa, *A History of US Study Abroad*, Selected excerpts

Draft Body Paragraph Due

No Class

Week 15

November 26, 28

Conclusion

Week 16

December 3 (Tuesday only)

Wednesday, December 4th: Final Essay Due