

The Transnational History of the United States since 1877

AMH/LAH 3931

Spring 2026, 3 Credits

Course Description

This class will examine U.S. history primarily through the movement of ideas, people, money, and things across borders. It will focus on how the U.S. shaped the world and how the world shaped the U.S. This transnational framework enables us to revisit what might be familiar topics through a new lens and, in turn, direct us toward a different set of historical questions. Themes include daily life, diplomacy, empire, systems and institutions, the relationship between business and government, and social movements.

Instructor Information

Name: Dr. Paige Glotzer

Email: paigeglotzer@ufl.edu

Office: Keene-Flint 204

Office Hours: Wednesdays, 11:45 AM - 1:45 PM

Meeting Time and Location

Meeting Times: Monday, Wednesday, Friday 9:35-10:25 AM

Meeting Location: Keene-Flint 111

Materials, Supplies, and Assigned Reading

There are no additional supplies required for this class, nor are there any additional costs. All assigned reading will be available for free. There is no assigned textbook, but Professor Glotzer is always happy to provide supplemental reference material if you want more context or depth.

Complete assigned reading by the start of class on Mondays.

Grades

Grade Distribution

- Attendance 20%

- Participation 15%
- Two Reading Responses 15%
- Midterm Exam 20%
- Repurpose Project Group Presentations 10%
- Final Essay 20%

Graded Components

Full descriptions of each graded component and rubrics for them are available on Canvas.

Rounding

All non-whole number grades between .01 and .49 will be rounded down to the nearest whole number. All non-whole number grades from .50 through .99 will be rounded up to the next whole number. For example, 92.49 is a 92. 92.50 is a 93.

Grading Scale

Letter Grade	Number Grade
A	100-93
A-	92-90
B+	89-87
B	86-83
B-	82-80
C+	79-77
C	76-73
C-	72-70
D+	69-67
D	66-63
D-	62-60
E	59-0

Policies and Information

Absence and Lateness

Attendance is crucial for creating a successful classroom community. You may have two “free” unexcused absences, which will be dropped from your final grade when Professor Glotzer calculates it at the end of the semester. Note that excused absences are just that: excused, without penalty. 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 an excused category. You do not have to share specifics.

Lateness is defined as arriving after Professor Glotzer is finished taking attendance. You may have two free “lates,” which will be dropped from your final grade when Professor Glotzer calculates it at the end of the semester. Otherwise, you will receive half credit for attendance that day. If you have an issue that will cause chronic lateness, such as a class across campus immediately before this one, please let Professor Glotzer know so your grade is not affected.

AI Policy

The use of AI such as Grammarly and 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, summarizing, comparing sources, 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.

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.

Late Assignment Submission

All assignments turned in after the deadline will automatically lose 5 points. They will continue to lose 5 points every 24 hours. However, Professor Glotzer likes to be generous with extensions because she wants to give you a chance to turn in your best effort.

Links to College and University Policies and Procedures

- Attendance: <https://catalog.ufl.edu/UGRD/academic-regulations/attendance-policies/>
- Honor Code: <https://sccr.dso.ufl.edu/process/student-conduct-code/>
- Course Evaluations: <https://gatorevals.aa.ufl.edu/students/>

Links to Resources

Links for academic success and wellbeing are listed on our class Canvas.

Important Dates

- Monday, January 19th: No class
- Friday, February 20th – Monday, February 23rd: Midterm Exam Window
- Monday, February 23rd: No class. Work on midterms.
- Friday, March 13th: Class will be held at The Repurpose Project. Meet there. Address: 1920 NE 23rd Avenue, Gainesville, FL 32609.
- Monday, March 16th – Friday, March 20th: Spring Break
- Monday, April 20th: Repurpose Project Group Presentations
- Monday, April 27th: Final Essay due, 11:59 PM

Schedule

Complete assigned reading by the start of class on Mondays. Reading responses are due Mondays 11:59 PM for the weeks you select.

Week 1 What is Transnational U.S. History?

Dates: January 12, 14, 16

- Reading: David Thelen, “The Nation and Beyond: Transnational Perspectives on United States History,” *The Journal of American History* 86, no. 3 (December 1999): 965-97.

Week 2 Labor and the Gilded Age

Dates: January 21, 23

- Reading: Shelton Stormquist, *Claiming the City: A Global History of Workers' Fight for Municipal Socialism* (New York: Verso, 2023), Chapter 2.
- *Reading responses are due on Mondays, including for this short week.*

Week 3 Transnational Jim Crow

Dates: January 26, 28, 30

- Reading: Andrew Zimmerman, *Alabama in Africa: Booker T. Washington, The German Empire, and the Globalization of the New South* (Princeton: Princeton University Press, 2010), 20-32; 38-45; 61-65; 130 (beginning with the section toward the bottom of the page)-176 (ending with the first paragraph before the new section).

Week 4 Imagining People and Progress

Dates: February 2, 4, 6

- Reading: Matthew Frye Jacobson, *Barbarian Virtues: The United States Encounters Foreign Peoples at Home and Abroad, 1876-1917* (New York: Hill and Wang, 2000), Chapter 3.

Week 5 Education

Dates: February 9, 11, 13

- Reading: Alexandra Minna Stern, "An Empire of Tests: Psychometrics and the Paradoxes of Nationalism in the Americas," in *Haunted by Empire: Geographies of Intimacy in North American History*, Ann Laura Stoler, ed. (Durham: Duke University Press, 2006), 325-343.

Week 6 Public Health during the Progressive Era and First World War

Dates: February 16, 18, 20

- Reading: Warwick Anderson, "Pacific Crossings: Imperial Logics in United States' Public Health Programs," in *Colonial Crucible*, Francisco A. Scarano and Alfred W. McCoy, eds. (Madison: University of Wisconsin Press, 2009): 277-287; Helke Rausch, "The Birth of Transnational U.S. Philanthropy from the Spirit of War: Rockefeller Philanthropists in World War I," *The Journal of the Gilded Age and Progressive Era* 17, no. 4 (2018): 650-62.
- *Last week possible to complete first reading response.*
- *Midterm window opens on Friday, Feb. 20th after the end of class*

Week 7 Business and Empire

Dates: February 23, 25, 27

- Reading: Emily Rosenberg, "Ordering Others: U.S. Financial Advisers in the Early Twentieth Century," in *Haunted by Empire: Geographies of Intimacy in North American History*, Ann Laura Stoler, ed. (Durham: Duke University Press, 2006), 405-424; Peter James Hudson, *Bankers and Empire: How Wall Street Colonized the Caribbean* (Chicago: University of Chicago Press, 2017), Chapter 1.
- *Monday: no class. Work on your Midterm. Midterm window closes at midnight.*
- *Wednesday and Friday: Regular class meetings*
- *First week possible to complete second reading response by Monday at 11:59PM*

Week 8 The Roaring Twenties

Dates: March 2, 4, 6

- Reading: Nan Enstad, "Smoking Hot: Cigarettes, Jazz, and the Production of Global Imaginaries in Interwar Shanghai," in *Audible Empire: Music, Global Politics, Critique*, Ronald Radano and Tejuumola Olaniyan, eds. (Durham: Duke University Press, 2016), 45-65.

- Friday: Nan Enstad Zooms in to discuss the reading with us.

Week 9 Transnational Florida

Dates: March 9, 11, 13

- Reading: Jack Davis, *The Gulf: The Making of an American Sea* (New York: Liveright, 2017), Prologue; Anna Andrzejewski, “Selling Sunshine: The Mackle Company’s Marketing Campaign to Build Retirement and Vacation Communities in South Florida, 1945-1975,” *Buildings and Landscapes* Vol. 27, no. 2 (Fall: 2020):58-82.
- Wednesday: Class will be held at The Repurpose Project. Meet there. Address: 1920 NE 23rd Avenue, Gainesville, FL 32609.
- Friday: Anna Andrzejewski zooms in to discuss the reading with us

Week 10 Spring Break

Week 11 Civil Rights and the Cold War

Dates: March 23, 25, 27

- Reading: Nikhil Pal Singh, *Black is a Country: Race and the Unfinished Struggle for Democracy* (Cambridge: Harvard University Press, 2005), Chapter 5.

Week 12 Deindustrialization and Corporate Expansion Abroad

Dates: March 30, April 1, April 3

- Reading: Jessica Ann Levy, *Black Power, Inc.: Corporate America and the Rise of Multinational Empowerment Politics* (Philadelphia: University of Pennsylvania Press, 2026), Chapters 3 and 4.
- Wednesday: Jessica Ann Levy Zooms in to discuss the reading with us.

Week 13 Religion and Policy

Dates: April 6, 8, 10

- Reading: Melani McAlister, *The Kingdom of God Has No Borders: A Global History of American Evangelicals* (Oxford, 2018): Chapter 7.

Week 14 Tech Billionaire Visions

Dates: April 13, 15, 17

- Reading: Raymond Craib, *Adventure Capitalism: A History of Libertarian Exit from the Era of Decolonization to the Digital Age* (Oakland: PM Press, 2022), Chapter 6.
- *Last week possible to submit your second reading response.*

Week 15 Group Presentations and Concluding Discussion

Dates: April 20, 22

- Reading: None
- *Monday: Repurpose Project Group Presentations*
- *Wednesday: Discussion*

Final Essay due Monday, April 27th at 11:59 PM