Instructor Information
Professor: Dr. Steve Goodson
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Office hours:       MW 2:00-3:15, TTH 2:00-4:00, or by appointment

Learning Outcome
Students will demonstrate an understanding of the social, cultural, or political development of the people and institutions of the United States.

Why Study History?
The discipline of History teaches important intellectual skills such as analyzing written and unwritten materials to draw sound conclusions and make clear arguments. History highlights key conceptual building blocks of the human experience: identity, motivation, cause and effect, intended and unintended consequences, conflict and consensus, change over time. By studying History we can gain insights into today’s world – how did things come to be the way they are? The study of History also builds empathy, the capacity to grasp and appreciate other people’s thoughts, feelings, and perspectives. Moreover, through History we may arrive at a deeper understanding of ourselves – of the ways we are different from and similar to individuals in other times and places, of what it means to be a human being.

Required Materials
The following books should be available for purchase in the bookstore:
Anna Yezierska, Bread Givers
E. B. Sledge, With the Old Breed at Peleliu and Okinawa
Melissa Fay Greene, Praying for Sheetrock

Exams
There will be one midterm exam and a final exam. Exam questions will be drawn from lectures, readings, and class discussions, and from any other material presented in class (handouts, music, videos, etc.). The final exam will not be cumulative. Make-up exams will be given only if the student presents a written doctor’s excuse. It is the student’s responsibility to let me know in advance if he or she will have to miss an exam.

Papers
Each student will write an autobiographical essay (3-4 pages) which will be due on October 2. Each student will also be required to write an oral history paper (6-8 pages) based upon an interview with a relative or acquaintance. These papers will be due on December 4. Students will write 3-4-page papers on Bread Givers and Praying for Sheetrock. Students will submit papers electronically on Course Den and will submit a hard copy in class. Students must complete all paper assignments in order to pass the course. Late papers will be penalized one letter grade a day. Plagiarism will result in failure of the course.

Class Engagement
Students are expected to do the required reading in advance of each class session. If necessary in order to encourage students to do the reading, there will be unannounced quizzes. There may also be short in-class or out-of-class writing assignments. Aside from the three required books for the course, readings will be posted on Course Den. I will also provide on Course Den a summary document for each major topic. A student’s attendance record will play an important role in determining his or her final grade. Students are expected to arrive on time and to remain until class is ended. Inappropriate classroom behavior (talking out of turn, sleeping, texting, etc.) will severely damage a student’s final grade. Please silence cell phones and other electronic devices before entering class. The class engagement grade will be determined based on a student’s attendance, participation in class, and performance on any quizzes and short writing assignments.

Evaluation
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<th>Activity</th>
<th>Weight</th>
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<tr>
<td>Exams</td>
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<tr>
<td>Autobiographical Essay</td>
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<td>Book Papers</td>
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<td>Class Engagement</td>
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Tentative Class Schedule: Date, Topic, and Required Reading

**Industrialization, Immigration, and Social Change**
Aug. 19
Aug. 26 – “Working for the Triangle Shirtwaist Factory”

**The Postwar South**
Aug. 28
Sept. 4 “A Georgia Sharecropper’s Story of Forced Labor, ca. 1900”

**World War I**
Sept. 11 – Hervey Allen, *Toward the Flame*, chap. XVIII: “Last Hours in Fismette”

**The 1920s**
Sept. 18 – *Bread Givers*
Sept. 23 – Bruce Bliven, “Flapper Jane”
Sept. 25 – William Allen White, “Mary White Obituary”

**The Great Depression and the New Deal**
Sept. 30 – Ann Marie Low, *Dust Bowl Diary*, chap. 7, “The Dust Storms”
Oct. 2 – *Autobiography Paper Due*

Oct. 7 – Midterm Exam

**World War II**
Oct. 14 – Audie Murphy, *To Hell and Back*: chap. 19
Oct. 16 – *With the Old Breed at Peleliu and Okinawa*

**Women in the Postwar Era**
Oct. 21 – Augusta Clawson, “Shipyard Diary of a Woman Welder” and Betty Friedan, *The Feminine Mystique* (excerpt)

**The Civil Rights Movement**
Oct. 23 – Melba Patillo Beals, *Warriors Don’t Cry*, chap. 2
Oct. 28

**Vietnam**
Nov. 4
Nov. 6
Nov. 11 – Wallace Terry, *Bloods*, First Lieutenant Archie “Joe” Biggers

Nov. 13 – *Praying for Sheetrock*

**The Nixon Administration and Watergate**
Nov. 18
Nov. 20

**Recent History**
Dec. 4 – *Final Paper Due*

Wednesday, Dec. 11, 2:00-4:00 – *Final Exam*