THE UNIVERSITY OF NORTH CAROLINA AT CHARLOTTE

COURSE DESCRIPTIONS
Fall 2018

AMST 2050 – 001 (CRN#14170)  History of Charlotte
Wilson, M.  TR 10:00-11:15
This course surveys the history of Charlotte and its surrounding region, from approximately 1000 CE to the present day. We will consider a range of topics, including the activities of the Catawba people and early European settlers; slavery; the region’s involvement in the American Revolution; the growth of the city in the 19th century as a railroad hub and textile manufacturing center; the city’s national role in struggles over the racial integration of schools; its late 20th-century role as the home to giant banks and other important business firms; and the region’s relatively recent emergence as a sprawling Southern metropolis. Students in this course will hone their advanced reading, writing, research, and communications skills, by engaging with challenging texts, writing regularly and revising in response to instructor and peer comments, and by executing a small independent research project with the guidance of the instructor. Assignments will encourage students to do some elementary quantitative analysis and mapping, along with the more usual qualitative analysis normally demanded in history courses. Because this course is concerned with local history, students will be able to do original work in unique historical archives, including those in our university library’s Special Collections department.

AMST 2050 – 002 (CRN#13321)  American Military History
Wilson, M.  TR 8:30-9:45
A survey of the development and organization of military practice from the colonial period to the present.

AMST 2050 – 003 (CRN#13322)  Afr-Amer History 1400-1860
Mixon, G.  MWF 10:10-11:00
Explores the events and circumstances that brought Africans to the Americas and the experience of these peoples during the time that slavery persisted in the South. Emphasis will be upon the economic and cultural systems that created and maintained slavery in the South and constrained freedom in the North and on the responses and struggles of Africans to these systems.

AMST 2050 – 004 (CRN#17551)  African American Women’s History to 1877
Ramsey, S.  MWF 12:20-1:10
This course discusses the historical experiences of women of African descent living in the United States from the colonial period to the end of Reconstruction. Through themes like work, family, religion, identity, image, sexuality, and oppression, students explore how social, political, and economic events shaped the meanings of freedom for women of African descent.

AMST 2050 – 005 (CRN#17747)  History of NC 1500-Present
McKinley, S.  TR 1:00-2:15
An overview of North Carolina’s historical development focusing on the social, economic, and political events that have shaped the state.

AMST 3000 – 001 (CRN#13756)  Animation in America (W,O)
Belus, M.  100% ONLINE
Class is 100% Online. In Animation in America students will immerse themselves in all things cartoon. We will explore the spectacular Golden Age of Animation with its nascent comics, silent films and the profound impact this industry had on the popular radio programs and theatrical shorts of the 1930s. From here Bugs Bunny will accompany us on adventures as we delve into the turning point of American animation as its purpose evolved to utilitarian – to build the public’s morale and promote war bonds during the tumultuous WWII era. We will further study animation in the decades following World War II from the proliferation of television through the American Animation Renaissance of the late 1980s spanning to the most contemporary elements of animation today. From rudimentary cartoons to blockbuster Disney films and everything in between, this course is designed to “BAM”. Note: This course meets the writing intensive and oral communication general education goals.
This course will look at the influence of rock and roll and other popular music on American politics and culture as well as the influence of politics on American music and the music industry from the 1950s to the present. We will use music recordings and video, movies and documentaries in combination with lectures and assigned readings to consider the relationship of music to race, sexuality, generational conflict, public policy and the electoral process. We will examine the role of music as a means of looking at and coping with political and social change as exemplified in (but not limited to) the civil rights movement, the countercultural movement, the women’s movement, and public response to American foreign policy and military actions during this time period. Finally, we will consider the intent and impact of musicians’ and the music industry’s efforts to draw public attention and financial support to national or international problems or crises and presidential contests. Course requirements include papers, discussion leaders and two formal presentations. (W,O)

This writing intensive/oral communication goal course will provide a close-up examination of slavery in Mecklenburg County, including its history, the effects on both black and white families, the psychology of the master-slave relationship, and the social and psychological implications for generations past and present. Note: This course meets the writing intensive and oral communication goals for general education.

On July 16, 1945, the world was forever changed when the first atomic bomb blast took place in the New Mexico desert. With this event, America entered the nuclear age. This course will examine the various effects that the development of the atomic bomb had on American life and culture, including how people learned to cope with the potential destruction posed by the bomb, the secrecy surrounding its development and use, the Cold War, the Space Race, the spin-off stories about alien existence and extraterrestrial visits, and such popular films as Dr. Strangelove, The China Syndrome, and WarGames. We will also discuss key scientists such as J. Robert Oppenheimer of the Manhattan Project, atomic testing that took place in the western United States, the use of nuclear energy in power production and medicine, and concerns today about about the impact of nuclear energy on the environment and humankind. This course meets the writing intensive and oral communication goals for General Education.

Southern Culture can be viewed as “a fiction of geographically bounded and coherent set of attributes to be set off against a mythical non-South.” Consciously and unconsciously, Americans both in and outside the South have constructed images and expectations of the region that are manifested in what we identify as Southern Culture. Throughout this course, we will take an interdisciplinary approach exploring the South through history, anthropology, literature, and media to examine an array of topics such as Native Americans, slavery, sports, and tourism. We will also examine how incidents associated with these topics reinforce and, at other times, contradict popular conceptions of the South. This course meets both the writing intensive and oral communication goals for General Education.

Activism for social, political, and economic change has a long history in America - from civil rights, anti-war sentiments, women’s rights, immigration reform and gay marriage. Sports are one arena in which activists can voice their opinions and hold demonstrations. Recent protests in the NFL have reignited conversations of whether or not athletes should use their platforms for social change. But activism in sports is not new; rather some may argue that sports are the very sites where real change can occur. Others view sports as purely entertainment and athletes as entertainers, not activists. This course will explore the history of activism in American sports and the athletes that used their platforms for social change, such as Muhammad Ali, Jackie Robinson, Jim Brown, Arthur Ashe, Tommie Smith, John Carlos, Billie Jean King, and Colin Kaepernick. This course meets the oral communication and writing intensive goal for general education.
AMST 3000 – 007 (CRN#174111)  From the Sopranos to Breaking Bad: The Male Anti-Hero in American Television (W,O)

Bruner, M.

TR 11:30-12:45

James Gandolfini has been memorialized in countless essays about his greatest role—the role that revolutionized television, the role that paved the way for so many other troubled men who served as microcosms of the American experience for viewers and critics. What do these violent, complicated characters mean, and not just to us—to TV and how we watch it. When Mad Men and Breaking Bad are over, is the television anti-hero here to stay? The heavy, heavy shows that feature these men—and, yes, they are almost always men—are labeled brilliant because they are able to say something about the American condition through despicable guys who are somehow watchable and also somehow representative. This course will examine the idea of the anti-hero. Beginning with the character of Tony Soprano to Don Draper and Walter White, and Americans have been enamored with the idea of the flawed hero. When is the line crossed between protagonist/antagonist? Is the anti-hero his/her own worst enemy? Drawing on readings, and the television shows The Sopranos, The Wire, Breaking Bad, and Mad Men, we will examine the development of the main characters and the deeper societal issues that fuel their appeal. (DISCLAIMER: THIS COURSE CONTAINS EXTREMELY GRAPHIC MATERIAL, AND MAY BE UNSETTLING). Note: This course meets the writing intensive and oral communication requirements for general education.

AMST 3000 – 008 (CRN#17899)  Back in the World: The Vietnam War in American Culture (W,O)

Schacht, J.

TR 1:00-2:15

Long before builders broke ground for it, controversy surrounded architect Maya Lin’s Vietnam War memorial in Washington, D.C. Like all things related to the decade-long (1964-1975) conflict, the memorial (completed in 1982) became a lightning rod for Americans still coming to terms with the war’s meaning. And in those polarizing views we can find the lasting impact of the Vietnam War, which reverberates through American culture to this day. In this course we’ll cover the headlines of America’s involvement in Southeast Asia, and see how the war -- and the protest it generated -- nearly tore the nation in two. We’ll also dig deeper to see how Vietnam came to re-shape everything from our politics and journalism practices to the arts world, exploring the latter through films like Apocalypse Now, The Deer Hunter and Coming Home; the music of Bob Dylan and Sly and the Family Stone; as well as classics of war reportage and fiction like Tobias Wolff’s In Pharaoh’s Army, Tim O’Brien’s The Things They Carried and Michael Herr’s Dispatches. This course meets the oral communication and writing intensive goal for general education.

AMST 3000 – 090 (CRN#14166)  From Civil Rights to Black Lives Matter (W,O)

Bratynksi, J.

M 5:30-8:15

This course explores the tangling of the color line in the United States from a historical and cultural perspective. Central to our task will be an analysis of the strategies and tactics activists and community leaders have employed in their assault on disfranchisement and institutional racism. We will assess the tensions that emerged between a civil rights movement based on the principle of integration and a black liberation movement which emphasized self-determination and inspired cultural separation. We will examine the sanitizing of the black freedom struggle for mainstream consumption and the forging of a new movement culture embodied by a boy in a hoodie. Note: This course meets the writing intensive and oral communication general education goals.


Kitrick, L.

R 5:30-8:15

From the “free-love” ethos of hippie communities in the 1960s to disco “queen” Donna Summer’s eight-minute orgasm in her 1975 hit, Love to Love You Baby, a “Sexual Revolution” was impacting Americans’ attitudes and behaviors about traditional sex and gender mores. This course investigates Americans’ quest for sexual “liberation” during the 1960s and 70s by examining the intersecting socio-political and cultural changes occurring at the time. Course topics reflect shifting American views, values and representations of sexuality: Social changes (the “pill,” female sexual expression, divorce), legal implications (Roe v. Wade, abortion rights; Loving v. Virginia, interracial marriage), political and social movements (women’s liberation, civil and gay rights movements), popular cultural developments (Three’s Company, pornography, sex-advice manuals) and the conservative backlash (religious, anti-feminists and feminists alike). The course will also highlight innovators and noteworthy contributors to sexual discourse. This course meets the writing intensive and oral communication goal for general education.

AMST 3000 – 092 (CRN#14585)  Motorsports in the South (W,O)

McMurray, B.

W 5:30-8:15

From the gritty, rutted fairground dirt tracks to the gleaming, sleek Super speedways, racing has always been a Southern product. NASCAR stock car racing has grown from its regional roots to become one of the nation’s top sporting attractions. This course will explore the men and machines that raced the tracks of the South, as well as the rules and regulations that every driver has been caught breaking. From the brave moonshine runners of the 40’s to the slick, highly-televisioned races of today, we will explore why this phenomenon is such a popular sport. Characters such as NASCAR’s Founder, Big Bill France, along with famous drivers Fireball Roberts, Curtis Turner, Dale Earnhardt, Sr., Bobby Allison, Cale Yarborough and Others will be featured for their impact on Southern Culture. In addition to the study of racing in films, we will examine contemporary support industries such as marketing, public relations, and souvenir merchandising. Note: This course meets the writing intensive and oral communication goals for general education.
AMST 3000 – 093 (CRN#16811)  Pop Culture and the America Music Scene (W,O)
Schacht, J.  T 5:30-8:15
This course explores the impact of popular music on American culture and vice versa. We'll begin with the earliest mass mediums (radio, acetates, gramophones) and the rise of a national audience, and dissect the birth of rock & roll in terms of race, business, and cultural trends. We'll continue through the youth culture movement of the second-half of the 20th century, including Woodstock, the sexual and drug revolutions, punk, hip-hop, the rise of MTV, and the multi-billion dollar music industry of the 1990s. We'll look at the effect music has had on other mediums, such as film, advertising and television. Finally, we'll examine the impact of the Internet on the American music scene and the declining business model that characterized it for nearly a century. Note: This course meets the writing intensive and oral communication goals for general education.

AMST 3020 – 001 (CRN#10146)  Food in America (W)
Belus, M.  100% ONLINE
Class is 100% Online. Food...we need it, we love it, but how does it shape our lives beyond our basic needs for sustenance? How does it impact us culturally? Ethnically? Romantically? In this 100% online course we will study the changing dynamic of food as it connects Americans through our rituals with family and friends, through media and advertising, and through our personal behaviors and relationship with food. Other topics we will cover include critical perspectives on gender and food, modified foods, fad diets, and the influence of the fast food industry on individuals and the nation. Course requirements include numerous reading assignments of books and articles, as well as formal and informal writing assignments. Note: This course meets the writing intensive general education goal.

AMST 3020 – 002 (CRN#13757)  Urban America (W)
Burford, J.  100% ONLINE
Class is 100 Online. Urban America is a class that explores the development of urban culture in America by looking at a variety of US cities and culture that develops from urban space. We will take a look at everything from how cities are constructed, to the creation and subsequent loss of public space, to tourism as a form of leisure and memory. We will also take a look at the character of America as it pertains to the citizens of its cities. All told this course will look at the ways in which the urban environment has influenced who we are as a nation as well as who we think we are. This class will use multiple formats including texts, art, urban theory, film, websites, and architecture. Note: This course meets the writing intensive general education goal.

AMST 3020 – 003 (CRN#12211)  Ghosts in American Film and Culture (W)
Gordon, C.  100% ONLINE
In this 100% online writing intensive course, we will explore the subject of ghosts in American film and culture. According to a recent Harris Poll, nearly half of all Americans claim to believe in ghosts. Modern horror films such as Poltergeist and The Amityville Horror have been thought to influence these beliefs. Ghosts also have a romantic side (the classic film The Ghost and Mrs. Muir and the more recent Ghost, with Patrick Swayze and Demi Moore), as well as a funny side (Ghostbusters and The Ghost and Mr. Chicken). Ghosts appear in American literature and are told about in folktales and stories. They are also the subject of poetry, comic books, cartoons, television shows, and popular music. Even a search of the internet returns millions of hits for "ghosts." Note: This course meets the writing intensive general education goal.

AMST 3020 – 004 (CRN#12212)  Poker in American Film and Culture (W)
Harris, M.  100% ONLINE
Class is 100% online. In this completely on-line class, we will examine the history of poker in America -- a game invented in the U.S. shortly after the nation's birth -- focusing in particular on cultural productions, including film and literature, in which poker is of special thematic importance. Students will not only learn poker’s rich story and relevance to U.S. history generally speaking, but will also come to appreciate how the game serves as a lens through which to examine numerous aspects of American culture from the early 19th century to the present day. Note: This course meets the writing intensive general education goal.

AMST 3020 – 005 (CRN#12270)  American Fairytales and Fiction and Film (W)
Massachi, D.  100% ONLINE
Class is 100 Online. When we hear the word fairy tale, we often think of Anderson and Grimm tales that have been “Disney-ified” with happy endings. While these may be dominant in American culture, they aren’t American fairy tales—tales originated in America, for American children, with subtle references to touchtones of American culture and values. In this class we will first look at a few Grimm tales and a Disney adaptation in order to understand what an American fairy tale is not. We will then examine the text and film versions of The Wizard of Oz, Shrek, and The Princess Bride in order to uncover the common elements that make a fairy tale American. We will finish with Weetzie Bat, a fairy tale novella currently being adapted into a script, and an analysis of what elements might be included or left out in order to make the film adaptation a true American fairy tale. This 100% online course meets the writing intensive requirement, and there is an expectation of a minimum of 1.5 pages of writing a week IN ADDITION to FOUR 4-5 page papers.
AMST 3020 – 006 (CRN#16805)  Youth Culture and the Media (W)
Massachi, D.  100% ONLINE
Class is 100% ONLINE. The term "young adult" was coined by the Young Adult Library Services Association during the 1960s to represent the 12-18 age range. As youth culture was being created and defined, Congress passed the Juvenile Delinquency and Youth Offenses Control Act (1961) focusing unprecedented public attention on juvenile delinquency. Much of what we consider early young adult literature explores "delinquency" issues, but Nancy Reagan's utterance of "Just Say No" in 1982 created "special" television episodes (often with government funding attached) in order to teach teens the perils of drugs, alcohol and other "bad" choices. In 2017, when some mental health experts and parents claim the Netflix series 13 Reasons Why holds dangerous lessons for teens, the legacy of young adult "problem" literature continues. But is this literature helpful, harmful, or something else? Is it propaganda when the government funds it? Is it meant to replace parents? Can it contain valuable lessons about empathy? Is there a correct (or incorrect) way to do it? What voices are represented (or neglected) within it? Has it changed over time? These questions, and more, will be explored as we read and view texts like: Go Ask Alice, Saved by the Bell (Jessie’s Song), Glee (Preggers), Full House (Shape Up), Wintergirls, 13 Reasons Why, The Fresh Prince (Mistaken Identity), and The Hate U Give. This 100% online course meets the writing intensive requirement.

AMST 3020 – 007 (CRN#16808)  Southern Foodways (W)
Nooe, E.  100% ONLINE
Class is 100% Online. From iconic dishes like okra to the international commercial success of Kentucky Fried Chicken, Southern food is many things to many people. Foodways provides us an opportunity to explore "why we eat, what we eat, and what it means". Through the study of Southern Foodways, this course will explore what food means to the region and what it reveals about the South. We will examine the significance of the region's culinary history, regional social issues surrounding food, food's relationship to race, class, and gender in the South, and cultural representations of the South through food. The course is 100% online and meets the writing intensive general education requirement.

AMST 3050 – 001 (CRN#16125)  Baseball in America
Hibbs, L.  TR 8:30-9:45
This course will focus on intercollegiate, professional and youth baseball issues. The course will explore the socioeconomic climate of baseball from the early 1900's to the present.

AMST 3050 – 002 (CRN#12269)  Sports in America: Issues and Controversies
Obie-Nelson, K.  100% ONLINE
Class is 100% Online. This course explores the relationship between sports, culture, and society. Students will be exposed to the historical, cultural, and sociological aspects of the world of sports. This course will analyze the controversial issues surrounding these aspects as well as evoke critical thinking from the students as they examine sports in their own lives and in the world in which they live. Students will take an in-depth look at such topics as race, gender, commercialization, and the media and how these topics impact, disrupt, and/or distinguish sport society. The course will primarily focus on intercollegiate and professional sports.

AMST 3050 – 003 (CRN#12308)  Innovation in Modern America
Provolt, N.  100% ONLINE
Class is 100% Online. This course explores the role of technological innovation in modern American life. Our concern is not merely with things and processes, but rather with how technologies have interacted with society and culture in complex and important ways. We will explore the lives of the innovators such as Steve Jobs of Apple, Donna Dubinsky of the Palm Pilot, and Otis Boykin whose electronic control devices were used in computers and pacemakers, as well as dissect the impact of innovation on the economy and education. The course material will go behind the disputes over the nature and direction of technical change (and the social changes associated with it) that have persistently been a central part of the American experience, and their outcomes have mattered a great deal to the lives of all Americans.

AMST 3050 – 004 (CRN#13270)  African American Music
Hicks, C.  TR 1:00-2:15
This course examines the history and scholarship of African American music from enslavement to the present. Focusing on African American sacred and secular music, we will investigate how different musical genres—including spirituals, blues, jazz, gospel, rhythm and blues as well as, hip hop—reflected African Americans' social, political, and economic experiences.

AMST 3050 – 005 (CRN#13323)  American Constitutional Law
Bolin, J.  TR 11:30-12:45
Competing interpretations of the Constitution have played a key role in nearly every major U.S. political and social conflict. These issues vexed the country's founders and remain as current as today's headlines. This course will offer an overview of the development of some of the most important areas of U.S. constitutional law, such as the role of federal and state governments, the scope and protection of individual and minority rights, and the regulation of economic activity.
AMST 3050 – 006 (CRN#14086)  Civil War & Reconst 1860-1877
Klehr, G.  MWF 11:15-12:05
The American people in war and the postwar adjustment. Emphasis on the political, social and economic conditions of the North and South during the Civil War and Reconstruction period.

AMST 3050 – 007 (CRN#13324)  History of South since 1865: The New South
Goldfield, D.  MW 4:00-5:15
Southern history from Reconstruction to the present. Emphasis on race and class relations as the South copes with change. Special attention is paid to the Civil Rights Movement, industrialization, and urbanization.

AMST 3050 – 008 (CRN#17748)  Murder in America
Klehr, G.  MWF 2:30-3:45
When we discuss the idea of American exceptionalism, we rarely think about violence. However, the United States has a murder rate more than four times higher than the United Kingdom and Germany, and almost three times higher than Canada. This is not a new development. Rates of homicide in the US have always been comparatively high. In this class we will try to understand the importance of violence in American history through case studies of murders from the early national period to the 1980s. Some of the murders we look at were high-profile and notorious, while others were less well known. Through these case studies we will seek to understand the role of violence in American history and its relationship to issues of race, gender and politics.

AMST 3050 – 009 (CRN#17749)  Modern American West: 1800 to Present
Andres, B.  TR 11:30-12:45
Examination of the history of the modern American West from 1800 to the present. Major themes include conquest, regionalism, environmental change, race and ethnic diversity, economic and political developments, social and cultural trends, and gender and labor relations.

AMST 3050 – 090 (CRN#15157)  Legal History
Canipe, J.  T 7:00-9:45
In this course, we will examine the history of law in America, and the relationship between changes in American society and changes in the substance of American law. We will look briefly at English origins of American law and follow its development from the colonial era through the present. Substantive areas of the law which we will study include property law, tort law, criminal law, the legal regulation of business and commerce, slavery and the status of African Americans, the law of married women, family law, labor law, the court system, and the legal profession.

AMST 3090 – 090 (CRN#13758)  New American Filmmakers
Davis, W.  T 5:30-8:15
Since the late 20th century, American film has experienced a range of significant changes technologically, socially and artistically. Modes of communication have emerged and shifted. Cinematic logic and language have radically changed as well with new independent voices, distribution methods and available technology. From filmmakers including Jim Jarmusch, Gus Van Sant and Paul Thomas Anderson to Harmony Korine, Darren Aronofsky and Wes Anderson, take part in an in-depth look at the various developments, approaches and visions of contemporary American cinema.

AMST 3100 – 001 (CRN#10147)  The 1990s
Bauerle, S.  TR 11:30-12:45
The 1990s have been described as one of the most diverse and interesting periods in American history. The underground became mainstream as music, fashion, literature, film, and pop culture strove to test and transcend boundaries as society explored rebellion and idealism. The last decade of the millennium marked an explosion of economic, cultural, technological, and political activity in almost every aspect of American society. Some of the trends that we will trace through the 90s include: the rise of the grunge movement in music, movies, and fashion; the impact of the War on Terror and national traumas like the Oklahoma City Bombing and Los Angeles Riots; and the dramatic cultural transformations surrounding race, gender, and sexuality.

AMST 3100 – 002 (CRN#16798)  The 1930s
Belus, M.  100% ONLINE
Class is 100% Online. In this course using Canvas and Second Life, we will examine how diverse social, economic, artistic, literary, philosophical and political forces shaped American society during the 1930s. We will discuss the complex and multifaceted nature of American culture during a tumultuous era that experienced the Great Depression, the Dust Bowl, the demise of the American Dream, the New Deal, and the rise of modern activism. The 1930s powerfully impacted the lives of ordinary people living under extraordinary circumstances. What can we learn from their experiences?
The 1950s

Bruner, M.

Class is 100% Online. American Studies is an interdisciplinary approach to the study of a topic or period in American History. In this decade class, focusing on a shorter time period than is possible in a history survey provides the opportunity to look more in depth at the music, popular culture, literature, theater, art, sports, religion, race relations, gender roles, medicine, business, education, etc. of the period. Get ready to slip back in time to a fascinating period of Sputnik and spies, the Red Scare, James Dean and drive-ins, the birth of Rock and Roll, Elvis, Youth Culture, and Marilyn Monroe.

The 1920s

Bruner, M.

Class is 100% Online. This course will cover Flappers, Speak-Easies, The First Radio, The Jazz Age. This decades course will take us on a tumultuous ride from Post World War I prosperity up to the Wall Street Crash of 1929. Topics include: Prohibition, The Rise of the Mafia, The President Harding Scandals, The Great Gatsby and more.

The 1970s

Kitrick, L.

What do the 1970's bring to mind? Disco? Leisure suits? That '70s Show? Once passed, decades tend to be stereotyped and are actually more contradictory and varied than we remember or imagine them to be. While the 1970's saw plenty of dancing and too many dads in polyester, the decade also gave birth to glam, punk, and rap. The colorful 1970's also had a dark side—Watergate, the energy crisis, and continuing outbreaks of violence. The protest movements of the 1960's became increasingly more radical in the 1970's while receiving more mainstream attention. In addition, new developments in the arts, marketplace, and government that took place in the seventies continue to affect us today. In this course we will examine the politics, technology, and popular culture (including film, literature, music, and television) that made the 1970's an especially complex and dynamic decade.

The 2000s

Obie-Nelson, K.

In this decades course, students will take an in-depth look at such areas as politics, race, technology, pop culture, fashion, terrorism, literature and the media, and how these forces shaped American society during the 2000s and propelled America into the 21st Century. Topics include but are not limited to: Y2K, 9/11, Hurricane Katrina, the War on Iraq, the 2008 recession, the election of Barack Obama, the Virginia Tech Massacre, social media platforms, and more.

The 1960s

Rutledge, P.

Note: This class will be taught as a hybrid course (50% online/50% face-to-face). This means that instruction and student participation will be divided between in-class meetings and online activities using Moodle, and classes will meet every two weeks rather than every week. A high-speed Internet connection is strongly recommended. The 1960's brought serious challenges to authority, the status quo, and the traditional institutions that had previously defined American life. In the early part of this explosive decade, the conservative conformity of the 1950's gave way to an increasingly direct and hostile questioning of the American Dream. This course will examine the important cultural, social, and political conflicts that emerged in the 1960's, especially those related to the black civil rights movement, feminism, the Vietnam War, environmentalism, social justice, the youth-base counterculture, and expanding one’s consciousness’ through drug use. These diverse conflicts ultimately brought significant change in American attitudes, values, institutions, and policies.