History 361W/461
The United States and the World, II

Prof. Joan Rubin
Spring, 2014

This course explores recent scholarship on the United States since 1865, with attention to the theme of America's global connections. The course is designed for graduate students and advanced undergraduates. Requirements included active participation in class. Each week one student will take responsibility for leading the discussion by preparing questions on the reading. In addition, each class member will write a weekly summary of the major arguments of book we are considering.

The course also requires students to prepare an extensively annotated syllabus for a course incorporating a transnational dimension on any subject that interests them in the period 1865-present. The syllabus should include course readings and lecture topics. In addition, students must prepare one lecture (approximately 15 pages). The due date for this project is May 5.

Tentative schedule of assignments:

1/27 Eric Foner and Lisa McGerr, American History Now (excerpts); Eric Foner, A Short History of Reconstruction

2/3

2/10 Leslie Butler, Critical Americans: Victorian Intellectuals and Transatlantic Liberal Reform

2/17 Kristin Hoganson, Consumers' Imperium: The Global Production of American Domesticity, 1865-1920

Thomas A. Tweed, The American Encounter with Buddhism

3/3 Charles Postel, The Populist Vision

3/17 Mae Ngai, The Lucky Ones

3/24 Daniel Rodgers, Atlantic Crossings: Social Politics in a Progressive Age

3/31 Brooke Blower, Becoming Americans in Paris: Transatlantic Politics and Culture Between the World Wars

4/7 Andrew Preston, Sword of the Spirit, Shield of Faith: Religion in American War and Diplomacy

4/14 Mary Dudziak, Cold War Civil Rights: Race and the Image of American Democracy

4/21 Guest instructor: Prof. David Engerman, Brandeis University
Engerman, "The Romance of Economic Development and New Histories of the Cold War," Diplomatic History 2004
Engerman, "Ideology and the Origins of the Cold War, 1917-1962, Cambridge History of the Cold War, vol. 3
Engerman, "American Knowledge and Global Power," Diplomatic History 2009 the 1960s

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