History 3308: U.S. Urban History
010, T/Th, 8:00-09:15, Room A227

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Office Hours: Tuesday, 9:30-11:00, Wednesday 10:00-12:00, and by appointment.

About the Course:
Cities have long been sites of possibility and opportunity, but also fear and danger in American life. They have been sites of economic innovation and job growth as well as the home of deindustrialization and “decay.” Throughout American history, developing technology and new infrastructure has allowed for cities to grow, reshaping and remaking themselves in the process. By the middle of the 20th century, these processes led to new suburbs separate from cities. Urban and suburban regions were often then simultaneously dependent on each other and in conflict. This course examines these developments in U.S. urban history. It considers how technology, politics, economics, and culture have all changed in American cities and how those cities relate to the surrounding suburban and rural regions of the United States.

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<tr>
<th>Grades</th>
<th>Completed/Your Grade</th>
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<tr>
<td>Participation</td>
<td>15%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Book Summary and Analysis</td>
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<td>Digital Project</td>
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<td>Midterm Exam</td>
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Grade Scale:
- A 90-100%
- B 80-89%
- C 70-79%
- D 60-69%
- F 0-59%

Required Book:
- *In the Watches of the Night: Life in the Nocturnal City, 1820-1930* by Peter Baldwin (ISBN: 978-0226269542)
- You will also be reading a third book of your choice (from a list). More information will be available in class.

A small number of articles will be posted on Blackboard. It is your responsibility to make sure you get the correct readings from Blackboard. You need to access the reading in a timely matter in case of issues. Pay attention to the titles on blackboard, the syllabus, and emails/announcements to make sure you are reading the correct materials for each class.
This course uses Blackboard for both readings and assignments. Please check your email or blackboard postings regularly for announcements and additional class materials. You may also use the Blackboard site to post questions to your classmates or discussion questions you are interested in considering in class. For assistance with Blackboard, contact IT Support at (325) 942-2911.

**Course Requirements:**

**Participation:** Students are expected to come prepared to all class meetings. This includes arriving on-time and ready to participate (which means speaking and attentively listening during discussions). **Using a cell phone, sleeping, or talking during lectures will result in no credit for that day’s participation credit.** If these behaviors become disruptive, you may be asked to leave and will be counted absent. The participation grade is closely tied to attendance of course and thus, if you are absent more than 4 classes, you will lose 25 participation points per additional class period missed (out of 100). Additionally, this class will include significant discussion. You MUST participate in those discussions to do well in the participation portion of the course.

**Book Summary and Analysis:** Each of you will read a book focused on a single city of your choosing (from an approved list). Your book should be related to the digital project topic you choose. You will write a short 2 page summary of the book after reading it and a 5-page analysis of its topic in relation to themes of the course. We will discuss this assignment in class.

**Digital Project:** You are required to create either an interactive timeline or map project about a single city’s urban history. Your chosen book will provide you with one secondary source for this project and you will complete additional research to create your project. The project should showcase boundaries—whether physical, cultural, economic, racial, or other—in your chosen city. You can work alone or with a partner on this project. You will display your project at a research symposium open to the public in November. We will discuss this in more depth in class.

**Midterm and Final Exam:** Exams will consist of a combination of matching and short answer questions. The midterm will be completed in class on **October 8** and the final is on **December 10** at 8am.

**Extra Credit:** There are a series of events related to the boundaries theme this fall. You can attend one and write a 1.5 page summary and reflection for up to three percentage points of extra credit. We will discuss the details in class. Turn in via TurnItIn.

**Policies:**

**Attendance:** As regular attendance is necessary to achieve student learning outcomes it is the policy of the History Department that attendance is required. If you are absent more than 4 classes, you will lose 25 participation points per additional class period missed (out of 100). You are responsible for making sure you are properly signed in.

**Academic Integrity:** Plagiarism of any sort will not be tolerated. Plagiarism includes both copying other another person or sources work word for word without proper citation AND using the ideas of another person or source without proper citation. (This includes internet sources). All plagiarized papers will receive a zero and be reported to the administration. For clarification, please see the professor.

Cheating on exams will not be tolerated either. This includes (but is not limited to) the use of cell phones. The use of a cell phone during an exam will result in automatically failing the exam. I will assume you are using the phone to cheat if you are using it in any matter during the exam. Turn your phone off, leave it at home, or leave it at the front of the room to avoid suspicion.
Signing in for someone else or having one sign in for you qualifies as cheating. It will result in a zero for your participation grade in the course.

The ASU *Student Handbook* contains important information about campus services, programs, policies, and procedures, including such areas as the campus disciplinary rules and the Academic Honor Code. All students are expected to be familiar with this publication and to comply with the policies contained therein, among them maintaining complete honesty and integrity in their academic pursuits according to the Academic Honor Code. The ASU *Student Handbook* is available via the ASU website at [www.angelo.edu](http://www.angelo.edu) (“Current Students:/University Publications.”) Large print versions are available in the Student Life Office, Room 112 University Center.

**The Classroom Environment:** Please be respectful of your classmates and professor. This includes arriving on time, not disrupting the class if you are late or must leave during class, turning off cell phones and other electronic devices, and using laptops for note taking purposes only. Violation of the laptop policy may result in your no longer being allowed to use a laptop in class. Additionally, please be respectful of your classmates’ opinions and views during class discussion. Disagreement should be voiced with respect in all cases.

**Make-Up Exam Policy:** Students must have a documented reason to miss an examination and should contact the professor before the scheduled examination. The make-up examination will differ from the classroom examination. Make-up examinations will be administered in the professor's office. If you miss an exam without prior permission, you must contact me within 48 hours of the exam to discuss the reason for your absence and possibility of making up the exam. After 48 hours, you will receive a zero.

**Persons with disabilities:** Persons with disabilities who require certain accommodations must contact the Student Life Office located in room 112. You are encouraged to make this request as early as possible during the semester so that appropriate arrangements can be made.

**Religious Holidays:** Students may miss a class with no penalty in order to observe a religious holiday in accordance with ASU OP 10.19. Please inform the instructor if you are unable to attend for religious reasons *in advance*.

**Title IX at Angelo State University:** Angelo State University is committed to providing and strengthening an educational, working, and living environment where students, faculty, staff, and visitors are free from sex discrimination of any kind. In accordance with Title VII, Title IX, the Violence Against Women Act (VAWA), the Campus Sexual Violence Elimination Act (SaVE), and other federal and state laws, the University prohibits discrimination based on sex, which includes pregnancy, and other types of Sexual Misconduct. Sexual Misconduct is a broad term encompassing all forms of gender-based harassment or discrimination and unwelcome behavior of a sexual nature. The term includes sexual harassment, nonconsensual sexual contact, nonconsensual sexual intercourse, sexual assault, sexual exploitation, stalking, public indecency, interpersonal violence (domestic violence or dating violence), sexual violence, and any other misconduct based on sex.

You are encouraged to report any incidents involving sexual misconduct to the Office of Title IX Compliance and the Director of Title IX Compliance/Title IX Coordinator, Michelle Boone, J.D. You may submit reports to the following locations:
- www.angelo.edu/incident-form
- Mayer Administration Building, Room 210
- 325-942-2022
- michelle.boone@angelo.edu
Note, as a faculty member at Angelo State, I am a mandatory reporter and must report incidents involving sexual misconduct to the Title IX Coordinator. Should you wish to speak to someone in confidence about an issue, you may contact the University Counseling Center (325-942-2371), the 24-Hour Crisis Helpline (325-486-6345), or the University Health Clinic (325-942-2171).

For more information about resources related to sexual misconduct, Title IX, or Angelo State’s policy please visit: www.angelo.edu/title-ix.

Questions? Please feel free to email me or come by my office at any time with questions, concerns, or other thoughts about the class.

Student Learning Objectives for History 4340:
- Students will be able to analyze the interrelationship between cities and suburbs.
- Students will be able to analyze the interrelationships between economics, technology, politics, and culture in urban America.
- Students will have a nuanced understanding of the relationship between gender, race, and experience in urban settings.
- Students will be able to construct essays which synthesize readings and lectures into a coherent, fact-based analytical narrative that demonstrates critical thinking skills.
- Students will learn to use digital humanities software to construct an analytical and informative historical learning tool about a single city.

Outline (Subject to revision)
(Readings marked with * are on blackboard)

**Week 1—Introduction and Colonial Urban America**
8/27—Introductions/syllabus, No reading.

8/29—Read: *Gary B. Nash, The Web of Seaport Life, 1600-1700
*Karin Wulf, Independent Women in Colonial Philadelphia

**Week 2—The Early National Period and a New Economy**
9/3—Read: *William Cronon, Booster Dreams
*Susan Hirsch, Industrialization in Newark
Look at: Sample Projects Online (See Blackboard)

9/5—Read: Baldwin, Chapter 1
Select: Project city and book (See Blackboard). Start reading!

**Week 3—New Economies, New Cities, and War**
9/10—Read: Baldwin, Chapter 2
Your project book

9/12—Read: Baldwin, Chapters 3 and 4

**Week 4—Industrialization and Urbanization: A new 19th century city**
9/17—Read: Baldwin, Chapter 5
Your project book
9/19 — Read: Baldwin, Chapters 6 and 7

Week 5 — The Burdens and Benefits of Growth
9/24 — Read: Baldwin, Chapter 8
Project book

9/26 — Read: Baldwin, Chapters 9 and 10

Week 6 — Bosses and Reformers
10/1 — Read: Isenberg, Introduction and Chapter 1

10/3 — Read: Isenberg, Chapter 2
Project book

Week 7 — Midterm and Projects
10/8 — Midterm

10/10 — Due: Project book summary

Week 8 — Boom and Change: Cultural Shifts in the City
10/15 — Read: Isenberg, Chapter 3

10/17 — Read: *Cauncey, “Urban Culture and Policing the City of Bachelors”
     *Sanchez, “Familiar Sounds of Change in Mexican Los Angeles”

Week 9 — Migrations—North, West, and Out
10/22 — Due: Analytical Paper

10/24 — Read: Isenberg, Chapter 4
     *Hirsch, The Second Ghetto and the Dynamics of Neighborhood

Week 10 — The New Suburbs
10/29 — Read: Rome, “The Environmental Costs of Postwar Sprawl”

Due: Project Bibliography

10/31 — Read: *O’Mara, “Uncovering the City in the Suburb”

Week 11 — The City and the Suburbs
11/5 — Read: *Sugrue, “The Deindustrialization of Detroit”

Due: Project First Draft

11/7 — Read: Isenberg, Chapter 5

Week 12 — Crisis and Renewal
11/12 — Read: Isenberg, Chapter 6

11/14 — Read: *Lassiter, “Socioeconomic Integration in the Suburbs”
Week 13—Projects
11/19—**Due: Project in Class**

11/20—Project Symposium

11/21—No Reading. Required symposium attendance previous day.

Week 14—Cities in Recovery
11/26—Read: Isenberg, Chapter 7

**Due: Project Reflections**

11/28—Thanksgiving. No Class.

Week 15—New Cities and Recent Developments
12/3—Read: Isenberg, Conclusion
   *Rothman, “Inventing Modern Las Vegas”*
   *Melosi and Pratt, “Houston: The Energy Metropolis”*

12/5—Read: *O’Mara, “The Other Tech Bubble”*

**Tuesday, December 10, 8a.m.—Final Exam**