

HIS 320-01; Mears 217
Mon & Fri, 12:45-2:05; Spring 2015

Mears 315; 269-9816

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Mon: 2:30-4; Tue: 10
program for forest fire and
conservation and environme

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Grades

Grades will be assigned according to the following formula:

Class Schedule & Reading Assignments

- Please bring a copy of the readings, along with your notes, to class so that we can have a focused and grounded discussion. Everyone should be prepared to cite specific examples or passages from the texts, and to examine them together.
- Readings available through Pioneer-Web are marked

Section 1: Making Sense of the “Dirty Thirties”

Week 1: Getting Started

Wed, Jan 21st: Introductions, Syllabus & Course Goals

Fri, Jan 23rd: Conservation: Old & New

- Ted Steinberg, “Conservation Reconsidered” in his *Down to Earth: Nature’s Role in American History*, 136-54 (P).
- Sarah Phillips, “Poor People, Poor Land,” in her *This Land, This Nation: Conservation, Rural America, and the New Deal*, 75-148 (P).

Week 2: Analyzing the Civilian Conservation Corps

Mon, Jan 26th: The Intellectual Context

- Maher, *Nature’s New Deal*, pp. 3-41.
- * Periodicals Exercise (P)

Fri, Jan 30th: New Landscapes & New Bodies

- Maher, *Nature’s New Deal*, pp. 43-113.
Group A: Gregory T. Cushman, “Environmental Therapy for Soil and Social Erosion: Landscape Architecture and Depression-Era Highway Construction in Texas,” Michel Conan, ed., *Environmentalism in Landscape Architecture*, 45-70 (P).
Group B: Brian Black, “Organic Planning: Ecology and Design in the Landscape of the Tennessee Valley Authority, 1933-45,” in Conan, ed., *Environmentalism in Landscape Architecture*, 45-70 (P).
Group C: Gabriel Rosenberg, “Breeding the Future: 4-H and the Roots of the Modern Rural World, 1914-

Week 3: Confronting “Human Erosion”

Mon, Feb 2nd: Community

- Maher, *Nature's New Deal*, pp.115-150.
- *The City* [1939 documentary] (P).
- * Community Studies Assignment (P)

Fri, Feb 6th: The Environmental Consciousness of the Thirties

- Maher, *Nature's New Deal*, pp. 151-180.
- Archibald MacLeish, *Land of the Free* (P).
- * Documentary Assignment (P)

Week 4: The Promise of Planning

———~~Nature's New Deal~~ pp. 151-180

Week 6 Historiography

Based on research interests, you will be divided into two smaller groups that will meet once a week.

Assignment: Email me an annotated bibliography of *secondary sources* (2 pages) by 8pm the night before your group meets (further guidelines will be posted on p-web).

Mon, Feb 23rd: Research meets

Fri, Feb 27th: Research meets

Week 7 Primary Sources

Assignment: Email me an annotated bibliography of primary sources (1-2 pages) by 8pm the night before your group meets (see p-web for further guidelines). *You will also bring one key source (or an excerpt from it) to your group meeting where you will discuss its strengths and weaknesses as a source base for your project.*

Mon, Mar 2nd: Research meets

Fri, Mar 6th: Research meets

Week 8: Interpretation & Methodology

Reading: Sam Wineburg, *Historical Thinking and Other Unnatural Acts* (excerpts) (P).

Assignment: Email me a short document analysis (2 pages) by 8pm the night before your group meets. See p-web for further guidelines.

Mon, Mar 9th: Research meets

Wed, Mar 11th: Research meets

Section 3: The Writing Process

Week 9: Moving from Research to Writing

Mon, Mar 30th: Structuring the Argument

- “Learning to Do Historical Research: A Primer” (P)
- Short presentations on how you plan to structure the narrative & argument of your project

Fri, Apr 3rd: No Class Session

You should be working on developing an outline for your paper. Students are encouraged to meet with me during the extended office hours I will be having this week (or during the class slot) to discuss the outlining process.

Week 10: Outlines

This week I will meet with each of you individually to discuss a first draft of your outline. A final (and detailed) version will be due by 5:00pm on Friday, April 10th.

Week 11: Positioning Your Argument

Assignment:

