

UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA, SAN DIEGO
Department of History
Spring 2011

Professor Rachel N. Klein
Office: HSS 4056
Office Hrs: Tuesdays, 1:00-3:00 and by Appt.

HIUS 131: U.S. Cultural History
In the Age of Industrial Capital, 1877-1914
Tuesdays and Thursdays, 11:00-12:20
Center Hall 216

This course considers the decades generally described by historians as the “Gilded Age” and the “Progressive Era.” Lectures and readings probe intersections between work, leisure and consumption, while exploring transformations in gender, class and race ideologies. To a great extent, readings are drawn from primary sources. The purpose of the course is to acquaint students with major historical themes, to encourage clear writing, and to foster critical reading.

Required Reading

Available at the UCSD Bookstore:

1. Leon Fink, ed. *Major Problems in the Gilded Age and the Progressive Era*, **Second Edition**
2. Edward Bellamy, *Looking Backward*
3. Theodore Dreiser, *Sister Carrie*
4. Kathy Peiss, *Cheap Amusements: Working Women and Leisure in Turn-of-the-Century New York*

Available through Electronic Reserves:

1. Sven Beckert, *Monied Metropolis: New York City and the Consolidation of the American Bourgeoisie*, pp.207-272
2. Steven Hahn, *A Nation Under Our Feet*, pp. 412-464
3. Sucheng Chan, “Shifting Chinese Immigrant Employment” from *Major Problems in Asian American History*, ed. Lon Kurashige and Alice Yang Murray, pp. 80-87
4. Andrew Gyory, “The Significance of Chinese Exclusion,” from *Major Problems in Asian American History*, pp. 123-127

Available through JSTOR

Nancy MacLean, “The Leo Frank Case Reconsidered: Gender and Sexual Politics and the Making of Reactionary Populism” *Journal of American History*, Vol. 78, No. 3 (Dec., 1991), pp. 917-948

Assignments

1. (30%) Midterm
2. (35%) **5-6 page paper due on Tuesday, May 17.** (Essay topics will be handed out after the midterm.)
3. (35%) Final (Tuesday, June 7, 11:30-2:30)

Academic Integrity

Students are encouraged to discuss readings with one another, but they are required to write their own essays and exams. It is not necessary or desirable for you to use unassigned readings for the paper, but if you decide to do so be sure to provide citations and, if necessary, quotation marks. Citations and quotation marks are also required when you reference assigned readings.

Cases of academic dishonesty (plagiarism) will be reported in accordance with University policy. Students can learn more about UCSD’s policy on Academic Integrity by checking out the website of the University’s Office of Academic Integrity:

<http://www.ucsd.edu/current-students/academics/academic-integrity/consequences.html>

SCHEDULE OF CLASSES

WEEK ONE

Mar.29: Introduction

Mar.31: Social Darwinism in the Late Nineteenth Century United States

Reading: Fink, ed., pp. 225-234, 253-262
Beckert, pp. 207-272

WEEK TWO

Apr. 5: Alternative America

Apr. 7: Classical Antiquity and the Making of High Culture

Reading: Bellamy, *Looking Backward*

WEEK THREE

Apr. 12: The Industrial Working Class

Apr. 14: Japan in the United States

Reading: Fink, ed., pp. 17-25, 27-45, 237-244
Peiss, pp. 1-87
Sucheng Chan, pp. 80-87
Gyory, pp. 123-127

WEEK FOUR

Apr. 19: "Palaces of Consumption"

Apr. 21: The Rise of College and Professional Sports

Reading: Peiss, pp. 87-188

WEEK FIVE

Apr. 26: The World's Fair, 1893

Apr. 28: The War of 1898

Reading: Dreiser (begin)
Fink, pp. 263-294

WEEK SIX

May 3: Midterm

May 5: Maternalist Reform

Reading: Fink, ed., pp.355-385, 397-411
Dreiser (continue)

WEEK SEVEN

May 10: The South at the Turn of the Century

May 12: Race, Reproduction and Reform: The Rise of the American Eugenics Movement\

Reading: Hahn, pp. 412-464

Fink, ed., pp. 86-11

Dreiser (continue reading)

WEEK EIGHT

May 17: The Movies

PAPERS DUE IN CLASS

May 19: Film

Reading: Fink, pp. 325-354

WEEK NINE

May 24: The South at the Turn-of-the-Century

May 26: The Great Migration and the Transformation of Urban Culture

Reading: Fink, pp. 295-323

WEEK TEN

May 31: The Culture of Reaction

June 2: The New Aristocratic Ideal

Reading: MacLean, "The Leo Frank Case Reconsidered," available through JSTOR