

VISIONS OF AMERICA

Roy Carman and Seth Malin

Course Information

Tuesdays from 10:00 a.m. - noon for five weeks beginning September 30 through October 28.

In-Person - Discussion - Max 18

Course Description

Over the course of five weeks we will look at five tumultuous periods of American history. Each week, we will examine a different era through historical analysis and literary reflection, pairing lecture and discussion with selected readings that capture the emotional and cultural texture of their time.

Weekly Topics

Week 1	The political rumblings of 1796 to 1800
Week 2	Westward expansion in the 1840s
Week 3	The chaos of the 1876 presidential election
Week 4	The 1930s and the Great Depression
Week 5	Upheaval in society in the 1960s

Reading Assignments

All readings can be found online and copied.

- James Fenimore Cooper, "The Slaughter of the Pigeons"
- Willa Cather, "A Wagner Matinee"
- Nathaniel Hawthorne, "Young Goodman Brown"
- Ambrose Bierce, "An Occurrence at Owl Creek"
- Bret Harte, "The Luck of Roaring Camp"
- James Baldwin, "Sonny's Blues"
- Alexander Solzhenitsyn, "1978 Harvard Commencement Address"

- Ernest Hemingway, "Soldier's Home"
- F. Scott Fitzgerald, "Babylon Revisited"
- Eudora Welty, "Why I live at the P.O."