This class will analyze the main issues in the history of the relations between the United States and Latin America. These issues include: the origins of the Monroe Doctrine (1823), War with Mexico (1846-1848), the rise of imperialism and its consequences, the Good Neighbor Policy, and the Cold War (Guatemala, Cuba, Chile, Nicaragua and Panama). To fully understand their relevance, an important part of this course will be devoted to analyzing the relationship between politics and diplomacy in all those cases. By the end of the semester, the student will understand how the United States became an imperialist power and what kind of mechanisms developed to preserve that power in Latin America. As a result of that analysis, the student will fully understand both the rise of anti-Americanism and the Latin American responses: leftist revolutions and populism. Final grade will be the result of weekly in-class work, a mid-term and a final.

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The extermination of six million Jews and the collective murder of millions of others continues to raise important questions concerning human nature, ideology and Western culture. In this course we will investigate the origins, development and implications of Nazi policies as they relate to the persecution of Jews, Roma-Sinti, the disabled, homosexuals, Jehovah's Witnesses, and others. This course will also address the extent to which individuals and groups collaborated with or resisted the anti-Semitic and genocidal agenda of National Socialism. Finally, we will evaluate the controversies and issues raised by different interpretations of the Holocaust. Course requirements include attendance, quizzes, and two exams.
This course will address these questions and more through the viewing of several major motion pictures and selected readings. We will be looking at these films not only to get a sense of the "history" that is being presented but also the ways in which the various films reflect the time period in which they were actually produced. Course work will include two short papers and a final exam, part take-home, part done in our last class. Daily attendance and participation in discussion will also be required.
Ordinary men and women have effected and witnessed significant social and cultural changes in the United States since the end of World War II. They have struggled through the Red Scare, disco, and the consequences of financial deregulation. They have struggled to bring about the end of race-based segregation in the South, the Vietnam War, and the ongoing problem of gender discrimination in the workplace. We will focus on their stories in this course, as we explore these and other historical developments that have shaped the world we know today. Attendance and participation are mandatory and will be weighed heavily in final grades. Grades will also be based on three quizzes with questions based on our lectures, readings, discussions, and films.
The institution of slavery had a profound impact on the Atlantic world. Yet it has not always been the easiest topic for public discussion. Outside of the classroom much of what we know, or think we know, about slavery often comes from popular media images—especially movies. Classics like Gone With the Wind, television miniseries like ROOTS and even lesser known independent films like Sankofa have done much to shape our perspective and how we "remember" the slave system, its victims and its participants. This course seeks to examine slavery in the Atlantic world through the lens of this popular medium, exploring movie depictions of slavery, famous figures or related events. These films are both foreign and domestic, and range from historical dramas to the surreal bordering on speculative fiction. We'll take a look at a few of them, see how much they actually tell us about slavery and, most important, what they might tell us about ourselves. Overall class grade will be determined by class participation, brief film reviews and a final exam.
This course is primarily a survey of the major violent conflicts in Europe from 1848 to 1945. The long-term causes and effects of these wars and revolutions will be our main concern, not the actual fighting itself. In other words, there will be some blood in this class, but the emphasis will be on the political and social contexts of each event. The main topics include the French Revolution, Napoleon, The Revolutions of 1848, The Creation of Germany, World War I, The Russian Revolution, The Spanish Civil War, World War II, and Genocide. Additionally, we will take a broad approach to the word "revolution" and look at revolutions in the economy (industrial capitalism and socialism), politics (Fascism and Communism), gender (the changing status of women), science (Darwin), and art (Bauhaus architecture and design of the 1920s). Films that we will watch are Pan's Labyrinth and Sophie Scholl: The Final Days. There will be a midterm exam and a final paper. You will also be graded on class-participation.
We will explore the birth of America over the last twenty-five years of the 20th century. We will explore the different events, people and changes that shaped American society during this time period.

Class lectures will focus on cultural events such as music and movies, political leaders, and major technological innovations that changed America since 1975. Class grading will consist of a final, and a short project.