We often say history is written by the winners. This course will flip that narrative on its head and asks, “what if history was written by the losers?” This course will investigate the history of the United States by focusing on major debates in American history. More specifically, this course will focus on the people and ideas who lost these important debates. We will start with the arguments over the creation of the Constitution and the founding of the United States. From there will examine other battles such as the lead up to the Civil War, the best approach to fight the Great Depression, conflicting views on Civil Rights, and disagreements over military interventions. In doing so, this class will discuss what alternative paths the United States might have taken, and why those proposals, even some that we would consider morally wrong today, were popular. Weekly assignments will include reading primary sources and journal articles, as well as listening to podcasts and the completion of unit quizzes. For a final assignment, students will place themselves into the mind of an “American loser” and reflect on how they would view their legacy in American history.