

AMST 3550

Arts & American Society: Tulsa's Public Cultures

Fall 2017 (Thursday, 4:30-7:10 pm)

Dr. David Gray



How have art and historical events shaped identity and memory in Tulsa over time? This course explores art, public culture and history in Tulsa through a series of case studies. Sources examined will include: movies (*Tulsa*, *Rumblefish*); downtown architecture; Greenwood District monuments commemorating the Tulsa race riot and the struggle for reconciliation; works by Tulsa-based artists; and community spaces. We will also undertake field trips where we will explore local museums and cultural institutions. Students will research and write about art, institutions, and historical events and present their findings. While our focus will be on art and public culture, we will pay attention to how events like the oil boom and the Tulsa Race Riot continue to shape public memory. Some course readings look beyond Tulsa, allowing us to connect our investigations to Oklahoma's past more generally.

Required Texts: Scott Ellsworth, *Death in a Promised Land: The Tulsa Race Riot of 1921*; Roxanne Dunbar Ortiz, *Red Dirt: Growing Up Okie*; Larry Clark, *Tulsa*, and a number of articles.

For more information e-mail Dr. Gray at david.gray11@okstate.edu