

AMST 3550

Arts & American Society: Tulsa's Public Cultures

Fall 2019 (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: films (*Tulsa*, *Rumblefish*); downtown architecture; Greenwood District monuments commemorating the Tulsa race riot and the struggle for reconciliation; works by Tulsa-based artists and authors; and Tulsa's underworld and other “hidden” histories. The course includes field trips where students will explore local museums and cultural institutions. While our focus will be on art and public culture, we will also examine how the oil boom, the Tulsa Race Riot, and the Tulsa underworld have shaped memory and culture. Throughout the course, we will ask how Tulsa-related art, literature, and culture have shaped ideas about place, identity, race, class, and gender.

Required Texts: Scott Ellsworth, *Death in a Promised Land: The Tulsa Race Riot of 1921*; Michael P. Daley, *Bobby BlueJacket: The Tribe, the Joint, the Tulsa Underworld*; Larry Clark, *Tulsa*; Charles Montgomery, *Happy City: Transforming Our Lives Through Urban Design*, and a selection of articles.

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