Course Purpose and Objectives

HST 375 explores the heritage of one of America’s highland regions within the context of broader historical developments.

Objectives:
- knowledge of a basic narrative of American history: political, economic, social, and cultural, including knowledge of unity and diversity in American society;
- an understanding of the distinct, overlapping, and shared histories of people based on varied identities, regional affiliations, and experiences;
- an understanding of the history of the Ozark region, and the experiences of its inhabitants, in the context of American history;
- an appreciation for regional and intra-regional diversity within the United States.

Office Hours

M 2:00-5:00 & by appointment

Students visiting my office will be required to wear face masks. Students wishing to hold consultation via ZOOM will be asked to schedule a meeting during regular office hours. My rural home internet capability is not compatible with ZOOM or similar services, and I will have to conduct such meetings while in my campus office.

University Mask Policy

“Missouri State University has a COVID-19 Masking Policy. Masks are required to be worn in all academic buildings – in the hallways, elevators, classrooms, restrooms, study areas – everywhere inside of academic buildings. . . Students must arrive to class with a mask on in order to be admitted to the class. Students who have not been granted an accommodation and who refuse to wear a mask while in the classroom are subject to administrative withdrawal consistent with the Class Disruption policy.”

Eating and drinking in the classroom are also prohibited by university order, except in the case of a documented medical condition.

COVID-19 Contingency Plan

If MSU transitions to all online education at some point during the semester, this course will be converted into a fully online class with no real-time requirements. The
course will NOT meet in real time via ZOOM or any similar platform, and you will NOT be expected to log in to Blackboard or any other platform on Mondays from 5:30 to 8:15. At the time of transition to online instruction you will receive a revised syllabus via Blackboard, which will provide instructions re: the submission of assignments and the nature of exams. All class activities, including discussion, will move to Blackboard. Class discussions will NOT take place in real time. ZOOM office consultations will not be an option under this contingency, due to my internet limitations mentioned above under Office Hours. If possible, recorded lectures will be posted on Blackboard. Other details of the transition will be outlined in the revised syllabus.

Academic Dishonesty Policy

Missouri State University is a community of scholars committed to developing educated persons who accept the responsibility to practice personal and academic integrity. You are responsible for knowing and following the University’s academic integrity policy plus additional more-specific policies for each class. The University policy, formally known as the “Student Academic Integrity Policies and Procedures,” is available online at http://www.missouristate.edu/policy/Op3_01_AcademicIntegrityStudents.htm and also at the Reserves Desk in Meyer Library. Any student participating in any form of academic dishonesty will be subject to sanctions as described in this policy.

Nondiscrimination Policy

MSU is an equal opportunity/affirmative action institution, and maintains a grievance procedure available to any person who believes he or she has been discriminated against. At all times, it is your right to address inquires or concerns about possible discrimination to the Office for Institutional Equity and Compliance, Park Central Office Building, 117 Park Central Square, Suite 111, 417-836-4252. Other types of concerns (i.e., concerns of an academic nature) should be discussed directly with your instructor and can also be brought to the attention of your instructor’s Department Head. Please visit the OED website at www.missouristate.edu/equity/.

Disability Accommodation

To request academic accommodations for a disability, contact the Director of the Disability Resource Center, Meyer Library, Suite 111, 417-836-4192 or 417-836-6792 (TTY), www.missouristate.edu/disability/contact.htm. Students are required to provide documentation of disability to the Disability Resource Center prior to receiving accommodations. The Disability Resource Center refers some types of accommodation requests to the Learning Diagnostic Clinic, which also provides diagnostic testing for learning and psychological disabilities. For information about testing, contact the Director of the Learning Diagnostic Clinic, 417-836-4787, http://psychologymissouristate.edu/ldc.
Cell Phone Policy

The Office of the Provost prohibits the use by students of cell phones, pagers, PDAs, or similar communication devices during scheduled classes. All such devices must be turned off or put in a silent (vibrate) mode and ordinarily should not be taken out during class.

Social Media Policy

I do not friend, follow, or otherwise connect with current MSU students on Facebook, Twitter, or other social media. You are welcome to “like” the Missouri State University Ozarks Studies Facebook page – which features posts relevant to the history and study of the Ozarks – but you are not required to do so. No course content or course-related announcements will be posted on this page. Course content and related announcements will be posted on Blackboard.

Emergency Response Statement

At the first class meeting, students should become familiar with a basic emergency response plan through a dialogue with the instructor that includes a review and awareness of exits specific to the classroom and the location of evacuation center for the building. All instructors are provided this information specific to their classroom assignments in an e-mail prior to the beginning of the fall semester from the Office of the Provost and Safety and Transportation. Students with disabilities impacting mobility should discuss the approved accommodations for emergency situations and additional options when applicable with the instructor. For more information go to http://www.missouristate.edu/safetran/51597.htm and http://www.missouristate.edu/safetran/erp.htm.

Attendance Policy

HST 375 offers a mixture of lecture and classroom discussion; regular class attendance is valuable. Make-up exams will be given only for absences in cases of family emergency, documented medical treatment, or university-sanctioned activities. Student athletes and all other students must inform me of all college-sanctioned absences. Any out-of-class assignment that falls due on the day of a college-sanctioned absence is still due on that date.

Due to the uncertain and fluid nature of the COVID-19 pandemic, there will be no penalties associated with absences in HST 375 this semester. All students will also be expected to abide by the university-mandated seating chart. As long as the course meets on campus, there will be no recorded lectures posted on Blackboard. Should you be required to miss class meetings due to illness or other causes, you will be responsible for keeping up with lecture materials through use of the PowerPoint lectures posted on Blackboard and through possible assistance of note-taking students attending class meetings – just as in a normal semester.
Late Assignments Policy

Unless otherwise instructed, you are to hand in all assignments during class on the due date. Any assignment not turned in on time will automatically receive a 10% late penalty. You will receive an additional 5% late penalty for each additional day that the assignment is not turned in for up to a week. Any assignment not turned in within one week of the due date will automatically receive a grade of zero.

Required Books

Blevins, *A History of the Ozarks, Vol. 1: The Old Ozarks*
Harper, *White Man’s Heaven*
Geist, *Lake of the Ozarks*

**READINGS AND ASSIGNMENTS SCHEDULE**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Class</th>
<th>Readings/Exam/Other</th>
<th>Topic</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>August 17</td>
<td>Blevins, <em>Old Ozarks</em>, pp. 1-9</td>
<td>Introduction</td>
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<tr>
<td>August 24</td>
<td>Blevins, <em>Old Ozarks</em>, chs. 1 &amp; 2</td>
<td>The Native Ozarks</td>
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<tr>
<td>August 31</td>
<td>Blevins, <em>Old Ozarks</em>, chs. 3 &amp; 4</td>
<td>Early Settlement</td>
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<tr>
<td>September 7</td>
<td><strong>No class—Labor Day</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>September 14</td>
<td>Blevins, <em>Old Ozarks</em>, chs. 5 &amp; 6</td>
<td>Antebellum Era</td>
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<tr>
<td>September 21</td>
<td>Blevins, <em>Conflicted Ozarks</em>, chs. 1 &amp; 2</td>
<td>Civil War Era</td>
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<tr>
<td>September 28</td>
<td>Blevins, <em>Conflicted Ozarks</em>, chs. 3 &amp; 4</td>
<td>Civil War Era cont.</td>
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<tr>
<td>October 5</td>
<td>Blevins, <em>Conflicted Ozarks</em>, ch. 5</td>
<td>Postwar Era</td>
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<td>October 12</td>
<td><strong>Mid-term Exam</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>October 19</td>
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<td>Changing Ozarks</td>
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<tr>
<td>October 26</td>
<td>Harper, <em>White Man’s Heaven</em></td>
<td>Race</td>
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<td>November 2</td>
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<td>Mining</td>
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<td>November 9</td>
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<td>Timber/Lumber</td>
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<tr>
<td>November 16</td>
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<td>Agriculture</td>
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<tr>
<td>November 23</td>
<td>Geist, <em>Lake of the Ozarks</em></td>
<td>Tourism/Image</td>
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<tr>
<td>November 30</td>
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<td>Modernization</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Final Exam</strong></td>
<td><strong>December 7 – 5:45-7:45</strong></td>
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ASSIGNMENTS and EXAMS

Grades in this course will come from two exams and four out-of-class assignments: a map exercise, a brief Civil War paper, a book review, and an Ozarks journal. The map is a simple exercise that consists of identifying counties and county seats in the Ozarks. All writing assignments will be graded on content, analysis, and the technical aspects of writing (grammar, syntax, spelling, punctuation, etc.) The map is available in the Information tab on Blackboard and will be due at the second class, August 24.

Community & Conflict Paper

Using the links below to the Community & Conflict website, you will read primary documents (such as letters and diary entries) relating to life in the Ozarks during the Civil War era and write a brief reaction paper (2-3 pages.) The primary documents will give you a variety of first-hand perspectives on life in the Ozarks during the Civil War: male and female, Union and Confederate, homefront and military. Your paper should compare and contrast these perspectives and explain what the documents suggest as an overriding theme of the Civil War in the Ozarks. http://www.ozarkscivilwar.org/

Hunter Letters:
Lyman Gibson Bennett Diary, 1862: Read entries for February 22, March 8, & March 11 found on pages 117-120, 154-160, & 164-168.
Erasmus Stirman Letter:
Isaac Tandy Rice Letter:

Book Review

Each student will write a two-page, double-spaced review of the book White Man’s Heaven, by Kimberly Harper. The review will be due in class on October 26, the day we will discuss the book. The review should include a brief synopsis of the content of the book as well as an analysis of the author’s thesis statement. You may also include your own critique of the book if you wish.
Ozarks Journal

Each student will turn in an Ozarks “journal”, which will consist of four entries or papers. The main purpose of the journal is to promote analysis of the history of the Ozarks region, of Ozarks people, and of the image(s) of the region in the Ozarks and in the nation. Journal entries will be graded on content as well as on the technical aspects of writing (grammar, syntax, spelling, punctuation, etc.)

■ 1. The Ozarks and Ozarkers on the screen – Each student will record his/her impressions of at least one film featuring the region or its inhabitants. Your review of the film (one page, double-spaced) should include a brief synopsis of the plot and an explanation of how the film relates to the Ozarks. You should also make note of how the film depicts the Ozarks and Ozarkers. Do the characters fit certain stereotypes associated with the region, or do they appear to be pretty standard characters that might show up in a movie about any American region? You will find a list of approved films on pages 10-11.

■ 2. Magazines and the Ozarks – On Blackboard, in the Information section, you will find a folder under this title. In it will be magazine articles (or links to them) about the Ozarks (specifically about things to visit or see in the Ozarks), two of them dating from very recent years and two of them dating from the late 20th century. In a two-page, double-spaced entry, compare and contrast the two sets of articles. What do the differences in the 20th-century and 21st-century articles tell us about changes in the Ozarks and changes in perceptions of the Ozarks?

■ 3. Article review – Each student will read a journal article chosen from the list on pages 8-9 of the syllabus and will write a one-page, double-spaced synopsis of the article’s content and analysis of the author’s thesis statement. You may also include a brief critique of the article if you choose.

■ 4. Geist reaction – Each student will read Bill Geist’s book, Lake of the Ozarks, and will write a one-page, double-spaced “reaction” paper. This is not a book review. You are not expected to summarize the book. You are expected to react to the book, explaining how Geist’s memories paint life in the Lake area in the 1960s, how the book’s images reflect on Ozarks stereotypes, and what impression readers will have of the Ozarks and the Lake region after reading the book.

Format for journal: This will not be turned in as an actual bound “journal”, but should be submitted as a single Word document or pdf with the four separate entries clearly marked. You will submit the journal to Dr. Blevins no later than Monday, November 23.
ASSIGNMENT DATES AND GRADE VALUES

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<th>Points</th>
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<tr>
<td>Mid-term Exam</td>
<td>Oct. 12</td>
<td>100</td>
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<tr>
<td>Final exam</td>
<td>Dec. 7</td>
<td>100</td>
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<tr>
<td>Map</td>
<td>Aug. 24</td>
<td>20</td>
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<tr>
<td>Community &amp; Conflict Paper</td>
<td>Sept. 28</td>
<td>50</td>
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<tr>
<td>Book Review</td>
<td>Oct. 26</td>
<td>40</td>
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<tr>
<td>Ozarks Journal</td>
<td>Nov. 23</td>
<td>80</td>
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<tr>
<td>Participation</td>
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GRADE SCALE

HST 375 utilizes the plus/minus system of grading sanctioned by Missouri State University. The grade scale will be as follows:

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Grade</th>
<th>93-100</th>
<th>90-92</th>
<th>87-89</th>
<th>83-86</th>
<th>80-82</th>
<th>77-79</th>
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<tr>
<td>A</td>
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<td>B+</td>
<td>B</td>
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<td>A-</td>
<td>67-69</td>
<td>60-66</td>
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ARTICLES

(Note: Articles from the Missouri Historical Review are available online at https://digital.shsmo.org/digital/collection/mhr. Articles/chapters from Springfield’s Urban Histories are available only in the book. All other articles are available through the MSU library’s JSTOR online database.)

John Bradbury, “‘Good Water & Wood but the Country is a Miserable Botch’: Flatland Soldiers Confront the Ozarks,” Missouri Historical Review, January 1996.


Ozark Films (Motion Pictures)

Here is a brief list of films about Ozarkers or set in the Ozarks that would be suitable for an Ozarks Journal reaction paper. Many of the older ones are not in circulation and thus next to impossible to find, but I put them on the list anyhow, just in case. Remember that this is not an exhaustive list. If you discover a film that is set in the Ozarks or primarily about people from the Ozarks but is not included on this list, please let me know.

"Swing Your Lady" (1938)

Any of the Weaver Brothers and Elviry movies from the 1930s and 1940s, such as "In Old Missouri", "Down in Arkansaw", "Arkansas Judge", "Tuxedo Junction", "Friendly Neighbors", "Grand Ole Opry."

Any of the "Lum and Abner" movies from the 1940s, such as "Dreaming Out Loud", "The Bashful Bachelor", "Partners in Time."

"I'm From Arkansaw" (1944)  This film is available for downloading at http://www.archive.org/details/im_from_arkansas

"Puddin' Head" (1941)

"Joan of Ozark" (1942)

"The Arkansas Traveler" (1938)

"I'm From Missouri" (1939)

"The Voice of Bugle Ann" (1936)

"Girl of the Ozarks" (1936)

"Lil' Abner" (1959)

"Where the Red Fern Grows"; either of two versions, 1974 and 2003

"Bootleggers" (1974)

"Chrystal" (2004)

"A Painted House" (2003)

“Winter’s Bone” (2010)

“Tomato Red” (2017)
**Ozarks Television Series** (If you choose a t.v. show, you should watch at least two episodes.)

“Ozark” on Netflix (three seasons)

“True Detective: Season Three” on HBO (released January 2019)

**Ozarks Films (Documentaries)**

“Shannon County: Home” (available online at https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=a1R36AjgyGI)

“Shannon County: Hearts of the Children” (available online at https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ro4nSqls_bs)

“Just that Much Hillbilly in Me” (available online at https://www.pbs.org/video/ozarkswatch-video-magazine-the-ozarks-just-that-much-hillbilly-in-me/)

“Meth Storm” on HBO (2017)

“Mommy Dead and Dearest” on HBO (2017)

“Dogpatch, USA: An Average Stone-Age Community” (2018)

“Dogpatch, USA: The Life and Death of a Theme Park” (available online at https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=CB3qJd7LyHA)