



PRESIDENTIAL DREAM COURSE

MAKING MODERN AMERICA: IN SEARCH OF THE GREAT DEPRESSION & NEW DEAL

P Sc 3020-901
HIST 3430-901
Fall 2015
MW 4:30-5:45 p.m.

Keith Gaddie
*Professor & Chair
Political Science*

David Wrobel
*Merrick Chair & Professor
History*

This course meets twice a week.

MONDAY classes feature lectures by Professors Wrobel & Gaddie, or one of our distinguished visiting speakers.

WEDNESDAY Divide up into four small seminar groups to discuss readings, learn fieldwork and oral history techniques, GIS mapping, basics of photography, film, videography, and podcasting.

READINGS include John Steinbeck's *The Grapes of Wrath*; Federal Writers' Project, *Guide to 1930's Oklahoma*; and David Kennedy's, *Freedom from Fear, Part I: The American People in the Great Depression*.

COURSE ASSIGNMENTS: three projects, each involving archival research, fieldwork, oral history, or digital humanities techniques and writing.

EXAMINE one of the most remarkable decades in U.S. history.

EXPLORE how the legacies of the 1930s still dominate political, economic, and cultural debates.

RECREATE the physical legacies of the era at OU and in Oklahoma through historical investigation and digital mapping.

PARTICIPATE in the re-writing of the famous *1930s Guide to Oklahoma*.

INTERVIEW the last surviving Oklahomans who were children during the Depression years.

Read some great works of American literature, history, and politics.

SCREEN & STUDY the great films from the 1930s.