HIST 124: United States History Through Film

Professor Kathleen DuVal

This course explores the history of the United States through films made about various historical eras. Some films were made in the time they represent, while others are historical fiction, set in previous eras. For each film, the instructor will lecture on the time period(s) in question, the class will read relevant primary sources and occasionally secondary sources, and then the class will watch and discuss the film. This course will not teach a history of film but rather will help students understand U.S. history through a contextualization and critical viewing of historical films.

The class will meet once per week for 2 hours and 50 minutes. Grades will be based on attendance, written reactions to the readings and films, a group project, a midterm, and a final exam.