INSTRUCTOR | DATES AND TIMES | LOCATION
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Stephen Hall | COURSE LENGTH: Ten Weeks DATES: March 20 to May 22 | Remote Course

EMAIL: halls@uchicago.edu
Instructor can be contacted through Canvas message

DAY OF THE WEEK: Wednesday TIMES: 7:45pm – 9:15pm

COURSE CODE and SECTION: BASC64233 24S1

PREREQUISITES: At least 2 years of the Basic Program

Remote courses require you to login to Canvas to access the Zoom Classroom. You will receive an invitation to join Canvas about a week before your course begins. Please visit https://grahamschool.uchicago.edu/academic-programs/online/learning-resources/liberal-arts to find Canvas login instructions, Zoom instructions, and student training sessions.

COURSE DESCRIPTION

From its founding – and even before – America was as much idea, or grand arena of conflict of ideas, as it was geography or state: democracy, religious fulfillment and toleration, opportunity, pursuit of individual happiness, self-reliance, and perhaps freedom above all. America’s history is the history of struggles over the meanings and implications of these ideals and their collision with terrible American realities – slavery, oppression, exclusion of minorities, exploitation and destruction of native populations, capitalist and imperialist excesses, the cultures of consumption, narcissism, and fantasy.

REQUIRED TEXTS

2. Wallace Stevens. Poems provided in PDF on the course Canvas site.

Students can purchase books at the Gleacher Center Bookstore online at https://chicagobooth.bncollege.com/shop/chicagobooth/page/find-textbooks using the Textbook order form, or by using the ISBN number to order the correct edition elsewhere.
| WEEK 1 | March 20 | Cather | *Death Comes for the Archbishop*  
Prologue through Book 4 |
| WEEK 2 | March 27 | Cather | *Death Comes for the Archbishop*  
Book 5 through Book 9 |
| WEEK 4 | April 10 | Baldwin | *The Fire Next Time*  
“Down at the Cross: Letter from a Region of My Mind” through the line “If God cannot do this, then it is time we got rid of Him.” P. 47 |
| WEEK 5 | April 17 | Baldwin | *The Fire Next Time*  
Through conclusion |
| WEEK 6 | April 24 | Wilson | *Fences*  
(read entire play) |
| WEEK 7 | May 1 | Wilson | *Fences*  
(discussion cont’d) |
| WEEK 8 | May 8 | Niebuhr | *The Irony of American History*  
Through Chapter II “The Innocent Nation in an Innocent World” |
| WEEK 9 | May 15 | Niebuhr | *The Irony of American History*  
Through Chapter V “The Triumph of Experience Over Dogma” |
| WEEK 10 | May 22 | Niebuhr | *The Irony of American History*  
Through Chapter VIII “The Significance of Irony”  
Discussion and Overview |

Students will receive an invitation to join the Graham School Student Community Canvas Site, a place to read announcements, have discussions, ask questions, and find resources.

**DISABILITY INFORMATION**

Student Disability Services (SDS) works to provide resources, support and accommodations for all students with disabilities and works to remove physical and attitudinal barriers, which may prevent their full participation in the University community. Students that would like to request accommodations should contact SDS in advance of the first class meeting at 773.702.6000 or disabilities@uchicago.edu.