

HSTR 310D The American West – Subject to change

"The West is America – only more so." -Wallace Stegner

This course looks at the historical reality and the myth of the American west. We look at the history of the west in the European imagination and the Spanish, French and English claims; the shifting frontier from the colonial era onward; the frontier hero and the mountain men; the Texas Revolution, Mexican American War and Civil War; the Mormon migration and the Utah war; Oregon and California, exploration, and native displacement. Topics include the frontiersmen, the gunfighter, violence, environmental struggles, resources, politics, identity and the rich paradoxes of this region and of the