
HIST 4800A - Topic: Dark Tourism

Fall 2026 Syllabus, Section 01, CRN 43887,

Credit hours: 3

Instructor

Amy Laurel Fluker

Professional Qualifications:

PhD, US History, University of Mississippi (2015)

MA, US History, University of Mississippi (2010)

BA, History, Westminster College (Missouri) (2008)

Distinguished Associate Professor

Email: alfluker@ysu.edu

Office: DeBartolo 519

Office Phone: 330-941-1602

Preferred Contact Method: YSU email

Communication Expectations:

All communication should be via YSU email. Expect prompt responses during working hours; allow for delayed response times during evenings, weekends, and holidays. Assignments should be returned to students within two weeks of submission. NOTE: I have both a duty of care and a legal responsibility to share information critical to your health, safety, and support. Be aware that any communications indicating self-harm, intention to self-harm, sex or gender-based discrimination or abuse, etc. will be shared with the appropriate university personnel.

How to Refer to me:

Dr. Fluker; Dr. F

Laura Beadling

Professional Qualifications:

Bachelor of Fine Arts in Creative Writing and English

Bowling Green State University 1995

Master's of English

Purdue University 2002

Ph.D in American Studies

Purdue University 2007

Professor and Chair

Email: lbeadling@ysu.edu

Office: DeBartolo 206

Office Phone: 330 9413414

Preferred Contact Method: Email

Communication Expectations:

I generally respond to emails within 1-2 business days.

I generally return work within 10 days of submission. Submissions that are received by the deadline get substantial feedback. Late submissions receive minimal feedback, although I am happy to provide more during office hours.

How to Refer to me:

Dr. Beadling or Dr. B

Dr. Fluker Professional Qualifications:

PhD, US History, University of Mississippi (2015)
MA, US History, University of Mississippi (2010)
BA, History, Westminster College (Missouri) (2008)

Office: DeBartolo 519

Office Phone: 330-941-1602

Course Description

4800A. Topic: Dark Tourism. In-depth investigation of a selected topic in History including, but not limited to political, social, economic, environmental, technological, or cultural issues. 3 s.h.

ENGL 3770. American Literature in Historical Perspective. Poetry, prose, drama, and other forms of literary expression examined within the context of a specific aspect of American social, intellectual, and cultural history. May be repeated once with different topic.

NOTE: Course may be contracted for honors credit. See us to discuss options.

Course Readings

Group	Title	Author	ISBN
Required	More Weight	Ben Wickey	9781603095600
Required	Tales from the Haunted South	Tiya Miles	9781469636146
Required	In Cold Blood	Truman Capote	9780141182575

The course readings are subject to change in the event of extenuating circumstances, research developments, current events, and/or to ensure better learning.

Schedule of Topics and Assignments

Day	Date	Reading(s)	Proposed Topic	Due/To Prepare for Class
Tue	8/25		Introduction	
Thu	8/27		What is Dark Tourism?	
Tue	9/1	Wickey, Chp. 1-7	Tragedy Tourism	
Thu	9/3	Wickey, Chp. 8-13	How to read a graphic novel	QUIZ 1
Tue	9/8	Wickey, Chp. 14-19	Salem Witch Crisis	
Thu	9/10	Wickey, Chp. 20-22	Salem in Memory	QUIZ 2 FRI 9/11: Mansfield Field Trip
Tue	9/15	Wickey, Chp. 23-24	Salem Roundtable	TRIP NOTES 1
Thu	9/17	Wickey, Outro	Tragedy Tourism Wrap-up	
Tue	9/22			EXAM 1
Thu	9/24		Battlefield Tourism	
Tue	9/29		Battlefield Preservation	
Thu	10/1		Indigenous Perspectives	
Tue	10/6		Disaster Tourism	
Thu	10/8		Wiley House	SUN 10/11: USHMM Trip (optional)
Tue	10/13		9/11	
Thu	10/15		Oceangate	FRI 10/16: Warren Ghost Walk
Tue	10/20			EXAM 2
Thu	10/22	Miles, p. 1-47	Thanatourism	FRI 10/23: Warren Ghost Walk
Tue	10/27	Miles, p. 48-79	Plantation Tourism	QUIZ 3
Thu	10/29	Miles, p. 80-114	Ghost Tourism - Trum Co	DARK TOURISM BROCHURE
Tue	11/3	Miles, p. 115-132	Ghost Tourism, con't	QUIZ 4
Thu	11/5			EXAM 3
Tue	11/10	Capote, Book 1	Macabre Tourism	

Thu	11/12	Capote, Book 2	Emergence of True Crime as a genre	SAT 11/14: Titanic Exhibit Trip
Tue	11/17	Capote, Book 3	New Journalism	TRIP NOTES 3
Thu	11/19	Capote, Book 3 con't	Capote (1967)	QUIZ 5
Tue	11/24	Capote, Book 4	Capote (1967)	
Thu	11/26	No Class		
Tue	12/1	Capote, Book 4 con't	Dahmer Tourism	QUIZ 6
Thu	12/3			EXAM 4
Tue	12/8	No Class		
Thu	12/10	Fri 12/11 15:15-17:15		MULTIMEDIA PROJECT & PRESENTATION

The course schedule, policies, procedures, and assignments in this course are subject to change in the event of extenuating circumstances, by mutual agreement, and/or to ensure better learning.