

**HIST 380: L.A. History**  
Professor Josh Sides

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Spring 2018, Fridays 8:00- 10:45, Sierra Hall 186

Office Hours:

Thursday 3:00-4:00, Friday 11:00-12:00

**COURSE DESCRIPTION:**

In this course we will explore the major social, political, and economic developments affecting Los Angeles over the last 400 years. While paying close attention to the ways in which L.A.'s history has been unique, we will also consistently strive to place the city's past into a larger national and a global context. Upon completion of the course, students should be able to speak and write intelligently about major themes, critical moments, significant individuals, and specific social, racial, and ethnic groups in the history of the Los Angeles region.

**COURSE ASSIGNMENTS:**

***Photo Essay (30%):*** Take a picture. In a 5-page essay, explain the historical significance of the image in the photograph based on what you have studied and read in the course so far. Upload to canvas by February 23.

***Reading Essay (30%):*** Find an article online about Los Angeles. In a 5-page essay, analyze the argument of the piece and respond, given your historical knowledge. Upload to canvas by April 13

***Final Exam (40%)***

**COURSE POLICIES:**

- Make-up exams are allowed for documented emergencies only
- Turn off cell phones and pagers in class.
- No late papers accepted
- Arrive on time
- Laptops are allowed and encouraged for note taking and reference purposes only
- Audio recording requires permission of instructor
- There is a zero-tolerance policy regarding plagiarism in this course. That is, ANY evidence of plagiarism will result in an automatic "F" in the course, and possible suspension from the University. [Learn the university's policy on Academic Integrity](#). In written work, you must properly cite all sources.

## **THE WRITING CENTER:**

The Writing Center offers one-on-one sessions with History tutors. If you are enrolled in a History class and have a writing assignment, you can make an appointment to meet with a tutor. In these sessions a tutor will help you revise your paper, and teach you writing strategies that are appropriate to your needs and abilities. If you wish to schedule a session with a tutor, you should call the History Department at **(818) 677-3566**. You will need to send a draft of your paper to the tutor 24 hours before the meeting.

## **COURSE SCHEDULE AND READINGS (all articles are on Canvas)**

### **January 26: Theorizing Urban Life/Indigenous Los Angeles**

Mumford, "What is a City?" [Mumford\\_whatiscity.pdf](#)

Jacobs, "The Uses of Sidewalks" [Jacobs\\_sidewalks.pdf](#)

[\*Mapping L.A. Neighborhoods, Los Angeles Times\*](#)  
[\*Los Angeles Mapped, Library of Congress Exhibitions\*](#)  
[\*Mapping Indigenous LA, UCLA\*](#)

Film Clip: [Falling Down \(1993\)](#)

### **February 2: Pueblo Los Angeles**

Hackel, "Digging up the Remains of Early Los Angeles" [Hackel\\_Church.pdf](#)

Hoffman, "The Zanjás" [Hoffman\\_Zanja.pdf](#)

Estrada, "Los Angeles' Old Plaza and Olvera Streets" [Estrada\\_Plaza.pdf](#)

Film Clip:

[Olvera Street \(1937\)](#)

### **February 9: Frontier Los Angeles**

Monkkonon, "Homicide in Los Angeles, 1827-2002" [Monkkonon\\_homicide.pdf](#)

López, "Negro Alley" [Lopez\\_NegroAlley.pdf](#)

Zesch, "Chinese Los Angeles in 1870-1871" [Zesch\\_Chinatown.pdf](#)

For your reference: [Statistical Atlas down to the Census Tract Level](#)

### **February 16: The Boom of the 1880s**

Hernández, "Hobos in Heaven" [Hernandez\\_Hobos.pdf](#)

Hayden, "Biddie Mason's Los Angeles" [Hayden\\_biddymason.pdf](#)

### **February 23: Progressive Era Los Angeles**

Shapiro, "The McNamara Case" [Shapiro\\_McNamaracase.pdf](#)

Verge, "George Freeth" [Verge\\_Freeth.pdf](#)

## **Submit Photo Essay via Canvas**

### **March 2: Los Angeles in the 1920s**

Elkind, "Oil in the City" [Elkind\\_Oil.pdf](#)

Jackson and Hundley, "Privilege and Responsibility" [JacksonHundley\\_mulholland.pdf](#)

**March 9: Depression Era Los Angeles**

Schrank, "Public Art at the Global Crossroads" [Schrank\\_Publicart.pdf](#)

Gumprecht, "51 Miles of Concrete" [Gumprecht\\_river.pdf](#)

**March 16: Los Angeles at War**

Verge, "The Impact of the Second World War on Los Angeles" [Verge\\_WWII.pdf](#)

**March 30: 1950s Los Angeles**

Sanchez, "What's Good for Boyle Heights" [Sanchez\\_BoyleHeights.pdf](#)

**April 6: L.A. in the '60s**

[The McCone Commission Report](#)

**April 13: Disco Los Angeles**

Allswang, "Tom Bradley of Los Angeles" [Allswang\\_Bradley-1.pdf](#)

**Submit Reading Essay via Canvas**

**April 20: The 1980s**

Waldinger, "Not the Promised City" [Waldinger\\_Notthepromise.pdf](#)

**April 27: The Rise and Fall of the 1990s**

TBA

**May 4: The Return of Downtown**

TBA

**May 11: Los Angeles in the Future**

Davis, "The Case for Letting Malibu Burn" [Davis\\_Malibu.pdf](#)

MacDonald, "The Myth of a Desert Metropolis" [MacDonald\\_desert.pdf](#)

**FINAL EXAM: May 18, 2018. 8:00-10:00am**