Topics in American Studies (AMST 410-001)

KNOXVILLE AND EAST TENNESSEE: AN INTERDISCIPLINARY EXPLORATION

(aka, The Knoxville Class)

Wednesday, 3:35 - 6:35 PM

This is a cross-disciplinary exploration of UT's natural habitat: the city of Knoxville and its surroundings. It will draw on American Studies faculty from several departments to study the history and culture of the “scruffy city” and its environs.

What role did our local history play as part of Tennessee? Of Appalachia and the South? Of “America” in an era of globalization? What happened as Euro-American setters met Cherokees, as a frontier village became a factory town, and as most factories went away? How did complex facets of art, culture, demography, and urban geography shape our region? What can the case of Knoxville teach about our urban future?

Guest lecturers will present a tapestry of subjects, from politics to popular culture; immigration to architecture; and literature to libations. Students will read both fiction and nonfiction in preparation for their own research project.

COUNTS BY PETITION* FOR UPPER LEVEL US STUDIES REQUIREMENT

(*Not guaranteed but 99% likely)