William Gillette

Professor of History
Ph.D., Princeton
M.A., Columbia
B.S.F.S., Georgetown
At Rutgers Since 1967

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RESEARCH INTERESTS

- Civil War and Reconstruction, New Jersey history, American political history, American Western history

COURSES REGULARLY TAUGHT

UNDERGRADUATE

- 512:104 Development of US II
- 512:303 Civil War and Reconstruction
- 512:410 New Jersey History
- Seminar on American Western Frontier

PUBLICATIONS

- The Right to Vote: Politics and the Passage of the Fifteenth Amendment
- Retreat from Reconstruction, 1869-1879
- Jersey Blue: Civil War Politics in New Jersey, 1854-1865
- author of 23 chapters or articles, including 9 recent articles in The Encyclopedia of New Jersey.
- has given 54 guest lectures in the United States, Austria, Germany, Italy, and Japan served as Fulbright lecturer in Salzburg, Austria and Tokyo, Japan.

AWARDS

- 1979: Landry Prize, Lousiana State University Press
- 1980: Chastain Prize, Southern Political Science Association
- 1996: Award of Merit, American Association for State and Local History
- 1997: McCormick Prize, New Jersey Historical Commission

PROFESSIONAL AFFILIATIONS

- New Jersey Historical Society
- Advocates for New Jersey History
This course will study American political developments from the Civil War through Lyndon Johnson’s administration. The course will focus on domestic politics: the growth of political parties and presidential power. Specifically, the course will assess the leadership of Abraham Lincoln in directing the war effort and the role of postwar presidents in mishandling Reconstruction; analyze the contributions of William Jennings Bryan, Theodore Roosevelt, and Woodrow Wilson in advancing progressive reform; examine the leadership of Franklin Delano Roosevelt in forging the New Deal; and study postwar reform by evaluating the administrations of Harry Truman, John Kennedy, and Lyndon Johnson. The final lecture will sum up the contributions of parties and examine their current crisis.

LECTURE OUTLINES AND READINGS
for MGU SEMINARS
Prof. Gillette, 2008

Lecture 1: American Civil War and Abraham Lincoln

Readings:

Lecture 2: Early Reconstruction and Andrew Johnson: Feb. 20

Readings:


Lecture 3: Reconstruction; Retreat from Reconstruction: Feb. 27

Readings:


Lecture 4: 1896 Election and William Jennings Bryan: March 5

Readings:


Lecture 5: Politics of Moderation and Teddy Roosevelt: March 12

Readings:

Lecture 6: Politics of Reform and Woodrow Wilson: March 19

Readings:


Lecture 7: Politics of Recovery, Reform and FDR: March 26

Readings:


Lecture 8: New Deal, Old Deal, or Raw Deal?: April 2

Readings:


Lecture 9: Politics of Insecurity and Harry Truman: April 9

Readings:

Lecture 10: Politics of Activism and John Kennedy: April 16

Readings:


Lecture 11: Politics of Pragmatism and Lyndon Johnson: April 23

Readings:


Lecture 12: The Rise and Fall of American Political Parties: Their Historical Functions and Their Present Crisis: April 30

Readings: