

Three-Day Seminar

The Florida Humanities Council

Teacher's Center

THE GILDED AGE AND REFORM ERA: THE VIEW FROM FLORIDA

A Workshop Created for Brevard County History Teachers by the Florida Humanities Council
Funded by a USDOE *Teaching American History* Grant

Flagler College, St. Augustine

Seminar Leader: Dr. Gary Mormino, Frank E. Duckwall Professor of History and Director, Florida Studies Program, University of South Florida St. Petersburg

Seminar Coordinators: Ann Schoenacher, Director, FHC Teachers Center; Peter Arroyo, Teachers Center Alumnus Coordinator

Tuesday, July 29, 2008

Questions: *In late nineteenth-century America, citizens, alarmed by the emergence of powerful corporations, the scale and size of cities, and the sheer numbers of new immigrants, asked questions that are relevant today: Who rules? Is it healthy for a small group of businessmen to control so much power? How should cities be designed to provide a proper balance between residence, leisure, and commerce? How do the concerns expressed toward the Italians, Jews, and Slavs of 1908 parallel 2008 anxieties over immigrants from South America and the Middle East?*

10:30 am	Check-in <i>Cedar Hall Lobby, Flagler College</i>
11:15 am	Welcome and logistics <i>Lounge, Cedar Hall</i>
Noon	Lunch <i>Ponce Hall Dining Room</i>
1:15 – 3:15 pm	Introductions Participants will share an object, photo, song, article or story that connects them to the seminar topic. <i>Virginia Room, Ringhaver Student Center</i>
3:15 – 3:30 pm	Break
3:30 – 5:30 pm	Overview and Introduction: Dr. Gary Mormino reviews our one day exploration of the Gilded Age and Reform Era and uses that as context for examining how the broad national themes were played out in Florida and St. Augustine. <i>Virginia Room, Ringhaver Student Center</i>
6:00 -7:00 pm	Dinner <i>Ponce Hall Dining Room</i>
7:00 – 8:30 pm	We will meet Henry Morrison Flagler (portrayed by Thomas Rahner , retired Professor



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	Emeritus at Flagler College) as he visits the site of his first great accomplishment in Florida, the Hotel Ponce De Leon, and tells of his rise from poverty to become one of the wealthiest and most influential men of the late 19th and early 20th centuries. <i>Flagler Room Ponce Hall</i>
Wednesday, July 30, 2008	
Questions: <i>The critic John Ruskin described architecture as "frozen music." What does the Ponce De Leon Hotel tell us about the designs and values of the Gilded Age? Why did Robber Barons such as Henry Flagler and Henry Plant erect such monumental buildings? What would qualify as today's counterparts? How do they compare to the Ponce De Leon and Tampa Bay Hotels? How would you compare today's wealthiest Americans with the Robber Barons?</i>	
7:30 - 8:30 am	Breakfast <i>Ponce Hall Dining Room</i>
8:30 – 10:30 am	Architectural Tour Herschel Shepard, Professor Emeritus of Architecture, University of Florida, will guide us on a walking tour of the former Ponce De Leon Hotel, the former Alcazar hotel, and the Memorial Presbyterian Church. <i>Meeting Point: Ponce Hall Dining Room</i>
10:30 - 10:45 am	Break
10:45 -12:00 am	Florida's Robber Barons with Professor Mormino <i>Virginia Room, Ringhaver Student Center</i>
12:00 – 1:00 pm	Lunch <i>Ponce Hall Dining Room</i>
1:00 – 3:00 pm	Free time for reading, reflection, recreation or to visit the many museums and historical sites in St. Augustine
3:00 – 4:30 pm	Immigrants in Nineteenth Century Florida with Professor Mormino <i>Virginia Room, Ringhaver Student Center</i>
4:30 – 4:40 pm	Break
4:40 – 5:50 pm	Florida on the Move: Rural and Urban Life in Florida with Professor Mormino <i>Virginia Room, Ringhaver Student Center</i>
6:00 – 7:00 pm	Dinner <i>Ponce Hall Dining Room</i>
7:00 – 9:00 pm	The World or the Parish? Sara Orne Jewett and Willa Cather in the Gilded Age Scholar, author, and seasoned Chautauquan Betty Jean Steinshouer explores Jewett's annual sojourns to St. Augustine, 1888 -1896, and Cather's coming of age as a world traveler, 1890 – 1918. By rail and voyage, each inhabited an ever-expanding



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	world. <i>Flagler Room, Ponce Hall</i>
Thursday, July 31, 2008	
Questions: <i>How did African Americans in St. Augustine and Florida respond to the changing patterns of race relations, most notably the rise of Jim Crow segregation after the Civil War? How did American workers, women, and immigrants respond to the challenges of industrialization? How did American novelists depict America in the midst of such upheaval and change?</i>	
7:15 - 8:30 am	Breakfast <i>Ponce Hall Dining Room</i>
8:30 – 10:30 am	Tour of Lincolville with David Nolan Lincolville is a neighborhood that was founded by freed slaves after the Civil War. It prospered during the Flagler Era, and contains the greatest concentration of Victorian houses in the city. It was also the launching place for demonstrations that led to the passage of the Civil Rights Act of 1964. Author David Nolan will take us on a guided trolley tour through Lincolville and discuss its place in Florida's Gilded Age.
10:30 - 10:45 am	Break
10:45 – Noon	Organized Labor and Industrial Warfare in the Gilded Age Dr. Eric Morser, Professor of History at the University of Florida , will lead us as we explore the struggle of American workers to unionize and challenge the power of big business in the late-nineteenth century. We will explore the reasons why many workers began to organize during this era, the strategies and tactics they used to assert their interests in an often hostile world, and the contested memories of Haymarket Square and other critical events in the history of Gilded Age labor activism. <i>Virginia Room, Ringhaver Student Center</i>
12:00 - 1:00 pm	Lunch <i>Ponce Hall Dining Room</i>
1:00 – 2:30 pm	Labor in the American Novel Focusing primarily on one turn-of-the-century novel, Theodor Dreiser's <i>Sister Carrie</i> , Dr. Stephanie Smith, Professor of English and American Studies, University of Florida , will explore the relationship between the changing nature of work, the work-place, immigration, class and gender from the Gilded Age to the turn of the 20 th century. <i>Virginia Room, Ringhaver Student Center</i>
2:30 - 2:45 pm	Break
2:45 - 4:30 pm	Discussion of seminar readings with Professor Mormino
4:30 – 6:00 pm	Free time for reading, reflection, recreation



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6:00 – 7:00 pm	Dinner <i>Ponce Hall Dining Room</i>
7:00 – 8:30 pm	<i>The Florida Dream</i>: DVD and discussion We'll view <i>The Florida Dream</i> , a public-television documentary that explores how millions of people from across the United States and around the globe migrated here in search of the Florida dream.
Friday, August 1, 2008	
Questions: <i>How is the Gilded Age relevant to teachers in 2008? How did the Gilded Age shape Florida in the late 19th century? Is Modern Florida the setting for Gilded Age II? Does every generation create its own Gilded Age?</i>	
7:15 - 8:30 am	Breakfast <i>Ponce Hall Dining Room</i>
8:30 – 9:00 am	Check out of rooms
9:00 - 10:30 am	Wrap-up and synthesis <i>Virginia Room, Ringhaver Student Center</i>
10:30 – 10:45 am	Break
10:45 – Noon	Reflective discussion of workshop, classroom applications, and web projects. Evaluations and distribution of in-service certificates and mementoes <i>Virginia Room, Ringhaver Student Center</i>
Noon	Boxed lunch and departure <i>Pick up in Flagler Dining Room</i>

