HIST 422: Violence in American History

Fall 2015 – Dr. Dearinger – Online Course

5 credits – UWR – Counts toward History major/minor

History 422 examines the problematic history of violence in America from the colonial period to the present. The course features primary and secondary source readings, lectures, discussions, debates, workshops, visual presentations, and films. Utilizing key analytical concepts such as race, class, and gender, we will investigate the various types, causes, dynamics, and historical consequences of violence; the politics, memory, and historiography of American violence; and societal critiques of violence in America. A variety of topics will be covered, including, but not limited to: America’s gun culture; the tradition of mob violence; collective and interpersonal violence; racial and ethnic violence; war; violence in the U.S. West; gender and domestic violence; lynching; the American prison system; mass murders; school shootings; gang violence; terrorism; and the representation and consumption of violence.