

Aviation In American Culture

Taught by Professor Sean Seyer

HUM 373 / HIST 441 - Fall 2021

This course examines the complex relationship between powered flight and American society from the invention of the airplane to the rise of drone warfare. Through a mixture of scholarly works, personal accounts, and primary sources, we will investigate how use of and access to the airplane became a focal point for the construction and deconstruction of race, gender, and class distinctions and an important site in the struggle for equality and social justice. Using the airplane as a lens, we will recognize and challenge key assumptions within American technoculture such as technological messianism, technological neutrality, and the role of government in technological development.

Satisfies Core Goal 4.1: Culture & Diversity

