Syllabus
American Road Trip

IDSEM UG-1263
Fall 2012
October 23 - December 13
Tues. - Thurs., 2:00 - 3:15
Professor Steve Hutkins

REQUIRED TEXTS
1. Beauvoir, Simone de. America Day by Day (Univ. of California)
2. Kerouac, Jack. On the Road (Penguin)
3. Steinbeck, John. Travels with Charley: In Search of America (Penguin)
4. Wolfe, Tom. The Electric Kool-Aid Acid Test (Bantam)

Additional readings available online.

SCHEDULE OF READINGS

(See the Assignment page for more details and for changes in the assignments due to the storm.)

<table>
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<tr>
<th>WEEK</th>
<th>THEME</th>
<th>READING</th>
<th>TUESDAY</th>
<th>THURSDAY</th>
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<tr>
<td>Oct. 23 - 25</td>
<td>Introduction</td>
<td>Whitman &amp; Tocqueville</td>
<td>Introduction</td>
<td>Selections</td>
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<td>Oct. 30 – Nov. 1</td>
<td>Vagabond out west</td>
<td>Twain, Roughing It, No class</td>
<td>(see assignment page)</td>
<td>(see assignment page)</td>
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<td>Nov. 6 - 8</td>
<td>Existentialism on the road</td>
<td>Beauvoir, American Day by Day</td>
<td>(see assignment page)</td>
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<td>Nov. 13 - 15</td>
<td>The quest for lost bliss</td>
<td>Kerouac, On the Road</td>
<td>Parts 1 - 3</td>
<td>Part 4</td>
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<td>Nov. 20 - 22</td>
<td>Road trip on the screen</td>
<td>Beauvoir, American Day by Day</td>
<td>(see assignment page)</td>
<td>No class</td>
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<tr>
<td>Nov. 27 - 29</td>
<td>On the bus, or off</td>
<td>Wolfe, The Electric Kool-Aid Acid Test</td>
<td>ch. 1 - 14</td>
<td>ch. 26 - end</td>
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Dec. 4 - 6  |  In a quixotic mood | Steinbeck, *Travels with Charley* | first 2/3 | last third  
Dec. 11 - 13 | Lost in the labyrinth | Least Heat Moon, *Blue Highways* | selection | Conclusion

**REQUIREMENTS**

1. Thirteen Twelve blog posts (approx. 500 words each) (60% of final grade)  
2. Thirteen Twelve comments on other posts (approx. 100 words each) (20%)  
3. In class: attendance, participation, etc. (20%)

**CONTACT**
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Course website: travel-studies.com  
Office Hours: Tuesdays: 11 - 12:30; Thursdays: 11 -

**POLICIES**

**Deadlines**
The blog posts are due the night before a class day (i.e., on Monday and Wednesday night), so there's time to read them over before class. The comments on other people's posts should be done with a day or two of the original post. (These are important deadlines, and the website makes it easy to track them.)

**Plagiarism**
In writing your posts, you are encouraged to copy and paste quotations from scholarly articles and other websites, but it is extremely important that you cite your source (author's name or title of the piece) and provide a link to it. The blog posts are a form of academic writing, and plagiarism is a serious violation of the rules of academic integrity.

**Attendance**
The class is a discussion seminar, so attendance is very important. One or two absences are fine, but more than that will affect the final grade (with the exception of illnesses). It is not necessary to notify the instructor about your absences, unless you are having issues that you'd like to discuss.