

Wyoming Then & Now Class Descriptions

Wyoming's Territory Years:

Presenter: Mike Kassel

During Wyoming's Territory years of 1867-1877 it overcame many obstacles and challenges toward its statehood. From the plots and schemes of the Union Pacific Railroad to women in Wyoming gaining the right to vote, these years were certainly eventful. Discover the trials Wyoming's founders overcame to find our economic niche and move beyond our "Hell on Wheels" reputation.

Wyoming's Girl Guard:

Presenter: Dan Lyon

Wyoming wanted to celebrate its statehood with a bang. It was decided that a Girl Guard company would be formed and trained by the army as an exhibition drill company to be a part of statehood festivities. The girls were the first of their kind to be affiliated with Fort DA Russell. In this session you will learn about this unique part of Wyoming's past and about this little known Wyoming group.

Wyoming at the Turn of the Century: Re-Imagining Who We Are as a State, Again:

Presenter: Patty Kessler

From the vantage point of hind-sight, this presentation takes a look at the growth of Wyoming's population and industries in the early 1900s and examines it from the perspective of how we have defined ourselves as a people and a state over the past century. This lecture will include a discussion of the development of infrastructure and the mineral, oil, and gas industries at the turn of the twentieth century, as well as a look at immigration and homesteading in the 1910s and 1920s.

Unlikely Cowboy, a Love Story:

Presenter: Ellen Thompson

The Unlikely Cowboy is a true Wyoming love story crossing three continents and a world war. Many do not know that one of Wyoming's many contributions to our nation's war effort during World War II was to house prisoner of war camps. Learn how an Italian prisoner of war came to be in Wyoming, meet his true love and work to return to be an unlikely cowboy.

Legislative Wrap Up:

State Legislators

Please join a panel of our state legislators as they discuss this year's legislative session and answer questions from the audience.