The period from 1890 to 1920 included the worst economic depression in U.S. history, the most violent episodes of industrial violence, the most radical agrarian protests, and the greatest racial divisions in the nation's history. These years also witnessed a stunning array of enlightened social reforms, some of the most memorable clashes of ideas, and some of the most remarkable leaders the U.S. has seen, including Presidents Theodore Roosevelt and Woodrow Wilson, William Jennings Bryan, Jane Addams, and Mother Jones, “the most dangerous woman in America.” This course explores how contemporary America is best understood through the incredible lenses of the Progressive Era.