

The moderators will provide members of the seminar with a more comprehensive list of presentation topic ideas and suggested readings and other resources. The following is an abbreviated version of those lists.

## **Presentation Topic Ideas**

Prelude to the New Deal (1929-1932): key events (from Black Thursday through the 1932 election and the transition) and conditions leading up to FDR's first inauguration

FDR's "Brains Trust:" members and their contributions

The First Hundred Days: 99 executive orders/emergency declarations (e.g., the bank holiday), 77 laws and 15 programs (e.g., CCC, AAA, the Banking Act of 1933) passed by Congress and initial Fireside Chats

Legislation/programs enacted between July 1933 and the 1936 election, including the Securities Act of 1934, the National Labor Relations Act, the Social Security Act and the Robinson-Patman Act

Programs of the Works Progress Administration (WPA), including the Federal Art Project, the Federal Writers' Project and the Federal Theater Project

Key Cabinet members and advisors, such as John Nance Garner, Frances Perkins, Henry Wallace, James Farley, Harold Ickes, Louis Howe, Harry Hopkins, Felix Frankfurter, and the "Black Cabinet"

Prominent opponents of the New Deal, including the American Liberty League, Father Charles Coughlin, Huey Long (reserved by a co-moderator), Dr. Francis Townsend, Elizabeth Dilling

New Deal era elections: 1934 midterms, 1936 presidential, 1938 midterms and 1940 presidential

Supreme Court decisions and the "court-packing" plan (reserved by a co-moderator)

1937-1939: Civil Aeronautics Act, Fair Labor Standards Act, various reorganization acts and the "Roosevelt Recession"

## **Recommended Background Reading**

An overall history of the New Deal period, such as:

William E. Leuchtenburg, *Franklin Roosevelt and the New Deal*

Michael Hiltzik, *The New Deal: A Modern History*

Paul K. Conkin, *The New Deal*

Anthony J. Badger, *The New Deal: The Depression Years 1933-1940*

Frederick Lewis Allen, *Since Yesterday: The Nineteen Thirties in America - September 3, 1929-September 3, 1939*