History of the United States II

Spring 2021
Section 70; 21:512:202
(REMOTE) With group meeting times to be scheduled:
Mondays - and some Wednesdays, 6:00-7:20pm
(Eastern Standard Time) on Webex

Prof. Singer

Office Hours: by request. I’ll also announce “open hours” throughout the semester where students can simply click on the following Webex link and meet with me:
https://rutgers.webex.com/meet/ks778

Email
katie.singer@rutgers.edu

Course Description
This course is an introduction to the academic field of American History. Our focus will be on the major issues and events of American history and culture; both the objective and the subjective will play a part in our interrogation of this subject.

Learning Goals
Our goal is to better understand our country’s history through a narrative lens of the U.S., from the Reconstruction era through today. We will study informed opinions on our past, and their contribution to our present. This course will naturally entail the study of primary sources, as well as the study of the historiography that has influenced the contemporary American public imagination.

Academic Integrity
Included in plagiarism is cutting and pasting from the web without citing; leaving out in-text citations; submitting substantial portions of your past work for credit without prior approval. Engaging in plagiarism will result in a failing grade. If you are unsure if something needs to be cited - just cite it, ask questions, and then we can discuss it. You can access the web page regarding Rutgers’ policy using the following link or on our Blackboard menu.
http://academicintegrity.rutgers.edu/

***The department REQUIRES that the following honor pledge is written and signed on examinations and major course assignments submitted for grading: “On my honor, I have neither received nor given any unauthorized assistance on this examination (assignment).”

Grades
Grades will be updated in Grade Center regularly, so you will see what assignments have been recorded and what your grade percentage is at the moment. Please check regularly. (Most Discussion Board posts will be graded on a simple 4. scale -- 4(A); 3(B); 2(C); 1(D).

Class Engagement, Attendance, Discussion Board responses = 50%
Miscellaneous Writing assignments = 10%
Final Presentation = 10%
Final paper (including proposal and rough draft) = 30%

Final Grading Percentage Scale:

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<th>Grade</th>
<th>Percentage</th>
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<tr>
<td>A</td>
<td>(90s)</td>
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<tr>
<td>B+</td>
<td>(85+)</td>
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<tr>
<td>B</td>
<td>(80s)</td>
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The Writing Center
The Writing Center is offering remote tutoring via Blackboard Collaborate. Please take advantage!
https://sasn.rutgers.edu/student-support/tutoring-academic-support/writing-center

Accommodation and Support Statement
Rutgers University Newark (RU-N) is committed to the creation of an inclusive and safe learning environment for all students and the University as a whole.
RU-N has identified the following resources to further the mission of access and support:

- **For Individuals with Disabilities**: The Office of Disability Services (ODS) is responsible for the determination of appropriate accommodations for students who encounter barriers due to disability. Once a student has completed the ODS process (registration, initial appointment, and submitted documentation) and reasonable accommodations are determined to be necessary and appropriate, a Letter of Accommodation (LOA) will be provided. The LOA must be given to each course instructor by the student and followed up with a discussion. This should be done as early in the semester as possible as accommodations are not retroactive. More information can be found at ods.rutgers.edu. Contact ODS at (973)353-5375 or via email at ods@newark.rutgers.edu.

- **For Individuals who are Pregnant**: The Office of Title IX and ADA Compliance is available to assist with any concerns or potential accommodations related to pregnancy. Students may contact the Office of Title IX and ADA Compliance at (973) 353-1906 or via email at TitleIX@newark.rutgers.edu.

- **For Absence Verification**: The Office of the Dean of Students can provide assistance for absences related to religious observance, emergency or unavoidable conflict (e.g., illness, personal or family emergency, etc.). Students should refer to University Policy 10.2.7 for information about expectations and responsibilities. The Office of the Dean of Students can be contacted by calling (973) 353-5063 or emailing deanofstudents@newark.rutgers.edu.

- **For Individuals with temporary conditions/injuries**: The Office of the Dean of Students can assist students who are experiencing a temporary condition or injury (e.g., broken or sprained limbs, concussions, or recovery from surgery). Students experiencing a temporary condition or injury should submit a request using the following link: https://temporaryconditions.rutgers.edu.

- **For English as a Second Language (ESL)**: The Program in American Language Studies (PALS) can support students experiencing difficulty in courses due to English as a Second Language (ESL) and can be reached by emailing PALS@newark.rutgers.edu to discuss potential supports.

- **For Gender or Sex-Based Discrimination or Harassment**: The Office of Title IX and ADA Compliance can assist students who are experiencing any form of gender or sex-based discrimination or harassment, including sexual assault, sexual harassment, relationship violence, or stalking. Students can report an incident to the Office of Title IX and ADA Compliance by calling (973) 353-1906 or emailing TitleIX@newark.rutgers.edu. Incidents may also be reported by using the following link: tinyurl.com/RUNReportingForm. For more information, students should refer to the University’s Student Policy Prohibiting Sexual Harassment, Sexual Violence, Relationship Violence, Stalking and Related Misconduct located at http://compliance.rutgers.edu/title-ix/about-title-ix/title-ix-policies/.

- **For support related to interpersonal violence**: The Office for Violence Prevention and Victim Assistance can provide any student with confidential support. The office is a confidential resource and does not have an obligation to report information to the University’s Title IX Coordinator. Students can contact the office by calling (973) 353-1918 or emailing run.vpva@rutgers.edu. There is also a confidential text-based line available to students; students can text (973) 339-0734 for support.

- **For Crisis and Concerns**: The Campus Awareness Response and Education (CARE) Team works with students in crisis to develop a support plan to address personal situations that might impact their academic performance. Students, faculty and staff may contact the CARE Team by using the following link: tinyurl.com/RUNCARE or emailing careteam@rutgers.edu.
• For Stress, Worry, or Concerns about Well-being: The Counseling Center has confidential therapists available to support students. Students should reach out to the Counseling Center to schedule an appointment: counseling@newark.rutgers.edu or (973) 353-5805. If you are not quite ready to make an appointment with a therapist but are interested in self-help, check out TAO at Rutgers-Newark for an easy, web-based approach to self-care and support: https://tinyurl.com/RUN-TAO.

• For emergencies, call 911 or contact Rutgers University Police Department (RUPD) by calling (973) 353-5111.

Other Useful Information...
RU-N Technology LaunchPad: https://runit.rutgers.edu/technology-launch-pad/
OIT-Newark Help Desk: https://runit.rutgers.edu/hd/

Frequently Asked Questions
1. If the syllabus reads for example, “Jan.14, Essay on The Little Rascals due” what does that mean? It means that by the end of that day (literally 11:59 pm!) your assignment should appear on Discussion Board under the appropriately titled thread - unless directed otherwise.
2. If I’m unable to post that day am I off the hook? Probably not, unless you have a true “excused absence.”* Otherwise, each class meeting that an assignment is late, the grade will be lowered. So, if the assignment that was due the 14th received a B but wasn’t turned in until the next class, it would receive a C+. (No minus grades at Rutgers, folks)! If extenuating circumstances arise, notify me BEFORE the fact. You’ll usually have the whole week to get an assignment in (due Friday of each week) so try not to let things go until the last minute. So YES I accept late work, according to this timeline.

*Rutgers defines “excused absences” as, “illness requiring medical attention, curricular or extracurricular activities approved by the faculty, personal obligations claimed by the student and recognized as valid, recognized religious holidays, and severe inclement weather causing dangerous traveling conditions”

3. Do I really NEED to check Blackboard Announcements regularly? Yup, it’s an integral part of the class. Announcements are your constant, up-to-date reminders of what is already on the syllabus. I will post each Sunday for the week ahead. Consider Announcements your ongoing assignment sheet: you need to read it in order to do your assignments correctly. I also post information that might be useful for your particular projects when I find it. And of course, there are my witty comments that you would miss if you neglected to check in. It will be an integral means of communication this term so it’s a MUST-READ!

4. Do you really care how my writing assignments look? I care very much. Papers and other written assignments will be in Chicago style format; Times New Roman font, size 12; double spaced; pages numbered; with type of assignment added to information on left of first page, e.g., “Final Paper.” This means 1-inch margins and no double space between paragraphs! Tell your computer to “single space” paragraphs. See Course Documents for formatting guidelines; and feel free to use http://citationmachine.net/ or other citation tools.

5. When you say I should email you with any questions, do you really want me to? You may email me about ANYTHING. (Of course, you should check Announcements first to see whether your question has already been answered in that forum). I read my email regularly and will always respond, no matter what, so that you know I received your email. If you haven’t heard from me within a day or so, then I probably didn’t get your email. Make sure, as well, that you read your emails from me -- and also empty your “trash” now and again. Also, please note which class you are taking, in the Subject area.

6. Hey, speakin’ of email, can’t we just kinda say whatever when writin’ you. You actually have email rules? I am afraid so. When you email me, you will use full sentences, nt txt msg style. You will not address me as, “Hey” or “Yo,” or ask me to do anything ASAP. And you will sign your name to the email. These are common sense rules when communicating via email in general.

Miscellaneous Important Stuff
Start keeping track right away of everything you read and think; record it in a notebook or computer file. (Think of it as if you were writing a thought in the chat section during an online meeting). This will be helpful for your paper, and other assignments.
The times we meet for discussion online you must have all pertinent materials with you. And make sure you have a Rutgers library account set up, or you will not have access to many of the readings.

If any tech issues with online materials arise, please let me know immediately. (You can often just Google the item and find it elsewhere on the web, by the way).

**Annotations.** These are thoughts and answers that will be assigned for posting on Discussion Board, based upon questions I ask. (You’ll always want to take notes as you read and view homework, and then you can organize those notes so you have something to post). You will receive an A for each annotation when you perform this task fully; a C for minimal effort; and an F if you don’t “show up.”

We’ll be using Blackboard this semester -- Announcements, Discussion Board and Gradebook predominantly. Take a little trip around it if it is unfamiliar to you. I will post an Announcement on Sundays, noting assignments for the week. (This will typically be a reiteration of your syllabus but with more detail). In general, assignments will be due by the end of the day on Fridays. You will always have something due Friday, at the least an annotation response. This will give us rhythm for the semester! We have scheduled synchronous meetings so we can all talk together, on Mondays/Wednesdays between 6 and 7:20pm (EST) as per our class schedule. If you will be unable to attend, please let me know in advance, if possible. You should have no other class conflicts as these times have been held for this class.

**Required Readings** will be listed in Course Documents or available through Rutgers online library.

Two texts referenced (available through library):

- *How Newark Became Newark: The Rise, Fall, and Rebirth of an American City*, by Brad R. Tuttle

**Course Schedule**

*The general plan is (after Week 1) to meet Mondays to discuss/cover previous week’s work.*

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<tr>
<th>Week 1</th>
<th>Jan. 19</th>
<th>RECONSTRUCTION: RESHAPING THE COUNTRY ➜ 1917</th>
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<td>Introductions; Pass out syllabus; Discuss annotating (Bb Assignments) and note taking</td>
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<td>➢ view Railroads &amp; Oscar Dunn video by Friday</td>
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|--------------|--------------------| ➢ Post annotations on Discussion Board according to prompt. |
|              |                    | ➢ Read: “7 Acts of Native Resistance They Don’t Teach in School” (CD). |
|              |                    | ➢ Find additional reliable source on one of the Acts; make notes & find full citation information. (See CD). |
|              |                    | ➢ Post source citation on DB. |

| Week 3       | Feb. 1             | ➢ Read Chapter 3 How Newark Became Newark by Brad Tuttle (online in Library). |
|--------------|--------------------| ➢ Post annotations. |
|              |                    | ➢ Read “Jacob Riis: The Photographer Who Showed “How the Other Half Lives” in 1890s NYC.” (What’s a muckraker?) |
|              |                    | ➢ Immigration Stories due. (Assignments). |
Week 4
Feb. 8
➢ Read *Contested Democracy*, chap 8 “Reconstructing the Empire of Cotton”
➢ Post TBA
➢ View “Spanish American War” video (CD)

Week 5
Feb. 15
WORLD WARS & MODERN AMERICA ➞ 1930s
➢ Read Du Bois, “Returning Soldiers” (CD)
➢ Read “WWI” (CD)
➢ Post informal presentation on hyperlink you choose to research within article.
We will view WWI videos & images in class

Feb. 22
➢ Review essay rubric & final paper guidelines (*Assignments*).
➢ view “Crash Course” video. Take notes listing every subject you hear-choose favorite

Week 7
Mar. 1
➢ Read “The New Negro Renaissance.” (CD)
Fill out Follow-up form (CD) - post.
➢ Find 1 primary source that might be useful as you consider your final paper. (*See reminder in CD*) - post.
Discuss Paper Guidelines in class

Week 8
Mar. 8
(Midterm period)
➢ Complete proposal for final paper-post. *Make sure to check Additional Sources on Course Documents on Blackboard*
Will workshop in class using Proposal Questions. (*Assignments*).

SPRING BREAK March 15-19

Week 9
Mar. 22
WORLD WAR II ➞ 1945
➢ Read “Why Did Japan Attack Pearl Harbor?” (CD).
➢ Post reflection on both pieces on DB

Week 10
Mar. 29
➢ Complete Research Exercise (*Assignments*) post on DB.
➢ Read “American Public Opinion and the Holocaust” (CD)
➢ Rough Draft due

Week 11
Apr. 5
POST-WORLD WAR II ➞ 1980
➢ Read “The Anti-Racism Comic Book Story” (CD); post annotations on DB.
➢ Completed annotated bibliography DUE.
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<th>Week 12</th>
<th>Apr. 12</th>
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| ➢ Listen “The Things They Carried,' 20 Years On”; Post annotation.  
➢ Paper workshop. Use “Peer Review Sheet” from CD. Also bring in your draft of your final paper. Must be at least 3 pages with at least 1 source at this point. | Reverse outline workshop. (Assmts) |

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<th>Week 13</th>
<th>Apr. 19</th>
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| ➢ Read “Nixon Resigns.” Post reflection on article.  
➢ “Contested Democracy,” Chapter 12 | |

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<th>Week 14</th>
<th>Apr. 26</th>
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<tr>
<td>➢ post Follow-up Form on your “favorite” reading this term (Course Documents).</td>
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<tr>
<th>Week 15</th>
<th>Monday, May 3 (last class)</th>
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<tr>
<td>➢ Presentations due</td>
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Final Exam week begins May 6.  
Papers will be due during our final exam period, on Discussion Board. (The paper is in lieu of an exam).