

HIST 290: HISTORY PRACTICUM
THE UNITED STATES AND THE WORLD
HUNTER COLLEGE (Fall 2024)
Professor Jonathan Rosenberg

Office hours: on Zoom: Wed: 9:30-11:30 and by appt.

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This class focuses on helping you to develop the skills necessary to write a History 300 paper, which all history majors are required to do, during a later semester, under the supervision of a faculty member in the history department. The class will emphasize how to go about conducting historical research; how to read perceptively primary and secondary sources; and how to write an effective paper based on primary and secondary material.

A word about the historical content of the course: The class will consider the interconnections between the United States and the twentieth-century world. In examining key aspects of America's foreign engagement during the last century, we will focus on how and why the United States interacted as it did with other nations and peoples. We will also explore the ways in which developments overseas helped shape certain aspects of American domestic life.

On Tuesdays, we will meet in person from 4:00-5:15. At the Tuesday meetings, we will discuss the material that has been assigned for that week, which includes primary and secondary source material, and pre-recorded lectures. Prior to the Tuesday meeting, you should complete the readings and watch the lectures. This will enable us to have a stimulating discussion. **To access the pre-recorded lectures: link TBA.** The Tuesday meetings will also allow us to discuss some of the key elements of sound historical writing.

In addition to completing the readings and watching the lectures, you will be required to write **three short papers. The first paper (2-3 pages) is worth 20% of your grade; the second paper (2-3 pages) is worth 20% of your grade. The third paper (4 pages) is worth 50% of your grade. Class participation will count for 10% of your grade. To pass the course, students must submit all three papers. For the first two papers, work submitted after the due date and time will be penalized 10 points per day or partial day that the work is late. No late papers will be accepted after a date specified. For the final paper, no late papers will be accepted. That is, the final paper must be submitted on time.**

Note the attendance policy for the course: Three unexcused absences from the class will result in a 2/3 reduction in the course grade (e.g., B plus to B minus; A minus to B). Four or five unexcused absences will result in a full grade reduction (e.g., A to B; B plus to C plus). More than five unexcused absences will result in a deduction of two full letter grades (e.g., A to C; B to D). If you cannot attend class, you should contact me via email and explain why. Otherwise, this will be recorded as an unexcused absence.

Course Learning Outcomes:

- > Students will be expected to be familiar with some of the key episodes in the history of U.S. engagement with the twentieth-century world.
- > Students will learn how to read and interpret secondary sources.
- > Students will learn how to analyze primary sources.
- > Students will learn how to use primary and secondary sources to write clear and persuasive short essays.

Note on the course readings: Readings are accessible electronically through the Hunter Library. The e-res link for the course is here. **The password is Rosenberg290.**

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Class Schedule

- September 3 Introduction: Course requirements, followed by discussion:
Considering America and the twentieth-century world
- September 10 The Dawn of American Power
Read: Herring, *From Colony to Superpower*, 1-10, 265-336.
Primary sources: McKinley, T. Roosevelt speeches.
Watch: Lecture on Spanish-American-Cuban-Filipino War
- September 17 The Era of the Great War
Read: Herring, 378-435.
Primary source: Wilson war address.
Watch: Two lectures on the Wilson era: U.S. intervention, the peace settlement.
- September 24 The Great War (cont.): Identifying the Key Point(s)
Read: Erez Manela, *The Wilsonian Moment: Self-Determination and the International Origins of Anticolonial Nationalism*, preface, 3-13, 215-225.
Jonathan Rosenberg, *Dangerous Melodies: Classical Music in America from the Great War to the Cold War*, xi-xxv, 3-43.
Paper # 1 questions circulated
- October 1 Library Visit: Conducting Research in the Hunter Library
- October 8 The Interwar Years: Overseas Concerns
Read: Herring, 484-537.
Primary Documents: FDR speeches.
Watch: Lecture on 1930s
- October 15 Monday schedule – no class
- October 18 (Friday) **Paper # 1 Due** (by 5:00 in my office)
- October 22 World War II: The Home Front
Read David Kennedy, *Freedom from Fear*, 746-797.
Watch: Lecture on World War II
Document: TBA

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- October 29 Discussion on Writing: Class will Consider Paper # 1
Be prepared to discuss your paper
Paper # 2 questions circulated
- November 5 Origins of the Cold War: Considering Consequential Questions
Read: Craig and Logevall, *America's Cold War: The Politics of Insecurity*, 13-101.
Primary source: Truman speech.
Watch: Lecture on Cold War's origins
- Read for November 12 Cold War Readings: Identifying the Key Point(s)
Read: Laura Belmonte, *Selling the American Way: U.S. Propaganda and the Cold War*, 1-8, 178-85.
Mary Dudziak, *Cold War: Civil Rights: Race and the Image of American Democracy*, 3-17, 249-54.
Paper # 2 Due
- November 19 The Cold War and Race Relations: Building an Argument
Read: Dudziak: *Cold War Civil Rights*, 18-46, 79-114.
Paper # 3 questions circulated
- November 26 Cold War Political Culture
Read: Belmonte, 50-115.
Primary source: McCarthy speech
Watch: Lecture on the Second Red Scare
- December 3 The Cold War and the American Family
Read: Belmonte, 136-58.
Elaine Tyler May, *Homeward Bound: American Families in the Cold War Era*, 92-134.
Discuss the final paper
- December 6 (Friday) ****Paper # 3 due**** (by 5:00 in my office)
- December 10 Final class
Discussion on writing and concluding reflections on America and the world

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Policies on Accommodations, Academic Integrity/Plagiarism, and Sexual Misconduct

1. Accommodations for Students with Disabilities: “In compliance with the ADA and with Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act, Hunter College is committed to ensuring educational access and accommodations for all its registered students. Hunter College’s students with disabilities and medical conditions are encouraged to register with the Office of AccessABILITY for assistance and accommodation. For information and an appointment contact the Office of AccessABILITY, located in Room E1214B, or call (212) 772-4857 or (212) 650-3230.”

E-mail: AccessABILITY@hunter.cuny.edu Web: <http://www.hunter.cuny.edu/student-services/access>

2. Hunter College/CUNY and the History Department’s Statement on Academic Integrity and Plagiarism: “Hunter College regards acts of academic dishonesty (e.g., plagiarism, cheating on examinations, obtaining unfair advantage, and falsification of records and official documents) as serious offenses against the values of intellectual honesty. The College is committed to enforcing the CUNY Policy on Academic Integrity and will pursue cases of academic dishonesty according to the Hunter College Academic Integrity Procedure. Here is the full statement on academic integrity:

<https://hunter.cuny.edu/students/student-affairs/office-of-student-conduct/academic-integrity/>

See also the full Statement on Plagiarism on the Department's website:

<http://www.hunter.cuny.edu/history/departmental-policy-on-plagiarism/>

Note: "Plagiarism is a very serious academic offense which will result in penalties ranging from reduction of class grade to failure in the course. Plagiarism occurs when the ideas and words, published or unpublished, of others are presented as one’s own without citing the original source. Plagiarism also occurs when the papers, research, or works of another person are presented as one’s own work." Please see the RWC explanation of Documentation Citation and Plagiarism:

<http://www.hunter.cuny.edu/rwc/repository/files/the-documented-essay/guides-to-research-and-writing-from-sources/Quotation-Paraphrase-Plagiarism.pdf>

3. Hunter College’s Policy on Sexual Misconduct: “In compliance with the CUNY Policy on Sexual Misconduct, Hunter College reaffirms the prohibition of any sexual misconduct, which includes sexual violence, sexual harassment, and gender-based harassment retaliation against students, employees, or visitors, as well as certain intimate relationships. Students who have experienced any form of sexual violence on or off campus (including CUNY-sponsored trips and events) are entitled to the rights outlined in the Bill of Rights for Hunter College.

a. Sexual Violence: Students are strongly encouraged to immediately report the incident by calling 911, contacting NYPD Special Victims Division Hotline (646-610-7272) or their local police precinct, or contacting the College's Public Safety Office (212-772-4444).

b. All Other Forms of Sexual Misconduct: Students are also encouraged to contact the College's Title IX Campus Coordinator, Dean John Rose (jtrose@hunter.cuny.edu or 212-650-3262) or Colleen Barry (colleen.barry@hunter.cuny.edu or 212-772-4534) and seek complementary services through the Counseling and Wellness Services Office, Hunter East 1123.

The CUNY Policy on sexual misconduct can be found here:

<https://hunter-undergraduate.catalog.cuny.edu/policies-and-requirements/institutional-policies/cuny-policy-on-sexual-misconduct>