New York, New York

Instructor: Mary Beth Holtey
Office: Harmon Fine Arts Center, Rm 268A (second floor, north side of the building)
Office Hours: I have availability Monday – Friday, 8 a.m. – 4 p.m., but I request you make an appointment as I work full-time as Assistant Dean for Student Affairs in the College of Arts and Sciences.
Phone: 515.271.2801
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Course Description
New York City has served as the backdrop for countless books, movies and television shows. It’s a cultural icon. But how did New York City make the leap from Dutch colony to one of the world’s most influential cities? In this course we will examine the city’s early and modern history in the context of location and reform. Focus will be given to the large influx of people who entered the United States through Ellis Island, the ramifications of events such as the Triangle Shirtwaist Factory Fire, the rise of muckraking journalism and the political machine, Tammany Hall.

Required Reading
Empire City: New York Through the Centuries, Kenneth Jackson and David Dunbar
The Tyranny of Change: America in the Progressive Era, 1890-1920, John Whiteclay Chambers II
How the Other Half Lives: Studies among the Tenements of New York, Jacob Riis (Ebook through Cowles Library)
Five Points: The 19th Century New York City Neighborhood that Invented Tap Dance, Stole Elections and Became the World’s Most Notorious Slum, Tyler Anbider
*If any kind of financial hardship prevents you from purchasing any/all books, please see me, so we can work on a solution together. All arrangements will be kept confidential.

Goals and Participation
First Year Seminars are designed to help facilitate your successful transition to college. As such, we will dedicate early meetings to learning how to access student services, successfully navigate the library and utilize technology at Drake.

This course is also an introduction to college writing, reading and critical thinking. Far less important in college than it was in high school, is rote memorization. I don’t want you to memorize a series of dates. I would greatly prefer that you work to connect your daily life to historical events and the actions of well-known and everyday people alike.

Furthermore, upon completion of this course, I want you to know how to better read, write, speak, think and organize – applicable skills to any career.

As I was once a college student and now try to operate as a reasonable human being, I understand the transition to college is not always a smooth one. With this in mind, I will not be grading the first paper you submit. Instead, I will provide you with feedback to better inform your writing of a second paper which will be graded.

Attendance and Participation Policy
It’s been said that most of life is showing up; thus, I expect you to attend each class. I will allow three absences over the course of the semester. If after having missed three courses, you miss additional course meeting(s), I will reduce your final grade by one letter grade. Participation, or speaking up can be difficult, but it is an important aspect of adult life. Please consider this course practice for other presentations and interactions you will have in your collegiate and professional life.

A Note on Technology
I realize you do not need to be sitting behind a computer to not be truly present in class, so I have no objection to your bringing a laptop to class…but please use your laptop wisely. Please silence your cell phone and do not text during class.

Course Requirements and Grading
In addition to your first paper (no less than three pages) which will not be graded, you will be asked to write an additional two four-page papers. In the latter portion of the course, I will ask you to lead a class discussion on a topic of
your choosing, tangential to a course reading, for approximately 20 minutes. The topic of your discussion will need to be approved by myself and I can help you to fine tune your idea if necessary. A final paper, of no less than five pages, will be due at the end of the semester.

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Participation</th>
<th>Daily</th>
<th>15%</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Papers 2-3 (20% each)</td>
<td>Due Noon – Friday, Sept 5</td>
<td>40%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Paper 1 (not graded)</td>
<td>Due Noon – Friday, Sept 26</td>
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<tr>
<td>Paper 3</td>
<td>Due Noon – Friday, Oct 31</td>
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Grading Scale
A = 90% – 100%
B = 80% - 89%
C = 70% - 79%
D = 60% - 69%
F = 0% - 59%

Discussion Presentation Weeks of Nov 6 – Dec 2 20%
Final Paper Due Noon – Friday, Dec. 12 25%

Please cite your papers using Chicago-Style citation. You can find information online at http://www.chicagomanualofstyle.org/tools_citationguide.html.

All papers are to be submitted electronically by noon on their due date. Late papers will be docked one letter grade. Please email me your paper, from your Drake email account to my Drake email account - marybeth.holtey@drake.edu. I highly recommend keeping all papers you send in your inbox’s sent folder until your final grade is posted at the end of the semester. Thus, if there is any question about whether a paper was sent, you can send me a screenshot of your inbox’s sent folder, showing me the day and time your paper was sent.

Accommodations
Accommodations are coordinated with the Student Disability Services Office, Old Main, Rm 107. Please contact Michelle Laughlin, Coordinator of Student Disability Services, at 515.281.1835 or michelle.laughlin@drake.edu.

The Writing Workshop
The Writing Workshop is a free resource available to you and begins working with students on Sept 8. Students who work in the Writing Workshop can help you to strengthen your written work. View http://artsci.drake.edu/english/node/46 for additional information.

Week by Week
August 26: Introduction to Course and Review of Syllabus
August 28: Library Overview – Cowles Library (meet in the front lobby by glass doors)

Sept 2: Reading: Empire City, New Amsterdam, Frontier Trading Post
   Remonstrance of the Inhabitants of the Town of Flushing
   Description of the Town of Mannadens
   Prosperity in New York
   Description of New York City in 1748

Sept 4: Lecture: Entering the US through Ellis Island
   Reading: How the Other Half Lives, Chapter One and Five Points, Chapter 11

Friday, Sept 5 (Noon): First paper due (not graded). In the library, we learned how to access databases and discussed primary and secondary sources. For this first writing assignment, I want you to reflect on your first two weeks at Drake. Compare the excitement, frustrations and fears which you’re experiencing, with those that you think an immigrant to New York would have experienced. In your paper, include information on the immigrant experience which you found by accessing a database.

Sept 9: Class Discussion of Paper One
Sept 11: Reading: The Tyranny of Change, Chapters One and Two
Friday, Sept 26 (Noon): **Second paper due** (graded). Jacob Riis called attention to the plight of those who lived in tenement housing. It could easily be said he sought to bring attention to issues that others may not have wished to address or even admit existed. We may no longer often call this type of writing muckraking journalism, but no doubt there are still writers who seek to bring attention to tough issues. Find a contemporary author whose writing appears in a mainstream newspaper or magazine. Summarize an issue(s) on which this writer sheds light. Connect his/her writing style to that of Riis. Be prepared to share your papers with the class for discussion on Oct 2.

Sept 30: Guest Speakers: Chrystal Stanley, PCDS/Academic Achievement Coordinator & Mark Kloberdanz, Director, Student Counseling Center
Oct 2: Class Discussion of Paper Two/Class Lunch (Provided by Instructor)

Oct 7: Reading: Five Points, Chapters Four, Five & Six/Lecture – The Political Machine Tammany Hall
Oct 9: No Class, Instructor at Conference

Oct 14: No Class, Fall Break
Oct 16: Reading: Empire City, Scenes at the Morgue, from the NY Times & Abram I. Elkus, Opening Statement, from New York State Factory Investigating Commission/Lecture – The Triangle Shirtwaist Factory Fire

Oct 21: Reading: The Tyranny of Change, Chapter Five & Empire City, The Life of the Street Rats
Oct 23: Reading: Five Points, Chapter Fourteen
**On Oct 23, I will distribute a handout on which you will detail the topic of your class presentation. You’ll return this handout to me during our Oct 28 class.

Oct 28: Reading – Empire City, The Plan of a City & Selected Writings on Central Park
**Also Due – Submit the handout detailing the topic of your class presentation.
Oct 30: Class Topic – How to Register for Spring 2015 Courses/Approval of class presentation topic and distribution of presentation dates.

Friday, Oct 31 (Noon): **Third Paper Due** (graded). Throughout history, reform has often come about as a result of tragedy. Think about the changes that came out of the Triangle Shirtwaist Factory tragedy. Liken that tragedy and the changes it brought about to a tragedy which came after 1911. Summarize your chosen event, detailing why and how it occurred. What legislation came about as a result of this event?

Nov 4: Class Discussion of Paper Three/Instructor Presentation
Nov 6: Class Presentations

Nov 11: Class Presentations
Nov 13: Class Presentations

Nov 18: Class Presentations
Nov 20: Class Presentations

Nov 25: Class Presentations
Nov 27: No Class, Thanksgiving Holiday

Dec 2: Class Presentations
Dec 4: Class Wrap-Up/Course Evaluations

Friday, Dec 5: Dead Day – No Class/No University Activities – Day Reserved for Study
Classes do not meet Finals Week, Monday, Dec 8 – Friday, Dec 12.

Friday, Dec 12 (Noon): **Final Paper Due** (graded). You’ve spent the semester learning about New York’s history and people. What do you think are the most compelling reasons for New York’s iconic stature? If any particular event did not occur, would New York conjure the same sentiment? Think in terms of location, city planning, commerce and major personalities to defend your argument.

**Academic Dishonesty and Plagiarism**
Taken from the Student Handbook - [http://www.drake.edu/dos/handbook/academic/](http://www.drake.edu/dos/handbook/academic/)

**Definitions**
A student who cheats or plagiarizes commits an offense against the entire University community. Cheating, plagiarism or dishonesty in academic work is cause for dismissal from the University. Cheating is defined as an act or attempted act of giving or obtaining aid and/or information by illicit means in meeting any academic requirements, including examinations. Plagiarism is defined as misrepresenting other’s ideas, phrases or discourse as one’s own.

**Penalties**
The penalty for cheating or plagiarism will vary from incident to incident. Initiation of action that can lead to a penalty is primarily the prerogative of the faculty member involved. The possible penalties include a reprimand, grade penalty, dismissal from the course and a recommendation for dismissal from the University. **In this course, plagiarism will result in a failing grade for the assignment.**

**Appeals**
A student may appeal a charge of cheating or plagiarism in accordance with the appeal procedure of the College of Arts and Sciences.