

## Revised Course Syllabus

Instructor: Richard Grippaldi, Ph.D.                      Mondays & Thursdays 8:10 – 9:30am  
Office: Van Dyck 002E (College Avenue)      Scott Hall 115 (College Avenue Campus)  
Office Hours: Mondays & Thursdays  
                    9:40 – 11:10am, & by appointment      Email: rgrippal@camden.rutgers.edu

**Course Description:** This is a study of the causes, course, and consequences of World War I, with particular emphasis on American culture and foreign policy within Western civilization.

In addition to discussing American grand strategy and participation in combat on the Western Front, the course will address topics such as the influence of the Progressive movement in prewar America; the interactions of pro-Allied, pro-German or –Austrian, and anti-war social groups; mobilizing men and industry for war; the roles of minorities and women in the war effort; and the peace settlement negotiated at Versailles in 1919.

**Special Permission Numbers:** The enrollment capacity of this course is fixed at the number of desks in the classroom. When the course closes, there will be literally no place for additional students to sit. DO NOT ASK FOR A SPECIAL PERMISSION NUMBER.

**Course Texts:** The following books are required. These can be purchased from the campus bookstore, or special ordered from your local bookstore or Internet bookseller.

Barkley, John L. *Scarlet Fields: The Combat Memoir of a World War I Medal of Honor Hero*. Lawrence: University Press of Kansas, 2014. ISBN 9780700620197

Ford, Nancy G. *Americans All! Foreign-Born Soldiers in World War I*. College Station: Texas A&M University Press, 2001. ISBN 9781603441322

Neiberg, Michael S. *Fighting the Great War: A Global History*. Cambridge, Massachusetts: Harvard University Press, 2005. ISBN 9780674022515

Traxel, David. *Crusader Nation: The United States in Peace and the Great War, 1898 – 1920*. New York: Vintage, 2006. ISBN 9780375724657

Students will also read articles made available via the course Sakai site, or Rutgers University Libraries. These may require you to use your Rutgers NetID credentials.

The course will regularly make use of maps from the *West Point Atlas of American Wars*. As a work produced by the federal government, the *Atlas* is in the public domain, and is reproduced on the U. S. Military Academy's web site:

<http://www.usma.edu/history/SitePages/WWI.aspx>

**General Expectations:** The instructor expects you will

- treat him, your classmates, and your work with respect
- turn off your cell phone or smartphone before class begins
- first consult the syllabus when you have questions about the course
- follow directions precisely
- ask questions when you require clarification of directions, or when you are uncertain or curious about any aspect of the course, or the material presented

**Contacting the Instructor:** After final grades are submitted, the instructor will not allow students to raise their course grade via additional assignments or alternative assessments of course knowledge. You may ask the instructor about your course standing at any time during the semester. If you are dissatisfied with the grades you have earned, it is upon you to contact the instructor for advice or help towards improving.

E-mail is the best way to contact the instructor. He will acknowledge receipt of your message with a reply. If you do not receive a reply within 24 hours, you should assume the instructor has not received your message and write again. Please include “History 512:240” in your subject line. *E-mails sent without a subject will be ignored.*

Everyone, professors included, can benefit from reviewing e-mail etiquette from time to time. Wellesley College has published a handy guide at <http://web.wellesley.edu/SocialComputing/Netiquette/netiquetteprofessor.html> .

The instructor’s office hours begin immediately after class ends. If you would like to discuss matters with the instructor but are not available at that time, he encourages you to make an appointment to talk at a time that is convenient for you.

**Grading:** Course grades will be assigned according to the following averages:

A: 90.00 or more	B+: 85.00 – 89.99	B: 80.00 – 84.99	C+: 75.00 – 79.99
C: 70.00 – 74.99	D: 60.00 – 69.99	F: less than 60.00	

Students will complete three short papers, each worth 15% of the course grade; a midterm examination, worth 20%; and a final examination, worth 25%. Students will also be evaluated on class attendance and participation, worth the remaining 10%.

The grading breakdown, therefore, is:

Papers	45%
Exams	45%
Class Attendance and Participation	<u>10%</u>
Total	100%

Short Papers: In each short paper, you will answer the posed question using evidence from readings, discussions, and lecture. The purpose of these assignments is to display your ability to dissect historical works and offer complex interpretations of their meanings.

Short Paper #1 due **February 16**. Length: 3 – 5 pages. Should the United States have gone to war with either Germany or Britain over the violation of neutral trading rights in 1915?

Short Paper #2 due **April 3**. Length: 3 – 5 pages. Were the federal government's efforts to mobilize and sustain the American people for war extensions of Progressive ideas, or a betrayal of them?

Short Paper #3 due **April 24**. Length: 3 – 5 pages. Did the American Expeditionary Force learn anything from British and French combat operations? (If yes, explain what was learned, and/or how so.)

Each paper will be evaluated in six separate categories: Mechanics (10 points), Thesis (25 points), Argument & Organization (20 points), Evidence (20 points), Citations (10 points), and Proofreading (15 points). For more details on the instructor's expectations and tips on writing, see the "Writing a History Paper" handout posted on the course Sakai site.

Except by prior arrangement, students must turn in a printout of their paper. You may turn in your paper one class late, without any penalty. Afterwards, you will not be permitted to turn in a missing paper unless you have met with the instructor to discuss why the paper has not been completed, and to negotiate a plan for its completion.

Examinations: Each student will take a mid-term and a final examination. The midterm will take place in class on **March 9**. The final examination will take place on **Tuesday, May 9**, between 8:00 and 11:00pm, at a place to be determined. Both examinations will cover readings, lectures, and discussion material. On the midterm, students will answer five identifications and two essay questions; on the final, ten identifications and two essay questions. The instructor will provide an identification term study guide at least two classes before each exam.

Students will not be allowed to make up missed examinations unless a) their absence would otherwise be excused (see "Class Attendance and Participation," below) or b) they arrange with the instructor for a make-up examination in advance of their absence.

Class Attendance and Participation: Attendance is mandatory. The instructor believes you will benefit from exposure to lectures and class discussions. Unexcused absences will hurt your attendance grade.

An "unexcused absence," in the end, is any absence the instructor does not excuse. As a rule, students will be excused for religious observances; being under a doctor's care;

attending the funeral of a loved one; performing military service; and travelling as a member of a university-sponsored group. Other absences may be excused on a case-by-case basis. Thus it is to your benefit to inform the instructor of the reason for your absence. When available, please provide documentation for the absence on your return.

The attendance grade (8%) is calculated simply:

$$([\text{lectures attended} + \text{excused absences}] / \text{total number of lectures}) \times 8$$

The readings for each unit are listed on the course schedule. Although the instructor encourages you to complete all of the readings before a unit begins, he will tell you what must be read for the next lecture. He will regularly set aside time for discussion of course material and/or student questions. The instructor defines “class participation” to include discussions by e-mail, before or after class, or during office hours, as well as during class.

The 2 percent allotted to participation is based entirely on the instructor’s judgment.

**Academic Integrity Statement:** Academic integrity is essential to the success of the educational enterprise and breaches of academic integrity constitute serious offenses against the academic community. Violations of academic integrity include but are not limited to cheating, fabrication, plagiarism, denying others access to information or material, and facilitating others’ violations of academic integrity. The instructor assumes students will familiarize themselves with the policies and information posted by Rutgers at <http://academicintegrity.rutgers.edu/> at the earliest opportunity.

**Disability Services Statement:** Rutgers University welcomes students with disabilities into all of the University’s educational programs. In order to receive consideration for reasonable accommodations, a student must contact the disability services office at the campus where you are officially enrolled, participate in an intake interview, and provide documentation (see <https://ods.rutgers.edu/students/documentation-guidelines>). If the documentation supports your request, your campus’ disability services office will provide you with a Letter of Accommodations. As early as possible, please share this letter with your instructors, and discuss the accommodations with them. To begin this process, please complete the registration form on the Office of Disability Services website, at <https://ods.rutgers.edu/students/registration-form>.

## Course Schedule

Note that the instructor reserves the right to change the schedule, readings, and assignments.

Unit I – Course Introduction – January 19

Readings: Traxel, preface; Neiberg, introduction

Unit II – Progressive America – January 23 & 26

Readings: Traxel, chs. 1 – 6

Unit III – 1914 – January 30; February 2, 6 & 9

(Origins; German invasion of Belgium and France; War in the East & the Balkans; Early US Response)

Readings: Traxel, chs. 7 – 8; Neiberg, chs. 1 – 2

Unit IV – 1915 – February 13, 16, 20 & 23

(Blockade / Counterblockade, Rights of Neutral Powers; Introduction to Trench Warfare, Western Front; Eastern Front; Ottoman Turkey enters the war, Gallipoli; Italy enters the war; Serbian collapse)

Readings: Traxel, chs. 9 – 11; Neiberg, chs. 3 (all), 4 (pp. 95 – 117), 5 (pp. 123 – 34), 6 (pp. 150 – 6)

Short Paper #1 due **February 16**

Unit V – 1916 – February 27; March 2 & 6

(Verdun & the Somme; Jutland; American Preparedness; Eastern Front; Italy and Romania)

Readings: Traxel, chs. 12 – 14; Neiberg, chs. 5 (pp. 134 – 8), 6 (pp. 157 – 76), 7 (all), 8 (pp. 203 – 10), 9 (pp. 250 – 1)

**MIDTERM EXAMINATION – March 9**

NO CLASS March 13 & 16 (Spring Recess)

Unit VI – Nationalisms at War on the Periphery – March 20 & 23

(Britain's "white dominions;" Japan and China; Ottoman fronts [1915 – 1917]; India; Africa)

Readings: Neiberg, chs. 4 (pp. 177 – 22), 5 (pp.140 – 9), 11 (pp. 294 – 305)

Unit VII – 1917 – March 27 & 30; April 3 & 6

(Unrestricted submarine warfare; American entry, goals, economic & military mobilization; Nivelle's offensive; war weariness; Passchendaele; Russian Revolutions, Italy)

Readings: Traxel, chs. 15 – 17 (all), 18 (pp. 312 – 26); Neiberg, chs. 5 (p. 139), 8 (pp. 210 – 23), 9 (pp. 229 – 49, 252 – 3), 10 (all), 11 (pp. 280 – 8); Ford (all)

Articles: Christopher Capozzola, “The Only Badge Needed is Your Patriotic Fervor: Vigilance, Coercion, and the Law in World War I America,” *Journal of American History* 88 (March 2002): 1354 – 1382 (available at <http://www.jstor.org.proxy.libraries.rutgers.edu/stable/2700601>)

Donald R. Hickey, “The Prager Affair: A Study in Wartime Hysteria,” *Journal of the Illinois State Historical Society* 62 (Summer 1969): 117 – 34 (available at <http://www.jstor.org.proxy.libraries.rutgers.edu/stable/40191045>)

Short Paper #2 due **April 3**

Unit VIII – 1918 – April 10, 13, 17 & 20

(Building and Training the AEF; German offensives; war ends on Austrian and Ottoman Fronts; war weariness II; Meuse-Argonne & war ends on Western Front)

Readings: Traxel, chs. 18 (pp. 326 – 9) & 19 (pp. 330 – 35); Neiberg, chs. 8 (pp. 223 – 6), 11 (pp. 288 – 93), 12, 13 & conclusion (all); Barkley, introduction & chs. 1 – 18

Unit IX – War’s Aftermath – April 24 & 27; May 1

(Versailles and its Discontents; Chaos Abroad; “Normalcy” at Home)

Readings: Traxel, ch. 19 (pp. 335 – 51) & epilogue; Barkley, chs. 19 – 22 & “After the Great War”

Short Paper #3 due **April 24**

Unit X – Course Conclusion – May 1

Final Exam – Tuesday, **May 9**, 8:00 – 11:00pm; place to be determined.