

*Course Synopsis*

Instructor: Richard Grippaldi, Ph.D.  
Office: Van Dyck 208 (College Avenue)  
Office Hours: Mondays & Thursdays 8:30 –  
9:30am; 1:45 – 2:15pm; & by appointment

Mondays & Thursdays 12:10 – 1:30pm  
Frelinghuysen Hall A6 (College Avenue)  
Email: rgrippal@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:** If you have not taken a course previously with the instructor, your request for a special permission number will be denied, so DO NOT ASK. Students who have taken courses with him are welcome to ask, but should know they may be placed on a waiting list, and may not be enrolled in the course.

**Required Course Texts:** Print versions can be purchased from the campus bookstore, or special-ordered from your local bookstore or Internet bookseller. Electronic versions are acceptable, but know that the reading assignments will refer to pages in the printed media.

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 Canvas site, or Rutgers University Libraries. These will require you to use your Rutgers NetID credentials.

**Assignments:** Students will be offered eight opportunities to complete open-note, open-book take-home examinations. Each examination will be worth 15 percent, and only the six highest scores will be used in calculating students' averages. A syllabus quiz (5 percent) and attendance (5 percent) will make up the balance of the course average.

### **Tentative Course Schedule**

Course Introduction	January 20
Progressive America	January 24 & 27 Examination #1 due February 3
1914	January 31; February 3, 7 & 10 Examination #2 due February 17
1915	February 14, 17, 21 & 24 Examination #3 due March 3
1916	February 28; March 3 & 7 Examination #4 due March 21
War and Nationalisms on the Periphery	March 10 & 21 Examination #5 due March 28
NO CLASS	March 14 & 17 (Spring Recess)
1917	March 24, 28 & 31; April 4 Examination #6 due April 11
1918	April 7, 11, 14 & 18 Examination #7 due April 25
War's Aftermath	April 21, 25 & 28 Examination #8 due by 12:10pm on Thursday, May 5 (first day of final exam block)
Course Conclusion	May 2

**Questions?** Students who are interested in, or have further questions about, the course are encouraged to e-mail the instructor.