

IDC 1001H: The Arts in New York City

Course Policies and Information

Meets Tuesdays 11:10-2:05@ VC13-130

Professor: Dr. David C. Hoffman

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Office Hours: Tuesday, after class; Thursday 3-5, and by appointment

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Office Hours: Wednesday 12-2, or by appointment/Skype anytime.

Course Description: This seminar is an historical survey of literature, fine art, photography, architecture, film, and music produced in and about New York City. We hope to gain insight into artistic works by immersing ourselves in the cultural contexts in which the works were produced, and we hope to learn more about the history of New York City by seeing it reflected in art.

Online Content: Although the class will meet regularly, a significant amount of content will be delivered through our ePortfolios site. Internet access and online literacy are required. Blackboard will be used only to send class email and post grades.

Full class content can be found at: <https://macaulay.cuny.edu/eportfolios/nycarts2017/>

Course Materials: Students should buy the following novels from Amazon.com or some other bookseller in time to finish them by the listed dates.

Ragtime, by E.L. Doctorow (October 10th)

Chinatown Family, by Lin Yutang (November 14th)

A Visit from the Goon Squad, by Jennifer Egan (December 12th)

In addition, students might want to purchase a hard copy edition of *Maggie, Girl of the Streets* by Stephen Crane, which we will be discussing September 20th, but this text will be available electronically for free. Students are required to buy or rent one film of their choice for the film review assignment. Although we will be watching most of it in class, students may wish to rent or or buy episodes of *New York: A Documentary Film* though Amazon. All other required readings will be posted on the class website or distributed in class.

Writing: As this is a course that aims to improve written communication, spelling, grammar, organization and diction are all factors in the grading of written assignments.

Revision: Some major and minor assignments handed in on time in good faith can be revised for a better grade.

Conduct: DO say what you have to say. DO be respectful of other people. DON'T plagiarize or cheat. See www.baruch.cuny.edu/academic/academic_honesty.html for Baruch College's official policy on academic honesty. Cheating or plagiarism may result failure of the assignment or the course.

Additional Resources: If you have any disability that requires some modification of the class, please let me know and that modification will be made.

Common Events: There are two *required* common events for all Arts in NYC seminars across all Macaulay campuses. The first is the Night at the Museum, held at the Brooklyn Museum on September 18th from 5-7pm. The second is the STEAM Festival, which is a two-day event the weekend of December 2-3 at the main Macaulay campus (35 W 67th st.). You will receive more information about these later, but for now save the dates.

List of Grades and Their Weights toward the Final Grade

Blogging, Participation & Minor Assignments	20%
Urban Art & Culture Guide (Group Project)	20%
NYC Biographical Fiction	20%
Music and Art in Context Papers	10%
Comprehensive Final	10%
Theme Paper	20%

"Minor assignments" include a film review, a review of a short story set in NYC, and music video posting assignment.

Class Schedule

Only the major assignments and readings are listed. For a full list of all assignments, including blog postings, video and website review assignments go to the class website:

<https://macaulay.cuny.edu/eportfolios/nycarts2017/>

August

Dates	Calendar Notes and Excursions	Topics	Readings	Major Assignments
Tuesday the 29 th	First Class	The Birth of a City		

September

Tuesday the 5 th	Class Meets	Order and Disorder	Washington Irving, Excerpt from <i>A History of New York</i> , Walt Whitman, "Crossing Brooklyn Ferry," "Mannahatta," and "Broadway;" Charles Dickens, excerpt from <i>American Notes</i> .	
Tuesday the 12 th	City Hall, Brooklyn Bridge Walk and East River Ferry Ride	Sunlight and Shadow	Fredrick Law Olmsted, "Passages in the Life of an Unpractical Man;" Brooklyn Bridge Dedication Speeches; Hart Crane, "To Brooklyn Bridge;" Vladimir Mayakovsky, "Brooklyn Bridge;" James D. McCabe, "Impostors"	
Monday the 18 th	Night at the Museum, Brooklyn Museum (5-7 pm)	(Required first year common event)		
Tuesday the 19 th	No Class--College Follows a Thursday Schedule			
Tuesday the 26 th	Class Meets	Social Realism in the Gilded Age	Stephen Crane, <i>Maggie: Girl of the Streets</i> ; Jacob Riis, "Down the Back-Alleys;" Lincoln Steffens, "The Police" and "Roosevelt and Reform."	Assigned Papers and Reviews

October

Dates	Calendar Notes and Excursions	Topics	Readings	Major Assignments
Tuesday the 3 rd	Tenement Museum	The Power and the People	Mark Helprin, "Ellis Island;" O'Henry, "A Madison Square Arabian Night;" James Weldon Johnson, excerpt from <i>The Autobiography of an Ex-Colored Man</i> .	Assigned Papers and Reviews
Tuesday the 10 th	Class Meets	Ragtime	E.L. Doctorow, <i>Ragtime</i> .	Assigned Papers and Reviews
Tuesday the 17 th	Class Meets	The Lost City	Malcolm Cowley, "The Long Furlough," F. Scott Fitzgerald, "May Day" and "My Lost City."	Assigned Papers and Reviews
Tuesday the 24 th	Class Meets	Harlem Renaissance	Langston Hughes, "When the Negro was in Vogue," "The Weary Blues," "Good Morning," "Harlem," "Juke Box Love Song," "Subway Rush Hour," Claude McKay, "A Song of the Moon," "The Tropics in New York," and "The City's Love;" Zora Neale Hurston, "Story in Harlem Slang."	Assigned Papers and Reviews
Tuesday the 31 st	Morgan Museum & Library, Grand Central Terminal, & the Chrysler Building	Cosmopolis	P.G. Wodehouse, "Jeeves and the Hard-Boiled Egg," "The Aunt and the Sluggard"	

November

Dates	Calendar Notes	Topics	Readings	Major Assignments
Tuesday the 7 th	Class meets from 1-2PM only	The Depression	Lin Yutang, <i>Chinatown Family</i>	Assigned Papers and Reviews Urban Art and Culture Guides
Tuesday the 14 th		The Post War City	Gay Talese, "Panic in Brooklyn;" John Cheever, "Moving Out," and "The Five-Forty-Eight."	Assigned Papers and Reviews
Tuesday the 21 st	No Class--College Follows a Friday Schedule			
Tuesday the 28 th		Crisis and Resurgence	Allen Ginsberg, "Mugging"; Tama Janowitz, "Physics."	Assigned Papers and Reviews NYC Historical Fiction

December

Saturday and Sunday the 2 nd -3 rd	STEAM Festival, Macaulay Honors College	Closing common event (pick 1 day for group presentations)		
Tuesday the 5 th	Guggenheim Museum	NYC in Music		Post Video Reviews
Tuesday the 12 th	Class Meets	NYC in Music	Jennifer Egan, <i>A Visit from the Goon Squad</i>	Theme Paper Due