

HEAF@Barnard**Fall 2013 Syllabus**

Tuesdays, 4:45-7:15pm
meeting in 328 Milbank Hall

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Reacting to the Past: Exploring Radical Politics in Early 20th-Century New York

The HEAF@Barnard Pre-College Program is designed to give students an authentic on-campus college experience modeled on Barnard's "Reacting to the Past" first-year seminar. "Reacting to the Past" consists of elaborate games, set in the past, in which students are assigned roles with "victory objectives" informed by classic texts in the history of ideas. Class sessions are run entirely by students; instructors advise and guide students and grade their oral and written work. (If you would like to learn more about the Reacting to the Past program, please visit <http://reacting.barnard.edu>.)

The HEAF@Barnard seminar will meet to explore the *Greenwich Village 1913: Suffrage, Labor, and the New Woman* game. The game takes students to the beginning of the modern era when urbanization, industrialization, and massive waves of immigration were transforming the U.S. way of life. As the game begins, suffragists are taking to the streets demanding a constitutional amendment for the vote. What, they ask, is women's place in society? Are they to remain in the home or take an active role in the government of their communities and their nation? The Labor movement has turned to the strike to demand living wages and better conditions; some are even proposing an industrial democracy where workers take charge of industries. Can corporate capitalism allow an economically just society or must it be overturned? African-Americans, suffering from the worst working conditions, disenfranchisement, and social segregation, debate how to support their community through education and protest, thereby challenging their continuing marginalization in both the South and the North. Members of all these groups converge in Greenwich Village to debate their views with the artists and bohemians who are in the process of remaking themselves into the new men and new women of the twentieth century. The game asks what social changes are most important as well as how one can or should realize these goals. In the HEAF seminar, it will be accompanied by reading, critical-thinking, argumentation and public-speaking skills exercises to help participating students prepare for college-level work.

Class Schedule (Updated 10/1/13)

September 24

Introduction to the program and to Greenwich Village 1913

October 1

Prep session A: Woman's Rights and Suffrage (Discussion of primary sources + group activity)

October 8

Prep session B: Labor and Labor Movements

October 15

Prep session C: The Spirit of the New

October 22

FIELD TRIP: New York Historical Society: Tour of "The Armory Show at 100: Modern Art in Revolution"

October 29

FIELD TRIP: Walking tour of Greenwich Village and dinner at La Lanterna (Polly's Restaurant)

November 5

No session—Election Day

November 12

Game Session 1: The Suffrage Cause

November 19

Game Session 2: Labor Has its Day

November 26

FIELD TRIP: Lower East Side Tenement Museum

December 3

Game Session 3: The Feminist Mass Meeting

December 10

Game Session 4: Mabel Dodge's Evening

December 17

Game Session 5: Thus Speak the Masses and The Vote