

First Year Seminar Arts and Sciences
01:090:101 Section 18, Index 12502
Professor Angus Kress Gillespie
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Meets Five Wednesdays from 7:15 to 10:05 pm
Meets from September 3rd to October 1st
Ruth Adams Building 018, Douglass

Twin Towers: The Rise and Fall of the World Trade Center

It will take time and energy to be healed
from this most tragic community wound.
For the families there will be only grief & despair
For us as a community there can be healing...
By helping those who suffer and are in pain.
--Rabbi Steven E. Foster

Introduction

I am excited about introducing you to my research. The World Trade Center (WTC) in New York City was best known for its iconic 110-story twin towers. The WTC was a part of New York's identity and recognized all over the world as an icon for the United States of America. All of the original buildings in the complex were destroyed in the September 11, 2001, attacks.

Course Synopsis

Students who are successful in the first-year seminar will earn one academic credit. Our seminar will be organized around inquiry rather than around a specific academic discipline. This seminar is not directed toward getting you to absorb specific information. Rather, I intend to expose you to the mind of a research faculty member. I am aiming to engage you in the world of research and in creating new knowledge. By means of discussion, documentary films, and guest lectures, I hope that you will get some idea of what it is like for a faculty researcher to confront a problem.

Office Hours

My regular office hours are on Mondays and Thursdays from 1:00 to 2:00 pm. My office is located in the Ruth Adams Building 024 (directly across the hall from our seminar room.) My office phone, with answering machine, is 732.932.1630. In addition to my regular office hours, I will circulate a sign-up sheet with additional hours exclusively for this class. I expect everyone to sign up for an individual 15-minute appointment. During these initial one-on-one meetings, I will talk to you about how things are going in general during your first semester and about your vocational plans.

Group Work

Early on, we will divide the class into four groups. Full participation in your group is required and expected. Every week, each group will be expected to make a presentation. This kind of group work has social, psychological, and learning benefits. Research shows that potential employers appreciate students who have participated in group work in college. Much of your future career will almost certainly involve working in groups with a diverse range of people who will have a wide variety of skills and abilities. Experience of working with others of differing backgrounds and capabilities is therefore likely to be highly beneficial. There should be no “free riders” or slackers. If a group believes that someone in their group is not contributing they should let me know. If the behavior continues, the group may expel that member by a simple majority vote.

Course Expectations

All readings required for class are on the course website. Go to <http://sakai.rutgers.edu> And click on the course number found in the upper left hand corner of the first page of this syllabus. Students are graded on a pass-fail basis. Students are expected to attend every class session for the full two hours and forty minutes. Absences will be excused only in very unusual circumstances. Unexcused absences will result in a failing grade. Because there is no final examination, regular attendance and full participation is expected. You must attend all classes and participate enthusiastically in class discussions.

Debriefing

During the last meeting at the end of the course, I will spend about 15 minutes with each group openly discussing your experience of the class: strengths, weaknesses, and your suggestions for the future.

Wednesday, September 3

- 1st Module (7:15 to 08:35) Students introduce themselves.
Guest Lecture by Mr. Greg Trevor
Read: “Greg Trevor Story” from Sakai prior to class
Students Fill out Information Sheets
- 2nd Module (8:50 to 10:05) Course Orientation by Professor Gillespie
Value and Importance of the Subject Established
Sign up for Individual Appointments with Professor
Four Study Groups are formed—A, B, C, and D.
Screening of Selection from: “Loose Change”
Assignment: Prepare one question for Lt. Keegan for 09/10

Wednesday, September 10

- 1st Module Group Presentations: Four Flights
 A. American Airlines Flight 11, Boston to Los Angeles
 B. United Airlines Flight 175, Boston to Los Angeles
 C. American Flight 77, Washington, D.C., to Los Angeles
 D. United Airlines Flight 93, Newark to San Francisco
Remarks by Professor Gillespie
- 2nd Module: Guest Lecture by Lt. William Keegan
 Read: “Keegan” Chapters One and Two from Sakai Resources
 Read: “Healing Emergency Aid” from Sakai
 Read” “Conspiracy Theories” from Sakai Resources
 Assignment: Prepare one question for Mr. Hyman for 09/17

Wednesday, September 17

- First Module: Guest Lecture by Mr. Jonathan Hyman
 Read: “Jonathan Hyman” from Sakai prior to class
- Second Module: Group Presentations: Four Uniformed Services
 A. Fire Department of New York (FDNY)
 B. New York Police Department (NYPD)
 C. Port Authority Police Department (PAPD)
 D. Emergency Medical Service (EMS)
Remarks by Professor Gillespie
 Read: “Destruction” by Gillespie from Sakai Resources
 Assignment: Prepare one question for Ms. Drakakis

Wednesday, September 24

- First Module: Guest Lecture by Ms. Alexa Drakakis
 Read: “Build the Memorial” from Sakai prior to class
- Second Module: Group Presentations: Four Memorials
 A. National Fallen Firefighters Memorial
 B. National Law Enforcement Officers Memorial
 C. Oklahoma City National Memorial & Museum
 D. Vietnam Veterans Memorial
Remarks by Professor Gillespie

Wednesday, October 1

First Module: Group Presentations on Anti-Terrorism Exercise

- A. New York, New York
- B. Los Angeles, California
- C. Chicago, Illinois
- D. Houston, Texas

Remarks by Professor Gillespie

Second Module: Exit Interviews by Professor Gillespie

- A. Beginning 8:50 pm
- B. Beginning 9:05 pm
- C. Beginning 9:20 pm
- D. Beginning 9:35 pm