SYLLABUS

HISTORY OF URBAN EDUCATION

26: 510:564:01 (History), 26:050:521.02 (American Studies), 26:977:611:01 (Urban Systems)

Spring, 2017

Time: Tuesday 2:30 to 5:10pm

Place: Conklin Hall 402

Instructor: Steven Diner

Office: Conklin 420

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INTRODUCTION

This course examines the history of urban education in the United States, and provides an historical foundation for understanding urban educational policy today. The course is taught as a colloquium. Each week we will discuss an assigned book. **Class attendance and active participation in discussions is required of all students.** You will also prepare a research paper based on some aspect of the history of public education in Newark or some other local community, or an historiographic essay on some aspect of the historical literature on urban education.

ASSIGNED TEXTS


**ASSIGNMENTS AND GRADES**

Class Discussion – 20%

Research Paper/ Historiographic Essay – 30%

Take-Home Final Essay – 50%
CLASS SCHEDULE

January 17
No Class

January 24

January 31
Due: Proposed Research Paper Topic

February 7
Readings: Kathryn Neckerman, *Roots of Failure in Inner-City Education*
Due: Research Paper/ Historiographic Essay Topic & Sources

February 14
Readings: Julian Grant, *The Boy Problem.*

February 21

February 28

March 14
No class: Spring Recess
March 21
Readings: Larry Cuban, *How Teachers Taught*

March 28
Readings: Joel Perlmann, *Ethnic Differences*

April 4
Readings: Christina Collins, “Ethnically Qualified”

April 11
Readings: Steve Golin, *The Newark Teachers Strike*

April 18
Readings: Emily Straus, *Death of a Suburban Dream*

April 25
Readings: Steven J. Diner, *Universities and Their Cities*.

Research Paper or Historiographic Essay Due

May 2
Final Essay Due

**RESEARCH PAPER**

Your research paper should deal with some aspect of the history of education in Newark or nearby communities. You could research the history of a particular school, an organization, a specific reform movement, an educational leader, a policy issue, and other subjects. You will need to identify appropriate primary sources to draw upon for your research. These might include records of a
HISTORIOGRAPHY ESSAY

Your historiographic essay should compare the ways different historians have written about some aspect of the history of urban education in the United States. You will need to discuss at least ten books in addition to any books assigned for the course that address your topic.

FINAL ESSAY

Toward the end of the semester, you will receive a broad question to address in your final essay. You will be expected to draw upon your extensive readings and discussions on the history of urban education in an integrated essay. There will be no in-class examinations.

ACADEMIC INTEGRITY

The university’s Academic Integrity Policy can be found at http://academicintegrity.rutgers.edu/files/documents/AI_Policy_9_01_2011.pdf. When submitting your research paper and final essay, please attach the following statement with your signature: On my honor, I have neither received nor given any unauthorized assistance on this assignment.

SUPPLEMENTAL READINGS

There is a vast historical literature on the history of urban education. In addition to the books we will discuss in class, the following are some of the many others that are valuable:


