

ENGL/HIST/MODL 919

Taught by Peter J. Capuano

Interdisciplinary Nineteenth-Century Studies (Fall 2022)

This graduate seminar is designed to provide a team-taught, truly interdisciplinary introduction to what is often referred to as “the Long Nineteenth Century” (1789-1914) in North America, Great Britain, and Europe. We will begin with the French and Haitian Revolutions and finish with the onset of World War I. The central themes of the course include, but are not necessarily limited to, the following (presented in alphabetical order): Art, The Body, Borders, Colonialism, Economy, Emancipation*, Family, Gender*, Medicine*, Nature, Philosophy, Race*, Reform*, Religion, Revolution*, Science, Slavery*, Technology, Urbanization, Victorianism, Warfare.

The coursework will be comprised of weekly responses to readings and a research paper on a topic of the student’s choosing.

*It is impossible and, indeed, it should not be possible to bracket off or separate the monumental racial, class, gender, and medical debates which have sparked enormous controversy in 2020. The nineteenth century has perhaps never been so relevant to contemporary social events. Therefore, both faculty and students in this seminar should be prepared to learn about and to analyze the many important connections between the so-called “then” and “now” in which we live.