

**Common Ground Syllabus and Plan of Study**  
**July 11 to July 23**  
**New York City and the Adirondacks**

<b>Monday, July 11 • Conceptual Overview</b>		
<p><b>Guiding Question:</b>            What meaning did 19<sup>th</sup> century Americans assign to the urban landscape?</p>	<p><b>Orientation @ The Gotham Center</b>  <i>Dr. Kevin Sheets and Dr. Randi Storch</i></p> <p><b>Teaching Connection Workshop @ The Gotham Center</b>  <i>Sheets, Storch and Julie Maurer</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Workshop on the 19<sup>th</sup> century meaning of the city</li> <li>• Discussion of visual primary sources (paintings, lithographs, photographs,) as teaching materials.</li> </ul>	<p><b>Readings:</b>            “America’s Urban Moment Arrives,” in Conn, <i>Americans Against the City</i>, pp. 25-56.</p>
<b>Tuesday, July 12 • A Peopled Landscape</b>		
<p><b>Guiding Question:</b>            How did the experiences of Americans, new and native, shape the development of the urban landscape?</p>	<p><b>Workshop @ The Gotham Center</b>  <i>Dr. Hasia Diner and Dr. Marcy Sacks</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• How did the new immigrants from South and Central Europe and African American migrants from the US south experience and shape the urban landscape?</li> </ul> <p><b>Teaching Connection Workshop @ The National Archives</b>  <i>Chris Zarr</i>  <i>Education Specialist</i>  <i>National Archives at New York City</i>            Hands-on primary source workshop on Institute’s themes</p>	<p><b>Readings:</b>            Excerpts from Diner, <i>Lower East Side Memories</i>; and Boyle, <i>Arc of Justice</i></p>

**Wednesday, July 13 • An Industrial Landscape**

<p><b>Guiding Question:</b> How did industrialization during the late 19<sup>th</sup> century change the urban landscape and how were residents affected by those changes?</p>	<p><b>Workshop @ The Gotham Center</b> <i>Storch</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Discussion of NYC’s industrial landscape</li><li>• Examination of spatial distribution of industry and effects on city’s public and private spaces</li><li>• Discussion of urban industrialization and relationship to other regions</li></ul> <p><b>Teaching Connection Workshop @ The Gotham Center</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Participants engage in a labor history activity/simulation</li></ul>	<p><b>Readings:</b> Excerpts from Greenwald, <i>The Triangle Fire: Protocols of Peace in Progressive Era New York</i> and Nancy L. Green, “Sweatshop Migrations: The Garment Industry Between Home and Shop” in <i>The Landscape of Modernity: Essays on New York City, 1900-1940</i></p>
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**Thursday, July 14 • A Leisured Landscape**

<p><b>Guiding Question:</b> How does the progressive-era urban landscape reflect 19<sup>th</sup> and early 20<sup>th</sup> century ideas of leisure, class, and gender?</p>	<p><b>Workshop @ Central Park</b> <i>Sheets and Storch</i> <i>Dr. Robert Snyder</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Discussion of history of Central Park as a man-made “natural” landscape</li><li>• Examination of class, race and leisure in the city, with focus on specialized leisure spaces, including dance halls, saloons nickelodeons, and Coney Island</li></ul> <p><b>Teaching Connection Workshop @ Central Park</b> <i>Mauer</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Landscape tour and discussion of Central Park</li></ul>	<p><b>Readings:</b> Excerpts from Peiss, <i>Cheap Amusements: Working Class Women and the Leisure in Turn of the Century New York</i>; and Rosenzweig and Blackmar, <i>The Park and the People: A History of Central Park</i></p>
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**Friday, July 15 • A Political and Built Landscape**

<p><b>Guiding Question:</b> How did progressives use the urban landscape as a site for urban environmental reform?</p>	<p><b>Workshop and Tour @ The Eldridge St. Synagogue and the Henry St. Settlement House</b> <i>Dr. Keith Revell</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Discussion of politics of land use in shaping urban neighborhoods</li> </ul> <p><b>Teaching Connection Workshop</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Evening tour of J. P. Morgan Library</li> </ul>	<p><b>Readings:</b> Excerpts from Revell, <i>Building Gotham: Civic Culture and Public Policy in New York City, 1898-1938</i></p>
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**Saturday, July 16 • Travel Day to the Adirondacks**

**Sunday, July 17 • Cultural Meaning of Wilderness and the Built Landscape**

<p><b>Guiding Question:</b> What meaning did people in the 19<sup>th</sup> century assign to the American wilderness?</p>	<p><b>Welcome and Orientation @ Camp Huntington</b> <i>Sheets, Storch and Rhonda Pitoniak, Director, William H. Parks Family Center for Environmental and Outdoor Education</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Introduction to Camp Huntington</li> </ul> <p><b>Workshop and Discussion @ Camp Huntington</b> <i>Dr. Phil Terrie</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• How did the meaning of wilderness change over the 19<sup>th</sup> century?</li> <li>• Land policy and forest preservation</li> </ul> <p><b>Teaching Connection Workshop @ Camp Huntington</b> <i>Pitoniak, Sheets and Storch</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Walking tour of historic Camp Huntington</li> <li>• Discussion of Adirondack “Great Camp” architecture</li> <li>• Discussion of place-based pedagogy using the Camp’s layout, architecture, and design</li> </ul>	<p><b>Readings:</b> Excerpts from Terrie, <i>Contested Terrain: A New History of Nature and People in the Adirondacks</i>; and Guber, “<i>Make of them Grand Parks, Owned in Common</i>”: <i>The Role of Newspaper Editorials in Promoting the Adirondack Park, 1864-1894</i>”</p>
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**Monday, July 18 • A Peopled Landscape**

<p><b>Guiding Question:</b> How was the Adirondack landscape shaped by the</p>	<p><b>Workshop and Tour @ The Adirondack Experience Museum</b> <i>Curators and Museum Educators</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Who lived in the Adirondacks during the long progressive era?</li> </ul>	<p><b>Readings:</b> Excerpts from Jacoby, “<i>Working Class Wilderness in Crimes Against Nature:</i></p>
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<p>people who visited and lived upon it?</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Tour of new museum exhibit on the history of Native Americans in the Adirondacks</li> <li>• Role of class and gender in shaping the Adirondack landscape</li> </ul> <p><b>Workshop and Discussion @ The Adirondack Experience Museum</b> <i>Dr. Scott Manning Stevens</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• History of Native American in American History and the Adirondacks</li> </ul> <p><b>Teaching Connection Discussion @ Camp Huntington</b> <i>Jennifer Donnelly</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Discussion of Donnelly’s young adult novel <i>A Northern Light</i></li> </ul>	<p><i>Squatters, Poachers, Thieves and the Hidden History of American Conservation</i></p> <p>Donnelly, <i>A Northern Light</i></p> <p>Stevens, <i>Why You Can’t Teach United States History Without American Indians</i></p>
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<b>Tuesday, July 19 • An Industrial Landscape</b>		
<p><b>Guiding Question:</b> To what extent was the Adirondacks, as an industrial site, connected to America’s urban centers?</p>	<p><b>Workshop @ The Adirondack Experience Museum</b> <i>Curators and Museum Educators</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Tour, discussion and workshop on industrialization in the Adirondacks</li> <li>• Exploration of timber and mineral industries and their environmental impact</li> <li>• Discussion of the environmental and economic factors connecting the Adirondacks to New York City</li> <li>• Tour of the Museum’s off-site Collections Building</li> </ul> <p><b>Research @ The Adirondack Experience Museum</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Groups work with staff in the museum’s archives to develop individual and group projects, including teaching materials</li> </ul>	<p><b>Readings:</b></p> <p>Excerpts from Bethke, “Get to the Bush!” Adirondack Woodsmen and Woods Lore”</p> <p>Stradling, <i>The Nature of New York: An Environmental History of the Empire State</i></p>

**Wednesday, July 20 • A Leisured Landscape**

<p><b>Guiding Question:</b> How did 19<sup>th</sup> century Americans domesticate wilderness and develop the region for leisure pursuits?</p>	<p><b>Workshop and Tour @ Great Camps Sagamore and Uncas</b> <i>Museum staff</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Tour of J. P. Morgan’s Camp Uncas (privately owned)</li><li>• Discussion of the architectural progression of William West Durant’s Great Camp design</li><li>• Discussion of camp owners with camp staff as lens for understanding class during the 19<sup>th</sup> century</li></ul> <p><b>Workshop @ Great Camps Sagamore and Uncas</b> <i>Sheets and Storch</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Project-staff lead workshops at stations throughout the Camp Sagamore highlighting leisure, recreation, class, and gender themes as they are visible in the design and layout of space.</li></ul>	<p><b>Readings:</b> Excerpts from Bederman, <i>Manliness and Civilization: A Cultural History of Gender and Race in the United States, 1880-1917</i> and Perrottet, “<i>Birthplace of the American Vacation</i>”</p>
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**Thursday, July 21 • A Political Landscape**

<p><b>Guiding Question:</b> To what extent did the politics of wilderness impact local, state and national interests?</p>	<p><b>Workshop and Discussion @ Camp Huntington</b> <i>Dr. Rebecca Edwards</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Role of environmentalism in shaping progressive-era politics</li><li>• Case study of the 1894 New York State Constitution’s “Forever Wild” amendment protecting the forest preserve</li><li>• Political importance of the Adirondack region as the headwaters of the Hudson River and source of New York City’s water</li><li>• Relationship of Adirondack story to 19<sup>th</sup> and 20<sup>th</sup> century conservation movement</li></ul> <p><b>Project Work Time @ Camp Huntington</b></p>	<p><b>Reading:</b> Excerpts from Cronin, “The Trouble with Wilderness, or, Getting Back to the Wrong Nature” and Edwards, <i>New Spirits: Americans in the ‘Gilded Age,’ 1865-1905</i></p>
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**Friday, July 22 • The Urban and the Wild: Comparative Landscapes**

<p><b>Guiding Question:</b> How does a comparative perspective of the urban and wilderness contrasting landscapes enrich our understanding and teaching of the long progressive era?</p>	<p><b>Debriefing Discussion @ Camp Huntington</b> <i>Sheets and Storch</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Facilitated discussion debriefing our comparative exploration of urban and wilderness landscapes during the long progressive era</li><li>• Discussion of implications for teaching</li></ul> <p><b>Project Work Time @ Camp Huntington</b></p> <p><b>Group Final Project Presentations @ Camp Huntington</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Groups present their final projects interpreting primary sources through the Institute's interpretive lenses</li></ul>	<p><b>Readings:</b> No readings</p>
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**Saturday, July 23 • Depart Camp Huntington**