

HONR 300 1W
The Demoralized Schoolhouse
Fall 2018
Course Syllabus

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MWF 9:15-10:20
Room: 101 Blair Hall
Office Hours: Mondays 10:30 A.M.-12:30 P.M.
Thursdays 1:00-2:45 P.M.
Fridays 8:15-9:15 A.M.
Prefer appointments

“The American public school is responsible not only for educating citizens to develop and maintain a democratic society but also for engendering in individuals the desire to continue their education throughout their lives” (Goodlad, 1994).

“It is not hyperbole to say that the teaching profession in the United States is in trouble. Teachers are leaving the profession at rates that outpace retirements”
(Santoro, 2018).

Course description

Contemporary research suggests that American educators have moved from a feeling of deprofessionalization to being demoralized. This course provides an exploration of, and an opportunity to, analyze the professional dissatisfaction in our nation’s schoolhouses. Readings will be focused on contemporary educational policy, teacher career trajectory, science of teacher selection, and how teachers’ moral centers intersect with life in the schoolhouse. Recognizing a relationship between education and social progress, students will examine the influences policy, economics, and history have on opportunities for renewal of our demoralized schoolhouses.

Required texts

- Santoro, D. A. (2018). *Demoralized: Why teachers leave the profession they love and how they can stay*. Cambridge, MA: Harvard Education Press.
- Tyack, D. & Cuban, L. (1995). *Tinkering towards utopia: A century of public school reform*. Cambridge, MA: Harvard Education Press.
- **Various Articles on Moodle**

Demonstrations of Learning

This course will include a variety of assessments, to hopefully meet the learning needs of every honors student and provide opportunities to demonstrate learning through multiple modalities. The assessments for the course are listed below along with point values. More specific directions will be given prior to the assessment. All demonstrations of learning must be turned in on the day and time they are due, **a three-point reduction will be applied for each day late.**

Demonstration of Learning	Point Total	Percentage of Final Grade
Seminar Engagement	4 points per class= 112 total	~31 %
Interview Analysis	100 points	~28 %
Teacher Labor Research Paper	100 points	~28 %
Tyack and Cuban Journal	50 points	~14 %
Total	362 points	~100%

Grading Scale

A+ = 98%-100%
B+ = 88%-89%
C+ = 78%-79%
D+ = 68%-69%
F = Below 60%

A = 93%-97%
B = 83%-87%
C = 73%-77%
D = 63%-67%

A- = 90%-92%
B- = 80%-82%
C- = 70%-72%
D- = 60%-62%

Seminar Engagement

Your success in the class depends primarily on your engagement in each and every class session. You will be expected to come to each class session with the reading completed and to engage in discussions. The primary teaching method used will be class discussion. Each class session provides an opportunity to earn up to 4 points and those 4 points will be attained in different ways. Sometimes it will be based on your engagement in discussion, sometimes it will be a reading check activity, and sometimes it will be another formative type of assessment.

Interview Analysis

The signature assessment will be an in-depth multi-step interview analysis with a practicing teacher. The interview and its analysis will be focused on career trajectory, working conditions, personal moral centers, and key motivations. You will be assessed on your ability to articulate your subject(s)' behavior and relationship to their school.

Research Paper

The other major assessment will be a research paper on the contemporary realities of school reform and how to empower teachers to exercise control over the labor process of teaching and to appreciate the instructional values of their work. This paper will look specifically at the interactions of teacher unions, school boards, and their impact on teacher life and student achievement. You will get more information on this at a later date.

Tyack and Cuban Journal

You will be maintaining a journal as we work through the Tyack and Cuban text. This will be a guided journal where I will give you a fairly specific prompt each week that correlates with that week's reading. You are required to respond to the prompt and turn in your journal the next week. These journal entries will typically be two pages in length and will require you to synthesize the text with your classroom experiences.

Academic Integrity

The Honor Code applies to this class. The expectations for academic integrity in this class are attached to this syllabus, and you will be offered the opportunity to pledge your intent at the beginning of class and with each assignment as it is submitted.

Student Services

Your learning in this course is important to me. I invite you to talk with me about ways to ensure your full participation in this course. Please be aware that Wittenberg is committed to providing reasonable accommodations for students with documented disabilities. Any student with disabilities requiring reasonable accommodation is encouraged to discuss this with me as soon as possible. If you have a documented disability, please provide me with your self-identification letter from Academic Services (COMPASS Center) so that we can discuss appropriate accommodations. This is an excellent resource for discussing and learning new study skills! If you don't have a documented disability, but do have concerns or challenges you would like to discuss, please discuss these with me. If you need to contact the Office of Academic Services, please contact Grace Whiteley Sever or accessibilityservices@wittenberg.edu.

Wittenberg Writing Center

The Wittenberg Writing Center is a resource for consultation on any writing project. Student writing advisors will work with you at any stage in your writing, and you can bring any kind of writing to the Center. The Writing Center is located in 112 Hollenbeck Hall; the phone number is 327.6154. You may either drop in or make an appointment. More information about the Writing Center is available at their website: <http://www.wittenberg.edu/administration/writingcenter.html>

Course Schedule

Week	Tuesday	Thursday
1	8/21/18—Introductions and openings	8/23/18—Overview of Public Education Assignment: <i>Read Overview of Public Education (Moodle) p. 6, 11-23.</i>
2	8/28/18—Teachers Assignment: <i>Read Profiles of Teachers in the US (Moodle) p. vii-19</i>	8/30/18—Routes to teaching cont'd Assignment: <i>Read Profiles of Teachers in the US (Moodle) p. 19-48</i>
3	9/4/18—Teaching satisfaction Assignment: <i>Read Profiles of Teachers in the US (Moodle) p. 49-57</i>	9/6/18—A coming crisis Assignment: <i>A Coming Crisis (Moodle)</i>
4	9/11/18—Introduction to Demoralization Assignment: <i>Read Santoro Introduction</i>	9/13/18—The Moral Sources of Teacher Dissatisfaction Assignment: <i>Santoro (p. 15-30)</i>
5	9/18/18— The Moral Sources of Teacher Dissatisfaction cont'd Assignment: <i>Santoro (p. 30-38)</i>	9/20/18—Distinguishing demoralization from burnout Assignment: <i>Santoro Chapter 2</i>
6	9/25/18—Sources of demoralization Assignment: <i>Santoro (p. 57-69)</i>	9/27/18—Sources of demoralization cont'd Assignment: <i>Santoro (p. 70-82)</i>
7	10/2/18— Degrading the profession Assignment: <i>Santoro Chapter 4</i>	10/4/18—Remoralizing strategies for career longevity Assignment: <i>Santoro (p. 105-115)</i>
8	10/9/18— Remoralizing strategies for career longevity cont'd Assignment: <i>Santoro (p. 115-127)</i>	10/11/18—School leaders: Sources of Demoralization and Re-Moralization Assignment: <i>Santoro Chapter 6</i>
9	NO CLASS—Fall Break	10/18/18—Teacher's Unions: Sources of Demoralization and Re-Moralization Assignment: <i>Santoro Chapter 7</i>
10	10/23/18—Power of Re-Moralization Assignment: <i>Santoro (p. 171-179)</i>	10/25/18— Power of Re-Moralization (cont'd) Assignment: <i>Santoro (p. 179-190)</i>
11	10/30/18—Learning from the Past Assignment: <i>Tyack & Cuban Introduction</i>	11/1/18—NO CLASS—Yontz gone.
12	11/6/18— Progress or regress Assignment: <i>Tyack & Cuban Chapter 1</i>	11/8/18--Policy cycles and institutional trends Assignment: <i>Tyack & Cuban Chapter 2</i>
13	11/13/18— How schools change reforms Assignment: <i>Tyack & Cuban Chapter 3</i>	11/15/18— Persisting grammar of schools Assignment: <i>Tyack & Cuban Chapter 4</i>
14	11/20/18—NO CLASS—Yontz Gone	11/22/18--NO CLASS—Thanksgiving
15	11/27/18— Reinventing schooling Assignment: <i>Tyack & Cuban Chapter 5</i>	11/29/18—Analysis Presentations
16	12/4/18— Analysis Presentations	12/6/18—Course closure

ACADEMIC INTEGRITY

Wittenberg University, and this professor, are dedicated to the pursuit of knowledge and truth. At the heart of our search for knowledge is personal honesty; an honesty that makes possible an open and vibrant exchange of ideas. True community and academic excellence thrive at Wittenberg through honesty, trust, and mutual respect. It is the aim of the Code of Academic Integrity to foster an atmosphere in which all individuals can reach their fullest potential as students and teachers and, ultimately, as human beings. To achieve the aims of this code, every student, faculty member, and administrator is responsible for upholding the highest standards of personal integrity. In this spirit, it is expected that every member of the Wittenberg community will refuse to tolerate academic dishonesty. *(Taken from Wittenberg University Code of Academic Integrity)*. I take academic integrity extremely seriously. I have outlined what I see as both your and my moral responsibilities in this course:

What you can expect from me:

I promise to be truthful and treat you with respect. I will come to class fully prepared every day and will be thoughtful and fair in my preparation of assignments and exams. I promise to always tell you “why” a particular assignment is important for your growth as a professional. I will be thorough, fair, and honest in my assessment of your work and will provide varied and frequent opportunities for you to demonstrate your understanding of course material. I believe that significant learning often occurs as one encounters mistakes and determines how to correct them; therefore, when appropriate, I will provide opportunities for you to revisit and revise your work based on feedback from myself and others. Remember what Thomas Edison said: *“If I find 10,000 ways something won’t work, I haven’t failed. I am not discouraged; because every wrong attempt discarded is often a step forward.”* I promise to listen to you and to seriously consider your ideas and suggestions; and, I will trust your academic integrity unless you give me reason otherwise.

What I expect from you:

I expect you to be truthful and respectful of your classmates and me and of the intellectual ideas that are shared in the course. I expect you to come to class each day fully prepared, with all material thoughtfully read and with assignments prepared with attention both to critical thinking and to the details of format and presentation. I expect you to prepare work that is your own or to acknowledge your debt to others for their ideas when appropriate. I expect you to take action of some kind if you witness cheating or dishonest academic behavior.

Pledges and plagiarism:

Maintaining a high standard of academic integrity is in the best interest of everyone at Wittenberg and is everyone’s responsibility. Plagiarism is stealing. **Resist the temptation to take the easy way out.** In this class, the minimum penalty for cheating or plagiarizing usually is to receive no credit on that assignment; it is possible, and not at all unusual, to fail the course with an XF grade for cheating or plagiarizing. In this class, I will ask you to sign a pledge of commitment to academic integrity. By signing, you acknowledge that you will not use material without acknowledging sources (plagiarism), nor will you copy homework or quiz/exam answers. This includes discussing take-home exams or assignments with others unless the assignment is designed for cooperative collaboration. If you have any questions or concerns about plagiarism or cheating or about whether or not collaboration is appropriate on a given assignment, please see me or raise those issues in class. The **Wittenberg Code of Academic Integrity** is available on the website at: <http://www.wittenberg.edu/academics/academicintegrity>

I understand the expectations for academic integrity in this class. I affirm that my work will uphold the highest standards of honesty and academic integrity at Wittenberg University, and that I will neither give nor receive any unauthorized assistance.

Signature

Date