

AMST 275D - New York City in the 1970s

Exam 1

On Tuesday, October 30, you will be given three of the following seven essay questions. You will then be able to choose two of those three to answer. You will not be able to use any notes, books, or other materials during the exam.

1. In what ways did New York's response to its fiscal crisis represent a shift toward neoliberalism? How does this shift relate to other instances of neoliberalism?
2. Who or what do you think is at fault for New York's fiscal crisis? Explain.
3. New York City was rife with many contradictions in the 1960s and 1970s. Identify some of these contradictions and explain their implications for the city.
4. In your opinion, was New York City in better shape in the years immediately preceding the fiscal crisis or in the years immediately after it? Explain your position.
5. Toward what ends did working class New Yorkers exercise the power that they had developed in the decades after World War II? How did they lose much of that power by the mid 1970s?
6. Explain the deindustrialization of New York City. Could deindustrialization have been prevented or slowed down? If so, how? If not, why not?
7. What sorts of problems confronted New York City after the fiscal crisis? How did the city government respond to those problems? If you had been the mayor of New York, would you have done anything differently? Why or why not?

Rules:

- Mobile phones must be turned off and stowed away for the entire exam period; Reading or writing text messages or answering phone calls during the exam will constitute cheating and will not be tolerated. See the syllabus for the consequences of cheating.
- Once you leave the room, you will not be allowed to reenter. Use the bathroom or do whatever you need to do *before* class begins.
- You may not communicate with any other student during the exam.
- You may not bring any food or beverages to the exam.
- If you have a question for me during the exam, please raise your hand and then quietly ask it to me.
- If you are quoting any of the readings, please make some sort of citation (at least acknowledge the name of the author you are citing).
- Have more than one writing utensil on your desk during the exam in case your pen runs out of ink or the point of your pencil breaks.
- Relax! It's just an exam.