

Mini-Lab 3: Journalism**Due Date: Thurs 2/18/10**

For this 2-3 page (double-spaced) paper, you will compare 2 journalists' accounts from the Gilded Age (1865-1900). You will probably want to have an e-card to the Boston Public Library, which you can obtain online if you are a Massachusetts resident, at <http://www.bpl.org/index.htm>. Once you have an e-card number, you can access a wide variety of historic newspapers through the BPL, including the *Boston Globe*, *Harpers' Weekly*, and the *New York Times*. Some parts of *Harper's Weekly* are also available at <http://www.harpweek.com/>. I've put up a post on the blog with additional 19th century newspaper links. If you choose, you may also use the college's microfilm collection to access historic newspapers (but note that the microfilm printers only take quarters, not your OneCard).

Choose an event mentioned in chapter 15, 16 or 17 of your textbook from this time period; for example, the impeachment of Andrew Johnson, the Haymarket riot, the Pullman strike, the dislocation of the Nez Perce Indians, the battle at Wounded Knee, the Alaskan gold rush, etc. Locate, read, and compare **at least 2 different** journalist's accounts of this event **from two different newspapers**.

-or-

Choose one chapter of Jacob Riis's 1890 book, *How the Other Half Lives: Studies Among the Tenements of New York*, which is on 2-hour reserve at the library, and compare it with one related newspaper article from New York or from another city from the same time period.

After reading and comparing the two articles, write a paper discussing what you found in your research. Did the multiple articles tell the same story? Where do they agree/disagree? Do you detect any bias on the part of the writers? What are the concerns, themes, or images used in the articles? What can we learn from this exercise about the role of journalism in American life during this period? Choose (short) specific quotes from the articles to support your arguments. Cite each quotation clearly and completely (**citation guidelines are on the back of this sheet**).

Your paper is due in class, hard copy, with a title. Attach the newspaper articles, if possible. No late work accepted.

How to cite an old newspaper article:

Author, "Article Title," *Newspaper Title*, Day Month Year, page #. Electronic Database Title. <url inside angle brackets>, (Accessed [Date], 2010).

****Important:** Please make sure that you exit the WSC system and open a new window for your article search, or your url will begin with <https://community.worcester.edu/webapps/portal/frameset...>

Example: (this newspaper article had no author)

"With Ballots Not Bullets: Keynote of Last Night's Great Labor Demonstration," *New York Times*, 13 July 1894, p. 1. <<http://query.nytimes.com/gst/abstract.html?res=9D06E1DE1531E033A25750C1A9619C94659ED7CF>>, Accessed 28 December 2009.

How to cite an old magazine article:

Author, "Article Title," *Magazine or Periodical Title*, Volume (Number): page #. Month Year. Electronic Database Title. <url inside angle brackets>, (Accessed [Date], 2010).

Example:

Ernest Flagg, "The New York Tenement-House Evil and its Cure," *Scribner's Magazine*, 16 (1): 108-117. July 1894. Making of America, Cornell University. <<http://digital.library.cornell.edu/cgi/t/text/pageviewer-idx?c=scri;cc=scri;rgn=full%20text;idno=scri0016-1;didno=scri0016-1;view=image;seq=0116;node=scri0016-1%3A12>>, (Accessed 28 December 2009).

Citing Riis's book:

Riis, Jacob. *How the Other Half Lives: Studies Among the Tenements of New York* (New York: Dover Publications, 1971, orig. pub. 1890), page #.