

JANE ADDAMS AND HULL HOUSE

Empowering the American progressive movement

COURSE #:

22F-JAH

FORMAT:

Seminar

MODERATOR:

Rutherford Platt
Gene Fisher

DATE & TIME:

Thurs - 9:30 - 11:30 AM
10 Weeks
Starting on 9/29/2022

LOCATION:

Zoom
Online Only

MAX NO. OF PARTICIPANTS:

14

AUDITORS ACCEPTED:

Yes

MAX NO. OF AUDITORS:

2

PURPOSE:

The seminar will revisit the extraordinary history and legacies of Jane Addams (1860-1935) and Chicago's Hull House as instruments of social change, progressive reform, and peace advocacy from the 1890s until the 1960s.

DESCRIPTION:

Hull House was founded by Jane Addams and Ellen Gates Starr in 1889 amid immigrant neighborhoods on the west side of Chicago. Under Addams's direction, Hull House expanded from a single building to a thirteen-building complex by 1907. It became world famous as a center providing social services to thousands of low-income families and as an advocate for women and children, labor and factory reform, civil rights, and international peace. Several "residents" of Hull House would become social reform leaders themselves, including Florence Kelley, Julia Lathrop, Alice Hamilton, and the Abbott sisters, who founded the University of Chicago School of Social Work. Frances Perkins and Harold Ickes, both Hull House alums, served in FDR's New Deal cabinet. Addams was co-recipient of the Nobel Peace Prize in 1931 for her leadership in the international women's peace movement.

ROLE OF PARTICIPANTS:

Participants will select and report on either (1) a particular individual in the Hull House entourage and their contributions, or (2) a specific public policy issue confronted by Hull House (e.g., public health, sweatshops, civil rights).

RESOURCES:

Louise Knight, *Jane Addams: Spirit in Action* (W.W. Norton, 2010).

ABOUT THE MODERATORS:

Dr. Platt is an urban geographer and lawyer who in retirement from UMass Amherst has sought to revive awareness of the critical roles of Addams and Hull House in shaping the American progressive movement and later generations of social reformers. Gene Fisher is a sociologist who has led several seminars at LIR. As a sociologist he is interested in community organization and housing issues.