Debating the Emergence of Modern America
(Greenwich Village, 1913)

In this course, students will role-play as different historical figures in the past, from generic voters and workers to specific individuals like Elizabeth Cady Stanton, Karl Marx, Jane Addams, and W.E.B. Du Bois. Suffragists, labor organizers, and others “meet” in Greenwich Village to discuss demands for expanded access to capital and the ballot box, and each group and individual must work to convince the others of the need for changes. The game asks students to contextualize social, cultural, economic, and political forces as they evaluate historical outcomes related to the emergence of the “modern” world and its impact on workers, African Americans, and the emerging “new man” and “new woman.” The course speaks to issues of class, race, gender and power over one hundred years ago, issues still extremely relevant to national and global conversations today.