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Rationale for JRD for HIS 8 (United States from 1877)

HIS 8 is a general survey course that covers the history of the United States from Reconstruction to the present. One of its central themes is reckoning with the legacy of race and racism in the United States—especially as it relates to Christian contexts. For that reason, it is well-suited to meet the criteria for a JRD course.

JRD CC #2. At present, the syllabus examines a variety of “personal actions, social norms, and systemic patterns involving race and racism in the United States.” Early in the semester, students read excerpts from WEB Du Bois’s *Souls of Black Folk* and discuss his analysis of the 1906 Atlanta riot. They learn about the Indian Wars as a precursor to the spread of US empire. In the second half of class, they take a midterm exploring the racialization of Japanese in WWII as discussed in John Dower’s