

The Struggle for Reform: Populism and Progressivism, 1892-1920

Maria T. Iacullo-Bird, Ph.D.
Dyson College Dean's Office and
History Department, NY

Pace Undergraduate Students will
Playtest Game

Reacting to the Past (RTTP) is an innovative, historically based game pedagogy that assigns students roles for research and debate informed by classic texts and primary source materials. This new Level One game for the RTTP Series will address the divergent social, political, economic and cultural critiques and reform agendas embodied by the American Populist and Progressive Movements in the late 19th and early 20th centuries.



- The Populists were rural-based, agrarian reformers who argued for economic and political measures to help farmers through hard times. The Progressives were urban-based, middle class reformers who sought to advance change to solve problems that developed in response to industrialization, large-scale urbanization, immigration, and government corruption.
- This game will address the similarities and differences between the two highlighting leadership, ideologies, goals and strategies. Students will be immersed in struggles of the 1890s with emphasis on the U.S. Presidential election of 1896 and will continue into the early 20th century as the Populists declined and the Progressives spearheaded reform.