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Office Hours: T 2:00 – 3:15  
R 2:00 – 3:30  
Wednesday after class  
or by appointment

## HST 600 Historiography



This course asks you to think about a range of questions related to the discipline of history: What is history? How have historians approached the study of the past? How and why has the approach to the study of history changed?

Our goal will be to understand the dynamic nature of scholarship within (and outside) the discipline.

We will spend most of the semester examining several of the most influential approaches to the writing of history but will bookend our examination by beginning and ending with the reflections of three historians on the historical discipline.

At the end of the course, you will have a chance to explore and reflect on the historiography of a field in which you are particularly interested and the ways in which the changes we have explored throughout the course influenced the historiography of the field you have chosen to examine.

Finally, throughout the course, you will be asked to practice the professional skills of a historian by participating actively as an audience member in several guest lectures and workshops.



## ASSIGNMENTS:

1. Active Participation in Discussion (30%)
2. Quizzes and Questions as needed (10%)
3. Short paper (4-5 pages) (15%)
  - a. Drawing on the readings from four of the "Approach" units, reflect on how the readings and possibly class discussions have or have not changed/added to/fleshed out your understanding of history. I will be looking for demonstrated mastery and understanding of historiography as well as some evidence of rethinking (or at least examining) your assumptions. This paper can and probably should be written in the first person.
4. Professional Attendance (15%)

You will need to attend four events in which a historian is either speaking or running a workshop. For each of these events, you will need to submit a short type-written account. Two of your submissions should link in some fashion the talk and our course material. Two should summarize a question you asked and the speaker's response.

If your schedule is such that you cannot attend four professional events, let me know at the beginning of the semester so we have time to make other arrangements. **If you would like to attend an event other than one of the ones listed in the syllabus, make sure that you run your choice by me.**

5. Final Paper (10 – 15 pages) (30%)

The major assignment for this class consists of two parts. The first asks you to produce a 10-15-page historiographical essay on a historical topic of your choice. The topic should be broad enough so that you are reading works (10-15) that are important not only to scholars who specialize in your topic but also those who are in the larger field. It is fine and indeed a good idea to link your historiographical essay to your MA thesis, your dissertation, one of your Plan B papers, etc. But whereas those assignments would probably ask you to produce a narrow and exhaustive historiography, I am asking you to produce a broad historiography consisting only of the most significant works. You should feel free and you are indeed encouraged to run your bibliography for this assignment by a faculty member who specializes in your topic.

The second part of the assignment asks you to set your historiography within a broader historiographical context, namely the changing approaches to history that are the subject of this course. You should identify the ways in which broader historiographical currents have and, just as importantly, have not influenced the historiography of your topic and then, of course, try to explain why.

We will meet individually to discuss your topic.

DATE DUE	READINGS
<b>WHAT IS HISTORY</b>	
August 29	<p><b>The Historiographical Approach</b></p> <p><b>Watch Video:</b>  <a href="#">What Is Historiography?</a></p> <p><b>Read (in the following order)</b></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Green and Troup, <i>The Houses of History</i> (2<sup>nd</sup> edition) Chapter 1 &amp; 2</li> <li>2. E. H. Carr, <i>What is History?</i></li> </ol>
<b>APPROACHES</b>	
September 5	<p><b>Annales School: Total History and the Longue Durée</b></p> <p><b>Read (in the following order):</b></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Green and Troup, 106-114</li> <li>2. Braudel, <i>The Mediterranean, Vol. 1.: Read: Table of Contents and then 17-24, 231-354, 418-61</i></li> </ol> <p><b>Sign up for Individual Meetings</b></p>
September 7	Graduate Student Meeting
September 7	Individual Meetings
September 12	<p><b>Marxism and History</b></p> <p><b>Read in the following order:</b></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Rius, <i>Marx for Beginners</i>, 66-143</li> <li>2. David L. Prychitko, "<a href="#">Marxism</a>," from <i>The Concise Encyclopedia of Economics</i>.</li> <li>3. Green and Troup, Chapter 3</li> <li>4. E. P. Thompson, <i>The Making of the English Working Class</i> (New York, Vintage Books, 1966), Preface and chapters 1-7 and pages 807-36</li> <li>5. <a href="http://www-personal.umich.edu/~hfox/gramsci.html">http://www-personal.umich.edu/~hfox/gramsci.html</a></li> <li>6. Nicki Cole, "What Is Cultural Hegemony" <a href="https://www.thoughtco.com/cultural-hegemony-3026121">https://www.thoughtco.com/cultural-hegemony-3026121</a></li> <li>7. Jackson Lears, "The Concept of Cultural Hegemony: Problems and Possibilities," <i>The American Historical Review</i> 90.3 (1985), 567-593.</li> </ol>

September 19	<p><b>Microhistory</b>  <b>Read in the following order:</b></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Natalie Zemon Davis, <i>The Return of Martin Guerre</i></li> <li>2. Robert Darnton, "Workers Revolt: The Great Cat Massacre" in Darnton, <i>The Great Cat Massacre and Other Episodes in French History</i></li> <li>3. Clifford Geertz, "Thick Description: Toward an Interpretative Theory of Culture"</li> <li>4. Green and Troup, Chapter 8</li> </ol>
September 21	<p><b>Elizabeth Hinton</b> (Harvard)  Brown Bag Workshop: "Second Chances: Life after Prison" (Location and Time TBA )  Constitution Day Talk: "The Making of Mass Incarceration in America." (Powers Hall Ballroom, 7:30)</p>
September 21	<p><b>Annotated Bibliography for the historical topic you will be exploring for your final historiographical essay. For this assignment, list the books in <u>chronological</u> order by publication date rather than alphabetical order by author's last name. The bibliography for the final paper should, of course, be in alphabetical order.</b></p>
September 26	<p><b>Foucault</b></p> <p><b>Watch:</b>  <a href="https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=6a2dLVx8THA">https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=6a2dLVx8THA</a></p> <p><b>Read (in any order):</b></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Green and Troup, Chapter .</li> <li>2. Foucault, Michel. <i>Discipline &amp; Punish: The Birth of the Prison</i></li> <li>3. Foucault Reading Guide:  <a href="https://www2.warwick.ac.uk/fac/arts/english/currentstudents/undergraduate/modules/fulllist/second/en229/marxftintros/foucault_reader.pdf?_hstc=162494947.c79428e34594a9ecb93ea14ebc4d17ca.1382109325061.1383646664633.1383661049186.12&amp;_hssc=162494947.13.1383661049186&amp;_hsfp=580104783">https://www2.warwick.ac.uk/fac/arts/english/currentstudents/undergraduate/modules/fulllist/second/en229/marxftintros/foucault_reader.pdf?_hstc=162494947.c79428e34594a9ecb93ea14ebc4d17ca.1382109325061.1383646664633.1383661049186.12&amp;_hssc=162494947.13.1383661049186&amp;_hsfp=580104783</a></li> </ol>

October 3	<p><b>Gender and History READ IN THIS ORDER</b></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Sonya Rose, <i>What is Gender History</i></li> <li>2. Joan W. Scott, "Gender: A Useful Category of Historical Analysis" <i>American Historical Review</i> 91 (1986): 1053-75.</li> <li>3. Laura Lee Downs, "If 'Woman' is Just an Empty Category, Then Why Am I Afraid to Walk Alone at Night? Identity Politics Meets the Postmodern Subject" <i>Comparative Studies in Society and History</i> 35, no. 2 (Apr., 1993): 414-437.</li> <li>4. Joan W. Scott, "The Tip of the Volcano" <i>Comparative Studies in Society and History</i> 35, No. 2 (Apr., 1993): 438-443.</li> <li>5. Kathleen Canning, <i>Gender History in Practice</i>, Chapters 2 &amp; 3</li> <li>6. John Tosh, "What Should Historians do with Masculinity? Reflections on Nineteenth-Century Britain," <i>History Workshop Journal</i> 38 (1994): 179-202.</li> <li>7. Green and Troup, Chapter 10</li> </ol>
October 4	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. <b>Edward Baptist</b> (Cornell University), Blackburn Lecture: 7:30 Park Library</li> </ol>
October 5	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. <b>Edward Baptist</b> (Cornell University), Brown Bag Workshop 10:00 am</li> <li>2. <b>Individual Meetings</b> to discuss topic for the final historiographical essay. Come to meeting with some ideas.</li> </ol>
October 10	<p><b>Space</b></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Habermas, <i>The Structural Transformation of the Public Sphere</i>, 1-88</li> <li>2. Miles Ogborn, <i>Spaces of Modernity: London's Geographies 1680-1780</i>, Chapters 1, 2, 3</li> </ol>
October 17	<p><b>NO CLASS</b>  <b>Due:</b>  <b>Paper on four of the historical approaches we have examined.</b></p>
October 24	<p><b>Nations and Borderlands</b></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Benedict Anderson, <i>Imagined Communities</i></li> <li>2. Jeremy Adelman, Stephen Aron, "From Borderlands to Borders: Empires, Nation-States, and the Peoples in Between in North American History," <i>The American Historical Review</i>, Volume 104, Issue 3, 1 June 1999, pp. 814-841</li> <li>3. John R. Wunder, Pekka Hämäläinen, "Of Lethal Places and Lethal Essays," <i>The American Historical Review</i>, Volume 104, Issue 4, 1 October 1999, pp. 1229-1234</li> <li>4. Pekka Hämäläinen and Samuel Truett, "On Borderlands," <i>The Journal of American History</i>, Vol. 98, No. 2 (September 2011), pp. 338-361</li> </ol>

October 31	<b>Post-Colonialism</b> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Edward Said, <i>Orientalism</i> 1-112</li> <li>Dipesh Chakrabarty, <i>Provincializing Europe</i>, 1-46, 97-113,</li> <li>Green and Troup, Chapter 12</li> </ol>
November 2	<b>Speaker</b> Andrzej Michalczyk (Ruhr University-Bochum), "State Control and Informal Networks: Global Migration from Polish-German Borderlands 1830s-1930s" 3:00-4:30 Park Library
November 7	<b>World History/Global History</b> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Sven Beckert, <i>Empire of Cotton: A Global History</i> (2014) Intro, 22-60, 80-88, 94-100, 131-135, 173-79, 196-207, 238-426.</li> <li>Barbara Weinstein, "History without a Cause? Grand Narratives, World History, and the Postcolonial Dilemma," <i>International Review of Social History</i> 50 (2005), 71-93.</li> </ol>
November 11	<b>First draft of the historiographical essay due on Blackboard. This draft is focused on the historiography of your topic.</b>
November 14	<b>Read:</b> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Green and Troup, Chapters 4, 6, 7, 9, 13-16</li> <li>Read first six pages of each essay on Blackboard. Rank according to how closely they conform to a historiographical essay.</li> </ol>
<b>THANKSGIVING</b>	
<b>WHAT IS HISTORY REVISITED</b>	
November 28	<b>A Historian's Journey</b> Geoff Eley, <i>A Crooked Line</i>
November 30	<b>Speaker</b> Dirk Jan Wolfram (University of Groningen), "Watchdogs of the Executive: The Role of Parliamentary Inquiries, Investigations, Ombudsmen, Auditors etc. in Modern Democracies"
December 5	<b>Power and the Past</b>

	<p>Michel-Rolph Trouillot, <i>Silencing the Past: Power and the Production of History</i></p> <p>Divide into groups for Historiographical Essay peer review</p>
December 9	<p>Final Draft (and for some of you Final Paper) Due on Blackboard. This draft includes a discussion of the ways in which the larger historiographical trends we have been examining all semester have influenced the historiography on your topic.</p>
December 12	<p>Come to Class having read all papers in your group on Blackboard.</p> <p>Discuss Final Papers</p>