

History 601: Colloquium in Transnational and Comparative History

Required Texts:

Benedict Anderson, *Imagined Communities*
Jared Diamond, *Guns, Germs, and Steel*
Jürgen Osterhammel and Niels P. Petersson, *Globalization*
Jerry Bentley, *Old World Encounters*
Carl Nightingale, *Segregation*
Daniel Richter, *Facing East from Indian Country*
Judith Carney and Richard Rosomoff, *In the Shadow of Slavery*
Greg Grandin, *The Empire of Necessity*
Mike Davis, *Late Victorian Holocausts*
Rachel St. John, *Line in the Sand*
Andrew Zimmerman, *Alabama in Africa*
Greg Grandin, *Fordlandia*
Kate Brown, *Plutopia*

Supplementary Articles on Transnational/Comparative History

Jeremy Adelman and Stephen Aron, "From Borders to Borderlands," *American Historical Review* (1999)
Michiel Baud and Willem Van Schendel, "Toward a Comparative History of Borderlands," *Journal of World History* (1997)
Nicholas Canny, "Writing Atlantic History: or, Reconfiguring the History of Colonial British North America," *Journal of American History* (1999)
Richard Eaton, "Comparative History as World History: Religious Conversion in Modern India," *Journal of World History* (1997)
George Fredrickson, "From Exceptionalism to Variability," *Journal of American History* (1995)
Raymond Grew, "The Case for Comparing Histories," *American Historical Review* (1980)
Raymond Grew, "The Comparative Weakness of American History," *Journal of Interdisciplinary History* (1985)
Akira Iriye, "The Internationalization of History," *American Historical Review* (1989)
Robin D. G. Kelly, "Black History's Global Vision," *Journal of American History* (1999)
Michael McGerr, "The Price of the New Transnational History," *American Historical Review* (1991)
Jorn Rusen, "Some Theoretical Approaches to Intercultural Comparative Historiography," *History and Theory* (1996)
Theda Skocpol and Margaret Somers, "The Uses of Comparative History in Macrosocial Inquiry," *Comparative Studies in Society and History* (1980)
David Thelen, "The Nation and Beyond," *Journal of American History* (1999)
Ian Tyrrell, "American Exceptionalism in an Age of International History," *American Historical Review* (1991)
Ian Tyrrell, "Ian Tyrrell Responds," *American Historical Review* (1991)
Ian Tyrrell, "Making Nations, Making States," *Journal of American History* (1999)
Various, "AHR Conversation on Transnational History," *American Historical Review* (2006)
Richard White, "The Nationalization of Nature," *Journal of American History* (1999)

Course Description:

This course is designed to introduce graduate students to an intensive investigation of historiographical issues in transnational and comparative history.

Requirements:

- 1) Sign up to deliver one 10-minute oral report and help lead colloquial discussion.
- 2) Actively participate in all colloquial discussions.
- 3) Complete two review essays of 8-10 pages each. Each essay should explore at least two books from the semester's book list and at least one article from the supplementary article list. One essay is due the week of the assigned readings, the other may be turned in any time before Monday, December 12 at 9pm. Please upload to Blackboard and turn in a hard copy as well.
- 4) Complete a 1-2-page précis on one additional week's assigned book, due on the day the book is discussed. Please upload to Blackboard and turn in a hard copy as well.

Miscellaneous:

Please be respectful of peers, course content, and the instructor at all times. Remember that all assigned work should be your own – plagiarism, cheating, and any form of academic dishonesty are not allowed. For further information, see CMU's "Code of Student Rights, Responsibilities and Disciplinary Procedures" as well as the "Policy on Academic Integrity." If you have a disability that requires accommodation during the semester, please register immediately with the Office of Student Disabilities Services.

Course Requirements:

Review #1 (8-10 pages):	35%
Review #2 (8-10 pages):	35%
Précis:	10%
Presentation/Leading Discussion:	10%
Active Participation:	10%

Course Schedule:

Week 1: 8/29

Introduction

Week 2: 9/5

NO CLASS – LABOR DAY

Week 3: 9/12

Anderson, *Imagined Communities*

Week 4: 9/19

Diamond, *Guns, Germs, and Steel*

Week 5: 9/26

Osterhammel and Petersson, *Globalization: A Short History*

Week 6: 10/3

Bentley, *Old World Encounters*

Week 7: 10/10

Nightingale, *Segregation*

Week 8: 10/17

Richter, *Facing East from Indian Country*

Week 9: 10/24

Carney and Rosomoff, *In the Shadow of Slavery*

Week 10: 10/31

Grandin, *The Empire of Necessity*

Week 11: 11/7

Davis, *Late Victorian Holocausts*

Week 12: 11/14

St. John, *Line in the Sand*

Week 13: 11/21

Zimmerman, *Alabama in Africa*

Week 14: 11/28

Grandin, *Fordlandia*

Week 15: 12/5

Brown, *Plutopia*

Last opportunity to turn in any remaining papers: Monday, December 12 at 9pm. Please upload all written assignments to Blackboard and turn in a hard copy as well.