Texas A&M University Central Texas
Department of Humanities

Spring 2020
HIST 4382 Historical Methods and Historiography

Instructor: Dr. Timothy C. Hemmis
Meeting Room: FH 212
Meeting Time: MW 11-12:15
Office: HH 216H
E-Mail: themmis@tamuct.edu
Phone: 254-501-5931
Office Hours: by appointment

Course Description and Objectives:

This class delves into the Method and Historiography of the field of History. Through lecture, discussions, readings, and multimedia, the course will examine ways historians have approached the field. We will examine the various schools of history. This course will strengthen your critical thinking, reading, and writing skills, and provide a foundation for understanding the field of history. You will demonstrate the ability to develop and focus on one topic in writing assignments and present ideas in an organized, logical, and coherent form. You will also demonstrate the ability to use Standard English grammar, punctuation, spelling, and usage.

The course objectives:

- To draw connections between the past and the present.
- To understand historical debates.
- To work with primary documents and develop an understanding of how historians use documents to interpret the past.
- To critically analyze a historical text.
- To write clear and coherent essays that develop a historical argument.

This course is classified as Writing Instructive therefore writing will be an essential part of your assessment. You will be given several opportunities to improve your writing skills on various assignments including book reviews and drafts of research papers. Revising is a key part of the writing process, so you will receive feedback on all written assignments.

Required Texts


**Recommended Texts**


There can be other articles and book chapters that the Professor may provide electronically each week.

**Course Requirements**

Grades will be determined on the following basis:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Assignment</th>
<th>Points</th>
<th>Time frame</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Reading Quizzes x 4</td>
<td>100 points (25 points each)</td>
<td>TBA</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Online Discussion</td>
<td>200 points</td>
<td>Throughout the Semester</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Intro Paragraph (Thesis)</td>
<td>100 points</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Annotated Bibliography</td>
<td>150 points</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Oral Presentation</td>
<td>150 points</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Rough Draft of Paper</td>
<td>100 points</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Historiography Paper</td>
<td>200 points</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Scoring:

Final Grades will be determined based upon the following scale:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Grade</th>
<th>Points</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>A</td>
<td>900-1000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>B</td>
<td>800-899</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>C</td>
<td>700-799</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>D</td>
<td>600-699</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>F</td>
<td>Below 600</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Attendance and Participation**

Class attendance and participation are crucial elements of the learning experience. Attendance is your responsibility. Attendance will be taken daily. In addition, attendance means staying for the whole class. Do not leave early without speaking to me beforehand. Failure to regularly attend class will result in dire consequences such as failing the class. Please come to class prepared and ready to discuss the readings assigned for the day. Attendance directly effects the final grade. The professor reserves the right to decrease the overall grade if attendance is poor.

**Assignments**
Reading Quizzes
There will be four reading quizzes online via Canvas. These quizzes will amount to 10% of the grade.

Online Discussion
There will be each week an online discussion about research and your historiography research. It will be worth 20% of your grade.

Annotated Bibliography
The Annotated Bibliography will consist of 8 monographs and 3 journal articles. This assignment is worth 15% of the final grade.

Introduction Paragraph with Thesis
Students will write an introduction paragraph with a clear thesis of their historiography essay. This single paragraph is worth 10% of the Final Grade.

A Historiography Paper
A historiographical review essay of at least 10 monographs and 5 scholarly journal articles of your choosing. These may be chosen by topic (you could select two articles on communities at war) or three articles on a specific place (you could choose a book that examines Boston—one that focuses on religion, one on economics, and one on gender). The sources must deal with the class time period. The length will be 13-15 pages. The complete rough draft will be worth 10% of the course grade and the final draft of the assignment is worth 20% of the course grade.

Oral Presentation
Students will give a 10 minute presentation on status of the field of their historiographic paper topic. This is worth 15% of the grade.

Important Reminder
Late Papers will be penalized 10% (or 1 letter grade) for every class day they are late. Weekends do not count as class days.

Academic Dishonesty
Academic dishonesty will not be tolerated. You must follow to honesty codes set forth in the student handbook. Plagiarism is a serious offense. This or any other violation of the university’s Code of Student Conduct can result in penalties that can include failing the assignment, an F in the class and/or expulsion from the university. For the official definition of what constitutes plagiarism, see the Student Handbook.

All academic misconduct concerns will be reported to the university’s Office of Student Conduct. Ignorance of the university’s standards and expectations is never an excuse to act with a lack of integrity. When in doubt on collaboration, citation, or any issue, please contact your instructor before taking a course of action.

The instructor reserves the right to use electronic resources to detect plagiarism. If you have any questions about this, please see me.
**FORMATTING**

Essays must comply with the following formatting guidelines. Writing assignments are due at the beginning of class on the date indicated. Essays must be submitted as hard copies (electronic copies of papers will not be accepted).

Your papers must be typewritten, with 12 pt. font in Times New Roman and double-spaced lines. The header of your paper should be single-spaced and in the following format:

Your Name  
Paper, HIS 343  
Dr. Timothy Hemmis  
janedoe@yahoo.com  
Due Date

Your paper should have 1” margins on the top and bottom and 1.25” margins on the left right margins. Evidence must be cited using footnotes. Use of alternate forms of citation, such as the MLA format, is not acceptable. Finally, your essays must be stapled (no “dog ears,” paper clips, or binders) and the pages numbered! If you have questions about the proper format of your essay, please see me during my office hours.

The essay must include evidence from the text, and you must cite that evidence using footnotes. Use the following examples as models:

First citation:


Subsequent citations:


**Unexcused/ Late Work or Absences from Exams:**

The only valid excuses for missing an exam or failing to turn in a paper or homework on time are illnesses requiring medical care, required university activities, religious holidays, or a personal emergency of a serious nature. To be excused without penalty, documentation is required. In certain other circumstances, I will allow you to turn in an assignment early or take an exam in advance, but you must see me as soon as possible. Do not wait until the last possible minute.

**Academic Accommodations:**

At Texas A&M University-Central Texas, we value an inclusive learning environment where every student has an equal chance to succeed and has the right to a barrier-free education. The Office of Access and Inclusion is responsible for ensuring that students with a disability receive equal access to the university’s programs, services and activities. If you believe you have a disability requiring reasonable accommodations
Please contact the Office of Access and Inclusion at (254) 501-5831. Any information you provide is private and confidential and will be treated as such.

For more information please visit our Access & Inclusion web page [https://www.tamuct.edu/student-affairs/access-inclusion.html].

**Important information for Pregnant and/or Parenting Students.**
Texas A&M University-Central Texas supports students who are pregnant and/or parenting. In accordance with requirements of Title IX and related guidance from US Department of Education’s Office of Civil Rights, the Dean of Student Affairs’ Office can assist students who are pregnant and/or parenting in seeking accommodations related to pregnancy and/or parenting. Students should seek out assistance as early in the pregnancy as possible. For more information, please visit the Student Affairs web page [https://www.tamuct.edu/student-affairs/index.html]. Students may also contact the institution’s Title IX Coordinator. If you would like to read more about these requirements and guidelines online, please visit the website [http://www2.ed.gov/about/offices/list/ocr/docs/pregnancy.pdf].

Title IX of the Education Amendments Act of 1972 prohibits discrimination on the basis of sex and gender—including pregnancy, parenting, and all related conditions. A&M-Central Texas is able to provide flexible and individualized reasonable accommodation to pregnant and parenting students. All pregnant and parenting students should contact the Associate Dean in the Division of Student Affairs at (254) 501-5909 to seek out assistance. Students may also contact the University’s Title IX Coordinator.

**WARRIOR SHIELD**
**Emergency Warning System for Texas A&M University-Central Texas**
Warrior Shield is an emergency notification service that gives Texas A&M University-Central Texas the ability to communicate health and safety emergency information quickly via email, text message, and social media. All students are automatically enrolled in Warrior Shield through their myCT email account.

Connect to Warrior Shield by 911Cellular [https://portal.publicsafetycloud.net/Account/Login] to change where you receive your alerts or to opt out. By staying enrolled in Warrior Shield, university officials can quickly pass on safety-related information, regardless of your location.

**Technology Requirements**
This course will use the A&M-Central Texas Instructure Canvas learning management system. Logon to A&M-Central Texas Canvas [https://tamuct.instructure.com/] or access Canvas through the TAMUCT Online link in myCT [https://tamuct.onecampus.com/]. You will log in through our Microsoft portal.

Username: Your MyCT email address. Password: Your MyCT password

**Canvas Support**
Use the Canvas Help link, located at the bottom of the left-hand menu, for issues with Canvas. You can select “Chat with Canvas Support,” submit a support request through “Report a Problem,” or call the Canvas support line: 1-844-757-0953.
For issues related to course content and requirements, contact your instructor.

Other Technology Support
For log-in problems, students should contact Help Desk Central
24 hours a day, 7 days a week
Email: helpdesk@tamu.edu
Phone: (254) 519-5466
Web Chat: [http://hdc.tamu.edu]

Please let the support technician know you are an A&M-Central Texas student

Cell Phones

In accordance with College policy, the use of all personal electronic communication devices in this class (or laboratory) is prohibited. Students are required to turn off or silence their personal electronic communication devices during this class. Also there will be no photography allowed in class of slides, unless a student gains permission from the professor.

Office Hours

I am available in my office hours to answer your questions and look over drafts before paper your papers are due.

***This syllabus is a mutual contract between the professor and student and the student and professor. It will not be altered lightly, however if circumstances make it necessary, the changes will be made as far in advance as is possible.

Course Schedule

All READINGS WILL BE POST VIA CANVAS

Week 1 Class Introduction JAN 13 and 15

Week 2 The Birth of History JAN 20 and 22

Week 3 Early Modern Historians JAN 27 and 29

Week 4 Nineteenth Century Historians FEB 3 and 5

Week 5 Scientific History FEB 10 and 12

Week 6 History at the Turn of the 20th Century FEB 17 and 19

Week 7 Progressive History FEB 24 and 26

Week 8 Revisionist History : Gender, Race, and Class – The Holy Trinity MAR 2 and 4
Annotated Bibliography Due Mar 4

Week 9 MAR 9 and 11 SPRING BREAK

Week 10 MAR 16 and 18 New Historiography

WORKING THESIS DUE MAR 18

Week 11 Writing Week MAR 23 and 25

Week 12 What is the Future hold for History? MAR 30 and APR 1

Rough Draft Due

Week 13 – One on One Consultations APR 13 and 15

Week 14 Historians at Work APR 20 and 21

Week 15 Writing/Revising Week APR 27 and 29

Week 16 MAY 4 and 6 Finals Week

Oral Presentations

Final Draft Due