

*Texas A&M University Central Texas*

*Department of Humanities*

**Fall 2022**

HIST 5300 Elements of Historical Inquiry

Meeting Room:

Time: Monday 6-9PM

Instructor: Dr. Timothy C. Hemmis

Office: Heritage Hall 204N

E-Mail: [themmis@tamuct.edu](mailto:themmis@tamuct.edu)

Virtual Phone: 254 300-8418

Phone: 254-501-5931

Office Hours: by appointment

### **Course Description and Objectives:**

This class examines history as a profession, including how historians read sources, pose questions, draw inferences, shape their narratives, and engage historical writings. Each week there will be readings that are paramount to your success. This course will strengthen your critical thinking, reading, discussion, and writing skills, and provide a foundation for understanding of the profession of history. You will also demonstrate the ability to use Standard English grammar, punctuation, spelling, and usage. Lastly, you will hopefully leave this class with a better understanding of America's past and how it has shaped the present.

The course objectives:

- To draw connections between the past and the present.
- To understand historical debates in the field of history.
- To critically analyze primary and secondary sources at a graduate level

### **Required Texts**

Rampolla, Mary Lynn. *A Pocket Guide to Writing in History*. 2015.

### **Monographs**

Bender, Thomas. *The Education of Historians for the Twenty-First Century*. Urbana, IL: University of Illinois Press, 2004.

Davis, Natalie Zemon. *The Return of Martin Guerre*. Cambridge, Mass: Harvard University Press, 2007.

Ginzburg, Carlo. *The Cheese and the Worms: The Cosmos of a Sixteenth-Century Miller*. Baltimore: The Johns Hopkins University Press, 2013.

Turabian, Kate L. *A Manual for Writers of Research Papers, Theses, and Dissertations, Ninth Edition: Chicago Style for Students and Researchers*. University of Chicago Press, 2018.

There will be other articles and book chapters that the Professor will provide electronically each week via Canvas.

## Course Requirements

Grades will be determined on the following basis:

Seminar Participation	250 points	All semester
Conference Proposal	100 points	Sept 12th
Annotated Bibliography	150 points	Oct 10 <sup>th</sup>
Bibliographic Essay	200 points	Oct 24 <sup>th</sup>
Rough Draft of Prospectus	100 points	Nov 7 <sup>th</sup>
Research Prospectus	200 points	Dec 5 <sup>th</sup>

## Scoring:

Final Grades will be determined based upon the following scale:

A	=	900-1000 points
B	=	800-899 points
C	=	700-799 points
D	=	600-699 points
F	=	Below 600 points

## Attendance and Participation

Class attendance and participation are crucial elements of the learning experience. Attendance is mandatory for Graduate Classes! 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, if you do not you will be considered absent. Attendance and participation also means that you will be active on Canvas and do the reading before the class period.

## Writing Assignments

### Annotated Bibliography

Students must make a list of approximately twenty 20 primary and secondary sources available to the researcher. Archival collections should be listed first with a brief description of the entire collection. Then published primary sources and then by secondary materials, and each section should be arranged alphabetically. Sources include books and articles and may also incorporate images, websites, maps, and other media of significant relevance to the project. Each entry should have a complete bibliographical citation (single spaced). According to the Chicago Manual of Style. The bibliographic entry should be followed by a single-spaced paragraph (no more) describing the source and its most important contributions to your project. The annotated bibliography is worth 150 points.

### Bibliographic Essay

Students must submit a twelve-fourteen-page bibliographic essay. The bibliographic essay should demonstrate a growing command of the sources in the annotated bibliography as well as of any additional material found over the course of the semester deemed highly valuable to the research project. The essay should connect the secondary literature included in the bibliography and to wider issues of methodological investigation, source interpretation, and the revision of existing historical arguments concerning the topic and sources. The bibliographic essay is worth 200 points.

### Rough and Final Draft of Prospectus

In a ten-page essay, meticulously edited, describe your project, the historical problem it addresses, and how it complements, expands, or revises existing historical literature in the field. In addition, describe your proposed plan of research, anticipate the research problems you may encounter, and explain briefly your strategies for coping with or surmounting such problems. What sources will you use and what difficulties may the sources themselves pose in terms of availability, reliability, and interpretation?

The rough draft is the full ten pages and is worth 100 points.

The final draft is worth 200 points.

### **Important Reminder**

**No late assignments will be accepted without valid reasons.**

### **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 a Word document uploaded to Canvas before class on the due date.

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, Course Name and Number

Dr. Timothy Hemmis

janedoe@tamuct.edu

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. Only Chicago/Turabian Style will be accepted. The 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:

<sup>1</sup> Alfred F. Young, *The Shoemaker and the Tea Party: Memory and the American Revolution* (Boston: Beacon Press, 1999), 45.

Subsequent citations:

<sup>5</sup> Young, *The Shoemaker and the Tea Party*, 74.

### **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.

### **Below is the required University Information**

## **TECHNOLOGY REQUIREMENTS AND SUPPORT**

*You need to include information about Technology Requirements and Support. In addition, include a statement on the technology requirements for the successful completion of the course and when applicable, information on how to access these resources (for example, how to obtain a certain software through University site license).*

### **Technology Requirements**

This course will use the A&M-Central Texas Instructure Canvas learning management system. We strongly recommend the latest versions of Chrome or Firefox browsers. Canvas no longer supports any version of Internet Explorer.

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.

### **Online Proctored Testing**

A&M-Central Texas uses Proctorio for online identity verification and proctored testing. This service is provided at no direct cost to students. If the course requires identity verification or proctored testing, the technology requirements are: Any computer meeting the minimum computing requirements, plus web camera, speaker, and microphone (or headset). Proctorio also requires the Chrome web browser with their custom plug in.

### **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](mailto:helpdesk@tamu.edu)

Phone: (254) 519-5466

[Web Chat](http://hdc.tamu.edu): [<http://hdc.tamu.edu>]

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

# UNIVERSITY RESOURCES, PROCEDURES, AND GUIDELINES

## Drop Policy

If you discover that you need to drop this class, you must complete the [Drop Request](#) Dynamic Form through Warrior Web.

[<https://dynamicforms.ngwebsolutions.com/casAuthentication.aspx?InstID=eaed95b9-f2be-45f3-a37d-46928168bc10&targetUrl=https%3A%2F%2Fdynamicforms.ngwebsolutions.com%2FSubmit%2FForm%2FStart%2F53b8369e-0502-4f36-be43-f02a4202f612>].

Faculty cannot drop students; this is always the responsibility of the student. The Registrar's Office will provide a deadline on the Academic Calendar for which the form must be completed. Once you submit the completed form to the Registrar's Office, you must go into Warrior Web and confirm that you are no longer enrolled. If you still show as enrolled, FOLLOW-UP with the Registrar's Office immediately. You are to attend class until the procedure is complete to avoid penalty for absence. Should you miss the drop deadline or fail to follow the procedure, you will receive an F in the course, which may affect your financial aid and/or VA educational benefits.

## Academic Integrity

Texas A&M University -Central Texas values the integrity of the academic enterprise and strives for the highest standards of academic conduct. A&M-Central Texas expects its students, faculty, and staff to support the adherence to high standards of personal and scholarly conduct to preserve the honor and integrity of the creative community. Academic integrity is defined as a commitment to honesty, trust, fairness, respect, and responsibility. Any deviation by students from this expectation may result in a failing grade for the assignment and potentially a failing grade for the course. Academic misconduct is any act that improperly affects a true and honest evaluation of a student's academic performance and includes, but is not limited to, working with others in an unauthorized manner, cheating on an examination or other academic work, plagiarism and improper citation of sources, using another student's work, collusion, and the abuse of resource materials. All academic misconduct concerns will be referred 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.

For more [information regarding the Student Conduct process](#), [<https://www.tamuct.edu/student-affairs/student-conduct.html>].

If you know of potential honor violations by other students, you may [submit a report](#), [[https://cm.maxient.com/reportingform.php?TAMUCentralTexas&layout\\_id=0](https://cm.maxient.com/reportingform.php?TAMUCentralTexas&layout_id=0)].

## 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, WH-212; or call (254) 501-5836. Any information you provide is private and confidential and will be treated as such.

For more information please visit our [Access & Inclusion](#) Canvas page (log-in required) [<https://tamuct.instructure.com/courses/717>]

## 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 [Student Affairs](#) [<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.

## Tutoring

Tutoring is available to all A&M-Central Texas students, on a remote online basis. Visit the Academic Support Community in Canvas to view schedules and contact information. Subjects tutored on campus include Accounting, Advanced Math, Biology, Finance, Statistics, Mathematics, and Study Skills. Student success coaching is available online upon request.

If you have a question regarding tutor schedules, need to schedule a tutoring session, are interested in becoming a tutor, success coaching, or have any other question, contact Academic Support Programs at (254) 501-5836, visit the Office of Student Success at 212F Warrior Hall, or by emailing [studentsuccess@tamuct.edu](mailto:studentsuccess@tamuct.edu).

Chat live with a tutor 24/7 for almost any subject from on your computer! Tutor.com is an online tutoring platform that enables A&M-Central Texas students to log in and receive online tutoring support at no additional cost. This tool provides tutoring in over 40 subject areas except writing support. Access Tutor.com through Canvas.

## University Writing Center

University Writing Center: Located in Warrior Hall 416, the University Writing Center (UWC) at Texas A&M University–Central Texas (A&M–Central Texas) is a free service open to all A&M–Central Texas students. For the Spring 2022 semester, the hours of operation are from 10:00 a.m.-5:00 p.m. Monday thru Thursday in Warrior Hall 416 (with online tutoring available every hour as well) with satellite hours available online only Monday thru Thursday from 6:00-9:00 p.m. and Saturday 12:00-3:00 p.m.

Tutors are prepared to help writers of all levels and abilities at any stage of the writing process. While tutors will not write, edit, or grade papers, they will assist students in developing more effective composing practices. By providing a practice audience for students' ideas and writing, our tutors highlight the ways in which they read and interpret students' texts, offering guidance and support throughout the various stages of the writing process. In addition, students may work independently in the UWC by checking out a laptop that runs the Microsoft Office suite and connects to WIFI, or by consulting our resources on writing, including all of the relevant style guides. Whether you need help brainstorming ideas, organizing an essay, proofreading, understanding proper citation practices, or just want a quiet place to work, the UWC is here to help!

Students may arrange a one-to-one session with a trained and experienced writing tutor by making an appointment via [WOnline](https://tamuct.mywconline.com/) [https://tamuct.mywconline.com/]. In addition, you can email Dr. Bruce Bowles Jr. at [bruce.bowles@tamuct.edu](mailto:bruce.bowles@tamuct.edu) if you have any questions about the UWC, need any assistance with scheduling, or would like to schedule a recurring appointment with your favorite tutor by making an appointment via [WOnline](https://tamuct.mywconline.com/) [https://tamuct.mywconline.com/]. In addition, you can email Dr. Bruce Bowles Jr. at [bruce.bowles@tamuct.edu](mailto:bruce.bowles@tamuct.edu) if you have any questions about the UWC, need any assistance with scheduling, or would like to schedule a recurring appointment with your favorite tutor.

## University Library

The University Library provides many services in support of research across campus and at a distance. We offer over 200 electronic databases containing approximately 400,000 eBooks and 82,000 journals, in addition to the 96,000 items in our print collection, which can be mailed to students who live more than 50 miles from campus. Research guides for each subject taught at A&M-Central Texas are available through our website to help students navigate these resources. On campus, the library offers technology including cameras, laptops, microphones, webcams, and digital sound recorders.

Research assistance from a librarian is also available 24 hours a day through our online chat service, and at the reference desk when the library is open. Research sessions can be scheduled for more comprehensive assistance, and may take place virtually through WebEx, Microsoft Teams or in-person at the library. [Schedule an appointment here](https://tamuct.libcal.com/appointments/?g=6956) [https://tamuct.libcal.com/appointments/?g=6956]. Assistance may cover many topics, including how to find articles in peer-reviewed journals, how to cite resources, and how to piece together research for written assignments.

Our 27,000-square-foot facility on the A&M-Central Texas main campus includes student lounges, private study rooms, group work spaces, computer labs, family areas suitable for all ages, and many other features. Services such as interlibrary loan, TexShare, binding, and laminating are available. The library frequently offers workshops, tours, readings, and other events. For more information, please visit our [Library website](#)

[<http://tamuct.libguides.com/index>].

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## **COURSE OUTLINE AND CALENDAR**

Complete Course Calendar \* Note there could be other readings assigned via Canvas.

### **Week 1 (Aug 22) Introduction to Course; Discussions of Students' Historical Interests and Perceptions of the Work of Modern Historians.**

**Read the syllabus**

### **Week 2 (Aug 29 ) Discussion of the History Profession**

**Read: Bender: Chapter 1 (3-44)**

Read: <https://www.chronicle.com/article/you-have-the-m-a-what-now/>

Read: <https://www.historians.org/publications-and-directories/perspectives-on-history/december-2017/next-steps-for-career-diversity-diving-into-graduate-education>

Read: <https://www.historians.org/publications-and-directories/perspectives-on-history/may-2018/the-real-academic-world-experiences-and-lessons-from-new-historians>

### **Week 3 (Sept 5 ) LABOR DAY NO CLASS**

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**Read:** Berry, David. M. "What are the Digital Humanities? The British Academy, February 19, 2019.  
<https://www.thebritishacademy.ac.uk/blog/what-are-digitalhumanities/>

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**Week 4 (Sept 12) Discussions of Analyzing Primary Sources and the Roles of Primary Sources; Discussion of Digital Humanities Projects; Online Archives;**

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Students should be prepared to deliver short presentations on an archive and a primary text from their own research.

***Conference Proposal is Due***

**Week 5 (Sept 19) Using Primary Sources to tell a story.**

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**Read:** *The Return of Martin Geurre***Week 6 (Sept 26) Discussions of the Criteria for Scholarly Books and Book Reviews.**

Students need to locate three (3) examples of professional book reviews. One example needs to be a review of a Western book, and a second example needs to be a review of a Non-Western book. The third example can be either a review of a Western or non Western book. Students will deliver a short presentation on these three (3) reviews.

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**Week 7 (Oct 3) Writing a Professional Review and Peer Review**

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**Read:** *The Cheese and the Worms:*

*Prepare and Write a 750 word Critical Book Review of The Cheese and the Worms is due*

*(This is an ungraded assignment but it part of your participation)*

**Week 8 (Oct 10) Researching History.**

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Students should be prepared to discuss their research projects and the primary source collections they examining and why it is important to their projects.

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**Annotated Bibliography is Due**

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**Week 9 (Oct 17.) Discussions of Careers in the Historical Profession and the Challenges Faced by Historians in the Twenty-First Century**

Students need to locate two (2) articles that discuss either careers in the historical profession or challenges faced by historians and deliver a short presentation on these articles.

Read: Grant, Elisabeth. "Jobs and Careers in History." AHA Today. April 2, 2008. American Historical Association.  
<https://www.historians.org/publications-and-directories/perspectives-onhistory/april-2008/jobs-and-careers-in-history>



Read: <https://www.historians.org/jobs-and-professional-development/career-resources/the-many-careers-of-history-phds>

**Week 10 (Oct 24) Knowing what has been written about a topic**

**Bibliographic Essay is Due**

Read TAMUCT MA THESIS MANUAL [https://tamuct.libguides.com/ld.php?content\\_id=44965138](https://tamuct.libguides.com/ld.php?content_id=44965138)

**Week 11 ( Oct 31) Writing Week**

NO CLASS JUST WORK ON ROUGH DRAFT

**Week 12 (Nov 7) The Politicization of History.**

Read: <https://www.historians.org/publications-and-directories/perspectives-on-history/may-2012/preparing-history-teachers-to-develop-young-peoples-historical-thinking>

**Rough Draft of Prospectus is Due**

**Week 13 (Nov 14) What is a Thesis and How to structure it**

Bender Chapter 2 & 3 : P 45-108

**Week 14 (Nov 21) NO CLASS**

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**Week 15 (Nov 28) Conferences and Professional Organizations**

Read: “Making Presentations Presentable’ American Historical Association.

<https://www.historians.org/annual-meeting/resources-and-guides/speakerresources/making-presentations-accessible>

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**Week 16 (Dec 5) Final Meeting**

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**Final Prospectus is Due**

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