

Historiography & Methods (HIS5990)

Tuesday, 2:30-5:15
Building 51, Room 148

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COURSE DESCRIPTION

This course provides students the necessary skills and preparation for completing a graduate degree in history and for entering a doctoral program or seeking employment upon completion of the Master of Arts program.

STUDENT LEARNING OUTCOMES

- Demonstrate fluency with various research tools, databases, and resources
- Demonstrate an expertise in historiographical approaches and interpretive assessment
- Acquire improved skills at reading comprehension, critical analysis, and research and writing
- Demonstrate a comprehension of the theory and history of history
- Learn the necessary professional skills to enter a doctoral program or pursue employment

TEXTS

Paul Conkin and Roland Stromberg, *Heritage and Challenge: The History and Theory of History*
John Arnold, *History: A Short Introduction*

Martha Howell/Walter Prevenier, *From Reliable Sources: An Introduction to Historical Methods*
Anthony Brundage, *Going to the Sources: A Guide to Historical Research and Writing*

Frank L. Owsley and Gene A. Smith, *Filibusters and Expansionists: Jeffersonian Manifest Destiny, 1800-1821*

J. C. A. Stagg, *Borderlines in Borderlands: James Madison and the Spanish-American Frontier, 1776-1821*

Kathryn Z. Derounian-Stodola, *Women's Indian Captivity Narratives* (1998)

Theda Perdue and Michael D. Green, eds., *The Cherokee Removal: A Brief History with Documents* (2nd edition, 2005)

ATTENDANCE

Class discussion is a critical component of any graduate seminar. Attendance, therefore, is not only expected, it is compulsory, and it will be taken at every class period. For every class you miss, fifty points will be deducted from your final total. If you cannot attend the class, then you should not take the course. If you have completed all the assignments and finish the semester with a borderline grade, then perfect attendance will raise your final grade one full average point to the next grade level.

ASSIGNMENTS

See “Class Topics & Schedule” for assigned readings and assignments. Each week the professor will provide with you with the necessary material on which to work and the parameters for each particular assignment. All writing assignments should not exceed 1200 words in length, including citations. Each assignment is worth 100 points. Since class discussion is an integral part of the learning process, as well as a necessary component of this course, class participation amounts to 20% of your final grade.

GRADING [2200 Total Points for Essays (200 Points for Participation)]

A (94-100)	A- (90-93)	B+ (87-89)	B (84-86)	B- (80-83)
C+ (77-79)	C (74-76)	C- (70-73)	D (60-69)	F (59 and below)

EXPECTATIONS FOR ACADEMIC CONDUCT

As members of the University of West Florida academic community, we commit ourselves to honesty. As we strive for excellence in performance, integrity—both personal and institutional—is our most precious asset. Honesty in our academic work is vital, and we will not knowingly act in ways which erode that integrity. Accordingly, we pledge not to cheat, nor to tolerate cheating, nor to plagiarize the work of others. We pledge to share community resources in ways that are responsible and that comply with established policies of fairness. Cooperation and competition are means to high achievement and are encouraged. Indeed, cooperation is expected unless our directive is to individual performance. We will compete constructively and professionally for the purpose of stimulating high performance and standards. Finally, we accept adherence to this set of expectations for academic conduct as a condition of membership in the UWF academic community. (From the Student Life Handbook, page 46.)

For more information on the University’s academic conduct policies, see the following resources:

- Academic Conduct Policy: ([Web Format](#)) | ([PDF Format](#)) | ([RTF Format](#))
- Plagiarism Policy: ([Word Format](#)) | ([PDF Format](#)) | ([RTF Format](#))
- Student Handbook: ([PDF Format](#))

CLASS TOPICS & SCHEDULE

January 7	Introduction	Course Purpose & Parameters (Class Exercise)
January 14	History and Theory of History	Read: Conkin/Stromberg, Part I (Class Exercise)
January 21	History and Theory of History	Read: Arnold, chs. 2, 3, Howell/Prevenier, Intro., ch. 4 Brundage, ch. 1 Assignment Due (Class Exercise)
January 28	History and Theory of History	Read: Conkin/Stromberg, chs. 10, 11, 12 Arnold, chs. 1, 4-7 (Class Exercise)
February 4	History and Theory of History	Read: Howell/Prevenier, chs. 1, 2, 3, 5 Brundage, ch. 2 Assignment Due
February 11	Source Evidence	Provided by Professor: ○ Boston Massacre ○ Lexington Green ○ Longfellow Poem Assignments Due
February 18	Source Evidence	Provided by Professor: ○ Frontier Depositions ○ Brown's Raid and Execution ○ Nullification before and after Secession Assignments Due

February 25	Source Evidence	Provided by Professor: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Connecticut Constitution 1662, 1776, 1818 ○ NY, MA, VA Conventions ○ Smith on Jackson's Inauguration Assignments Due
March 4	Reviews & Historiographical Essays	Read: Article on book reviews Examples of book reviews Brundage, ch. 4 Examples of Historiographical Essays
March 18	Reviews & Historiographical Essays	Book reviews on Owsley/Smith and Stagg Historiographical Essay on Owsley/Smith and Stagg Assignments Due
March 25	Source Evidence Research & Writing 1	Provided by Professor: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Detroit and Automobile Industry Assignments Due Read: Brundage, chs. 3, 5
April 1	Source Evidence Research & Writing 2	Provided by Professor: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Travel Accounts of America ○ Virginia Marriage Contracts ○ Indentured Servitude Contracts Assignments Due
April 8	Source Evidence Research & Writing 3	Provided by Professor: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Women's Indian Captive Narratives Assignments Due
April 15	Source Evidence Research & Writing 4	Provided by Professor: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Cherokee Removal Assignments Due
April 22	Professional Aspects	
April 29	Wrap-Up	

