

HIST 490/WI: Historiography & Research Methods **Fall 2013**



Section 001: Mon & Wed 3:00-4:15pm
UCB 111

“History is a dialogue between the past and the present” Jerry Bentley

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Tues 3:30-4:45pm
or by appointment

COURSE OVERVIEW: Historiography – what is it? Put most simply, historiography is the study of the discipline of history. Western historians have traditionally considered this to mean only written history, but with more non-Western approaches to the past becoming part of the discipline, we will also strive to expand our study. And, with a broad base to draw upon, we can begin to understand the meaning and purposes of “history” for people across the globe.

This course is intended to help you to “think” like historians. As such we will be tackling topics such as “truth,” “perspective,” and “objectivity.” The search for historical meaning can be a complex and challenging endeavor, but we will work on developing the skills necessary to meet that challenge!

This course is also intended to support you with the beginning stages of your senior thesis research paper including the search for a suitable topic and the development of research and writing skills needed for such an undertaking.

REQUIRED BOOKS:

Mark T. Gilderhus, *History and Historians: A Historiographical Introduction*, 7th Edition (Prentice Hall, 2010).

Keith Jenkins, *Re-thinking History* (Routledge, 2009).

John Tosh, *The Pursuit of History*, 5th Edition (Pearson, 2010)

James Clifford, *The Predicament of Culture: Twentieth-Century Ethnography, Literature, and Art* (Harvard University Press, 1988).

Iggers and Wang, eds., *Turning Points in Historiography* (University of Rochester Press, 2002).

Jenny Presnell, *The Information Literate Historian: A Guide to Research for History Students*, 2nd Edition (Oxford University Press, 2013).

Kate Turabian, *A Manual for Writers of Research Papers, Theses, and Dissertations*, 8th Edition (University of Chicago Press, 2013).

Strunk and White, *The Elements of Style* 4th Edition (Longman, 2000).

Other reading assignments will be available **on-line**, on our **laulima page** or distributed in class.

PLEASE, REMEMBER TO BRING YOUR BOOKS AND READINGS TO CLASS!

HIST 490 is designed/required for History Majors and counts toward the 45 upper division credit course requirement. It also marks the beginning of your senior thesis "journey".

COURSE OBJECTIVES: By the end of this course, you should be able to:

- o identify the main theoretical approaches and debates in the discipline of history, including traditional modes of disseminating historical knowledge as well as work being produced by contemporary scholars
- o express thoughts and knowledge of major historical processes in history effectively in written and oral form
- o analyze primary and secondary sources in history
- o demonstrate an understanding of historical debate and controversy by examining how historians analyze and use evidence and develop differing interpretations
- o identify bias and differing points of view in historical interpretations
- o determine the significance of different kinds of historical change and continuity

This course is heavy on critical reading and thinking, so be prepared to set aside some time for study! Like all history courses, we will be working on our writing skills in this class. We will also be utilizing discussion to work on critical thinking skills and short presentations to work on public speaking.

Assignments and Requirements: All assignments are required and must be submitted on time, except in the case of a documented emergency.

Your course grade will be based upon a maximum possible score of 400 points. You will be able to earn points throughout the semester as follows:

Annotated Bibliography	50 points
Literature Review essay	50 points
Book Reviews	60 points
service-learning component (History Day)	40 points
Discussion/Participation	100 points
Thesis progress papers & presentations	100 points

	400 points total

*** FINAL EXAM portfolio = signed topic contract, detailed outline for senior thesis, first 10 written pages of senior thesis research paper. ***

Your final grade will be determined according to the number of points you accumulate throughout the length of the course along with my assessment of your performance overall – and final grade will not be submitted until portfolio is complete.

EXPLANATIONS:

Annotated Bibliography: (50 points) Throughout the course we will be working on building your bibliography for your senior thesis. We will complete this in stages moving from a basic list of sources and their locations (to develop our research skills), to – near the end of the course – an annotated bibliography. Twenty source minimum.

Literature Review essay: (50 points) This assignment is asking you to write an historiography essay based on the sources you are using for your senior thesis research paper (i.e. from your annotated bibliography). The essay should be 7-8 pages minimum, double-spaced, computer generated, 12 pt Times-New Roman font, with a title page and bibliography, using Chicago citation style (note: title page and bibliography are not part of the total page count).

Book Reviews: (60 points) For FIVE of the books we are reading as a class + ONE book that you will read independently (from a list provided to the class), you will write a short synopsis/review. Book reviews should be 2-3 pages, double-spaced, computer generated, 12 pt Times-New Roman font, and follow professional book review form.

Service-learning component (History Day): (40 points) Whether or not you intend to go on to teach, the ability to transmit historical knowledge is a key skill historians need to develop. With that in mind, we will be assisting some local high-school and middle-school students in their preparations to participate in the Hawai'i District History Day (next March) here on campus. History Day provides students with a platform to present their research in history. More information on this requirement will follow, but there will be a variety of assignments/needs throughout the semester that may be used to fulfill this requirement (i.e. not all of you will be doing the same thing, but all will be a contribution to the larger project).

Discussion/Participation: (100 points) Our purpose in the course is to continually ask ourselves what the differing opinions being addressed are including: objectivity, historical agency/actors, structure, causation, power and modernization/traditional modes of knowing, etc. This course is organized as a seminar, thus we are all expected to come to class prepared to participate in discussions in class, as well as on our laulima page when called for.

Senior Thesis Research Progress Papers and Presentations: (100 points) This course marks the beginning stages of your senior research paper/thesis. You will choose your topic for your thesis and work on finding and paring down your sources. We will begin with abstracts and outlines. By the end of the course, you will be submitting the first 10 pages of your senior thesis. Further instructions will be given for each assignment in this category. (Note: these are not your final pages! They will be revised in HIST 491, but, beginning the writing process at this early stage will allow you to complete the best senior thesis possible.)

ALL written assignments are to be submitted to our Laulima page unless otherwise noted.

GENERAL EXPECTATIONS:

It is expected that all assignments will be submitted on time, otherwise, late penalties will be applied (i.e. -5 points per day late). If you should miss an assignment due to illness, a doctor's note is necessary in order to arrange for a late submission without any penalty.

It is expected that each student arrive to class on time and remain for the entire 75 minutes. During class discussions or presentations please refrain from distracting those around you. Polite and constructive participation in class is always welcomed.

Please **turn off** all cell phones, pagers, iPods, mp3 players, or other electronic devices when entering the classroom. Further, if you wish to use a laptop for taking notes in class, that is fine, but students are asked to refrain from surfing the web, checking email, etc., while class is in session – it is a distraction to those around you and it is a distraction to *your* learning experience as well.

NOTE: Students are expected to abide by the University Code of Conduct; failure to do so (i.e. plagiarism, cheating, disrupting class, etc.) may result in your dismissal not only from this course, but from the university itself.

A NOTE ON ADVISING:

Advising is a very important resource designed to help students complete the requirements of the University and their individual majors. Students should consult with their advisor at least once a semester to decide on courses, check progress towards graduation, and discuss career options and other educational opportunities provided by UH-Hilo.

Advising is a shared responsibility, but students have final responsibility for meeting degree requirements.

A NOTE ON DISABILITY ACCOMMODATION:

Any student with a documented disability who would like to request accommodations should contact the University Disability Services Office - Hale Kauano'e A Wing Lounge, 933-0816 (V), 933-3334 (TTY), shirachi@hawaii.edu - as early in the semester as possible.

COURSE SCHEDULE: (you will be advised of any major changes to the schedule)

Readings & Assignments: Readings for each week must be completed by the date they are listed in the syllabus. Assignments are DUE on the date they are listed in the syllabus.

<i>DATE</i>	<i>TOPIC & ASSIGNMENT(S):</i>
week 1	
Mon AUG 26	introduction to course
Wed AUG 28	what is history? what is historiography? READ: Carl Becker, "What is Historiography?" <i>The American Historical Review</i> , Vol. 44, No. 1 (Oct., 1938): 20-28. (laulima #1)
week 2	
Mon SEP 02	HOLIDAY – Labor Day – no classes
Wed SEP 04	historiography – a survey READ: Gilderhus, <i>History and Historians: a Historiographical Introduction</i> , pp. 1-125
Sun SEP 08	DUE: submit to laulima course website by 11:59pm (a) senior thesis topic – a one paragraph description of your topic, why it interests you, how you expect to approach it (b) Book Review #1 – Gilderhus, <i>History and Historians</i>
week 3	
Mon SEP 09	research & topic choices—presentation #1 2 minute presentations on your proposed senior thesis topic Please come prepared, having organized your comments before-hand. READ: Jenkins, <i>Re-thinking History</i> , pp. i-xx, 1-32.
Wed SEP 11	<i>The Historian's Craft: Prof. Jeff Smith (U.S. History)</i> READ: Jenkins, <i>Re-thinking History</i> , pp. 33-84.
Sun SEP 15th	DUE: submit to laulima course website by 11:59pm (a) Book Review #2 – Jenkins, <i>Re-thinking History</i>
week 4	
Mon SEP 16	*library session – meet @ library
Wed SEP 18	*library research – meet @ library PREPARE: research & prepare 20-source bibliography on your senior thesis topic (with <u>at least TWO primary sources</u>). Properly format bibliography for submission. Begin to assess each source for both your annotated bibliography (due Nov. 17th and for the literature review of your topic (due Dec. 1 st).

Sun SEP 22nd **DUE:** submit to laulima course website by 11:59pm
(a) 20-source bibliography on senior thesis topic, properly formatted
[use Chicago/Turabian style]

week 5

Mon SEP 23 **perspective –**
READ: Tosh, *The Pursuit of History*, p. viii-ix, chapters 1-5

Wed SEP 25 **perspective –**
READ: Tosh, *The Pursuit of History*, chapters 6-11 & Conclusion

Sun SEP 29th **DUE:** submit to laulima course website by 11:59pm
(a) **Book Review #3** – Tosh, *The Pursuit of History*

week 6

Mon SEP 30 **perspective – moving beyond western ideas of history**
READ: Donald R. Wehrs, "Sartre's Legacy in Postcolonial Theory; Or, Who's Afraid of Non-Western Historiography and Cultural Studies?" *New Literary History*, Vol. 34, no. 4, Multicultural Essays (Autumn 2003): 761-789. (laulima #2)

Wed OCT 02 ***The Historian's Craft: Prof. Michael Bitter (European History)***
READ: tba

week 7

Mon OCT 07 **perspective – moving beyond western ideas of history**
READ: James Clifford, *The Predicament of Culture*, pp. 1-186

Wed OCT 09 **perspective – moving beyond western ideas of history**
READ: James Clifford, *The Predicament of Culture*, pp. 189-346

Sun OCT 13th **DUE:** submit to laulima course website by 11:59pm
(a) **Book Review #4** – Clifford, *The Predicament of Culture*

week 8

Mon OCT 14 **research progress – presentation #2**
3 minute presentations on your senior thesis research --

Wed OCT 16 **writing day**
your senior thesis abstract & detailed outline will soon be due!
take this opportunity to write! talk to your content advisor! & write!!!

week 9

Mon OCT 21 ***The Historian's Craft: Doug Mikkelson (European History)***
READ: tba

Wed OCT 23 **a world view of history**
READ: Iggers & Wang, *Turning Points in Historiography*, pp. 1-144

Sun OCT 27th **DUE:** submit to laulima course website by 11:59pm
(a) abstract & detailed outline for senior research paper/thesis (with title page and working bibliography); abstract should be at least one-page in length, detailed outline at least 3 pages (all computer generated)

week 10

Mon OCT 28 **a world view of history**
READ: Iggers & Wang, *Turning Points in Historiography*, pp. 147 - 338

Wed OCT 30 **research progress – presentation #4**
3 minute presentations on your senior thesis research – and writing!

Sun NOV 3rd **DUE:** submit to laulima course website by 11:59pm
(a) **Book Review #5** – Iggers & Wang, *Turning Points in Historiography*

week 11

Mon NOV 04 **research methods**
READ: Presnell, *The Information Literate Historian*, pp. 1-167

Wed NOV 06 **research methods**
MEET w/ content advisor this week (plan ahead; make an appointment!)
signed FORM is DUE on Wed., Nov. 13th

Sun NOV 10th **DUE:** submit to laulima course website by 11:59pm
(a) first 5 written pages of senior research paper/thesis – with title page & working bibliography
(b) revised detailed outline for senior research paper/thesis

week 12

Mon NOV 11 **HOLIDAY – Veteran's Day – no classes**
READ: Presnell, *The Information Literate Historian*, pp. 168-321

Wed NOV 13 ***The Historian's Craft: Pacific History***
signed CONTENT ADVISOR FORM is DUE today!
READ: Epeli Hau'ofa, "Our Sea of Islands" (laulima #3)

Sun NOV 17th **DUE:** submit to laulima course website by 11:59pm
(a) **Annotated Bibliography** – 20-sources minimum

week 13

Mon NOV 18 **write! write! write! (no class meeting)**
MEET w/ content advisor this week (plan ahead; make an appointment!)
signed FORM is DUE on Mon., Nov. 25th

Wed NOV 20 **writing/telling history**
READ: Strunk & White, *The Elements of Style*, pp. xiii-xviii, 1-38

Sun NOV 22nd **DUE:** submit to laulima course website by 11:59pm
(a) **Book Review #6** – your choice from independent list

week 14

Mon NOV 25 ***The Historian's Craft: Hawaiian History***
READ: Noenoe Silva, “Introduction” & “Early Struggles with Foreigners” *Aloha Betrayed* (laulima #4)
signed CONTENT ADVISOR FORM is DUE today!

Wed NOV 27 **writing/telling history**

Sun DEC 1st **DUE:** submit to laulima course website by 11:59pm
(a) **Literature Review Essay** – 7-8 page historiography essay on your chosen topic for senior thesis research paper
(b) revised detailed outline for senior research paper/thesis

week 15

Mon DEC 02 **writing/telling history**
READ: Strunk & White, *The Elements of Style*, pp. 39-95

Wed DEC 04 **research progress – presentation #5** (6)
10 minute presentations on your senior thesis research & writing!

Sun DEC 08th 10 written pages of research paper/thesis -- **if you want feedback** before FINAL 10 pages DUE @ FINAL EXAM
submit to laulima course website by 11:59pm

week16

Mon DEC 09 **research progress – presentation #5** (6)
10 minute presentations on your senior thesis research & writing!

Wed DEC 11 **research progress – presentation #5** (6)
10 minute presentations on your senior thesis research & writing!

DUE TODAY:

- (a) **topic contract form*** – with all required signatures! (hardcopy)
- (b) **revised detailed outline*** for senior thesis (hardcopy + electronic)

FINAL EXAM: first 10 written pages* of senior thesis research paper (with title page & bibliography)
DUE: Wed, DEC 18th @ 2pm (submit electronic copy to laulima and hardcopy to UCB350)

*all required components of FINAL EXAM Portfolio