WHAT IS INTELLECTUAL HISTORY?

DRAFT

History 97b • Spring 2017
Tuesdays 1-4 pm

“*They say, ‘The fox knows many things, but the hedgehog knows one great thing.’ Want to hear it?”*

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Intellectual historians study almost every period, place, and theme in human history: from classical times to the present, from Asia to the Americas, and from cannibalism to capitalism, by way of politics, philosophy, literature, art and other expressions of human agency and intention. This section will draw examples from a range of moments and regions to ask how intellectual history has developed as a field, what methods it uses, and how it can be distinguished from other forms of history even as it informs debates of interest to all historians.

The seminar will meet on Tuesdays, 1–4 pm; in weeks with tutorials, students will be divided into two groups meeting either at 1–2:30 pm or 2:30–4 pm.

**Required Readings**


Course Requirements

Paper 1: Comparing/contrasting/abstracting (1500 words) 10%
Paper 2: Historiographical discussion (1500 words) 10%
Paper 3: Primary source analysis (1500 words) 10%
Paper 4: Final paper (3500 words) 30%
Participation in seminar (20%) and in tutorial (20%) 40%

Unit 1: The Practice of History

Week 1 (Tuesday January 24) Seminar: Introduction

1. Introduction to the course and its aims
2. Introduction to tutor and sequence of activities
3. Discussion of week’s readings


Monday January 30: Plenary Meeting CGIS Tsai Auditorium, 6-8 pm

Week 2 (January 31) Seminar: What is Intellectual History?


Sunday February 5: Paper #1 (1500 words)
Write an abstract (c. 250 words) of each article by Grandjean and Warren, then write a compare-and-contrast analysis of the two pieces (c. 1000 words)

Week 3 (February 7) Tutorial
Meetings in tutorial groups for peer review discussion—please come prepared to discuss the papers submitted by your fellow tutorial members.

Sunday Feb. 12: Revised Paper #1 due (5 pm)

Unit 2: Historiography
How do historical interpretations change, accumulate, modify, return?
Week 4 (February 14) Seminar: Secondary Sources (I)


Thursday February 16 (or thereabouts):
Please come to office hours to decide on question/theme for paper #2 (historiographical), building toward your final paper.

Week 5 (February 21) Seminar: Secondary Sources (II)


Sunday Feb. 26: Paper #2 (1500 words) due (5 pm)
Historiographical paper, comparing and contrasting at least two historical works on your chosen question/theme.

Week 6 (February 28) Tutorial
Meetings in tutorial groups for peer review discussion.
Selecting primary sources for viewing at Houghton Library next week.

Sunday March 5: Revised Paper #2 due (5 pm)

Week 7 (March 7) Visit to Houghton Library

March 14: NO CLASS (Spring Break)

Unit 3: Primary Source Analysis
Highlighting how (intellectual) historians read and use primary sources

Week 8 (March 21) Seminar: Reading a Primary Source


**Sunday March 26: Statement of topic and annotated bibliography due**

**Week 9 (March 28): Tutorial**
Discussion of topic statements and annotated bibliographies.

**Sunday April 2: Paper #3 due (5 pm)**
Analysis of a primary source important for your final paper

**Unit 4: Synthesis**
How do historians put analysis of primary sources into dialogue with historiography?

**Week 10 (April 4) Seminar: Contextualizing Primary Sources**


**Sunday April 9: Outline of final paper due (5 pm)**

**Week 11 (April 11) Seminar**
5-minute oral presentations in class of paper topics, using handouts, Powerpoint or Prezi

**Sunday April 16: Draft final papers due (c. 3500 words); these should integrate historiographical analysis and earlier primary source analysis and contextualization**

**Week 12 (April 18): Tutorials**
Peer review of paper drafts in tutorials

**Week 13 (April 25): Seminar**
Final wrap-up discussion; preparation for capstone event on May 1

**Monday May 1: Capstone Event** CGIS Tsai Auditorium, 6-8 pm

**Wednesday May 3: Revised final paper due (5 pm)**