History 97: 2022-23

Skeleton Syllabus and Key Dates

Purpose of the Course

History 97 or Sophomore Tutorial is the only course required of all History concentrators and is designed as an introduction to the discipline and the Department. It is offered only in spring and sophomore concentrators must take it that year, though the course always accepts some students who enter the concentration late. History 97 consists of 5 parallel seminars, each of which is formulated thematically and have separate reading assignments. Students across all seminars will be assigned similarly structured writing assignments, with similar due dates. History 97 is designed to be a shared experience that will equip students with a basic familiarity with the skills required for successful writing and research in history. The course seeks to develop several skills at the core of work in history: searching for and evaluating relevant secondary sources; engaging with historiography, close-reading primary sources, constructing an evidence-based historical argument, writing with footnotes, articulating constructive criticism, and revising writing based on feedback from instructors and peers.

Structure of the Course

The course consists of four units of three weeks each. In the first two weeks of each unit, the course will meet as a full seminar. During the third week of each unit each course will split to meet in two tutorial sessions of 90 minutes each in which students will peer review the papers of the four members of each tutorial, with approximately 20 minutes of discussion for each student's work.

Course Requirements

All papers (except the final submission of the final paper) are due at 5pm two days before the course meets. Papers must be submitted using the course website. Percentages refer to each assignment's percentage of the final grade.

- *Paper #1 Draft* (1000 words) due at 5pm two days before tutorial of Week 3 : 5%; *Paper #1 Revision* (1000 words) due at 5pm two days before tutorial of Week 4: 5%

- *Paper #2* (Primary Source Analysis, 1500 words) due at 5pm two days before **seminar** of Week 10: 10%, *Paper #2 Revision* (Primary source analysis), 1500 words) due at 5pm two days before tutorial of Week 7: 5%

- *Paper #3 Draft* (Historiographic Essay, 1500 words) due at 5pm two days before tutorial of Week 6: 5%; no revision, builds toward final paper
- *Final paper statement of topic* and *final paper outline and annotated bibliography* due at 5pm two days before tutorial of Week 9
- inal Project Portfolio, 30%

- *Final paper thesis statement* and *final paper outline* due at 5pm two days before **seminar** of Week 11

- *Final project presentations:* Week 11, during seminar

- *Paper #4 Draft* (Final paper, 3500 words) due at 5pm two days before tutorial of Week 12

- *Paper #4 Revision* (Final Paper, 3500 words) due Wednesday May 3, 5pm (last day of reading period)

- Participation in seminar (20%) + participation in tutorial (20%) = 40% of final grade

Readings not for sale will be provided via the course website.

For course policies see the website and separate handout.

Honor Code
Members of the Harvard College community commit themselves to producing academic work of integrity – that is, work that adheres to the scholarly and intellectual standards of accurate attribution of sources, appropriate collection and use of data, and transparent acknowledgement of the contribution of others to their ideas, discoveries, interpretations, and conclusions. Cheating on exams or problem sets, plagiarizing or misrepresenting the ideas or language of someone else as one's own, falsifying data, or any other instance of academic dishonesty violates the standards of our community, as well as the standards of the wider world of learning and affairs. (http://honor.fas.harvard.edu/honor-code)

Academic Integrity Statement
Plagiarism or any instance of cheating, even if unintentional, will be handled in accordance with Harvard policy. Your work must be original, framed in your own words, quotations explicitly acknowledged, and citations references. If you have any doubts about the proper attribution of ideas, information, or excerpts from your sources, please contact your tutor.

Disability Accommodations Information
Students needing academic adjustments or accommodations because of a documented disability must present their Faculty Letter from the Accessible Education Office (AEO) and speak with the professor by the end of the second week of the term, (fill in specific date). Failure to do so may result in the Course Head's inability to respond in a timely manner. All discussions will remain confidential, although Faculty are invited to contact AEO to discuss appropriate implementation.

Unit 1: The Practice of History

Introducing the fundamentals of academic historical study

January 23: Week 1 : Seminar – Introduction to Seminar Theme/ Discussion of Common Coursewide Reading

Monday, January 30, 6pm-8pm, Tsai Auditorium: Evening Plenary Session.

January 30: Week 2: Seminar - Introduction to seminar theme

2 days before next meeting, 5pm: Paper #1 Draft due

February 6: Week 3: Tutorials

2 days before next meeting, 5pm: Paper #1 Revision due

Unit 2: Primary Source Analysis

Highlighting the range of historians' primary sources and of ways of analyzing them.

February 13: Week 4: Seminar. Recommended: schedule a seminar visit from Fred Burchsted or Anna Assogba to discuss search techniques.

During weeks of February 14 and 21 (or thereabouts): Include some version of these instructions to students: Please come to office hours (as per sign-up distributed in seminar) to decide on a historical theme/area of interest to you, which will be the focus of paper #2 and ideally build toward your final paper. This is an appointment held jointly with both your instructors.

February 20: Week 5: **Seminar archive visit week (to Houghton, Schlesinger, Archives, etc).** Visiting an on-campus archive this week will set students up for the next unit on primary source analysis. In the past, faculty have chosen one archival site suited to their seminar theme and coordinated with archivists and librarians in the Schlesinger Library, Houghton, etc. to pull materials for students to read. Many librarians/archivists will also put on presentations related to the basics of archival research upon request. Individual faculty should schedule these visits as appropriate for their seminar.

2 days before next meeting, 5pm Paper #2 Draft due

February 27: Week 6: Tutorials

2 days before next meeting, 5pm: Paper #2 Revision due
March 7: Week 7: Seminar

Spring Break –week of March 13, 2023

Unit 3: Historiography

Identifying and understanding successive layers of historical interpretation

March 20: Week 7: Seminar

March 27: Week 8: Seminar

2 days before next meeting, 5pm: Final Paper statement of topic and final paper outline and annotated bibliography due

April 3: Week 9: Tutorials

Sunday/Monday/Tuesday 2/3/4 April, 5pm: Paper #3 due

Unit 4: Synthesis

Merging historiographic and primary source analyses into historical arguments

April 3: Week 10: Seminar

2 days before next meeting: Final paper thesis statement and final paper outline due

April 10: Week 11: Seminar – Presentations on final paper

2 days before next meeting: Paper #4 (Final Paper) Draft due

April 17: Week 12: Tutorials

Wednesday, May 3–Paper #4 FINAL PAPER DUE AT 5PM, followed by a **Plenary party in the Great Space**