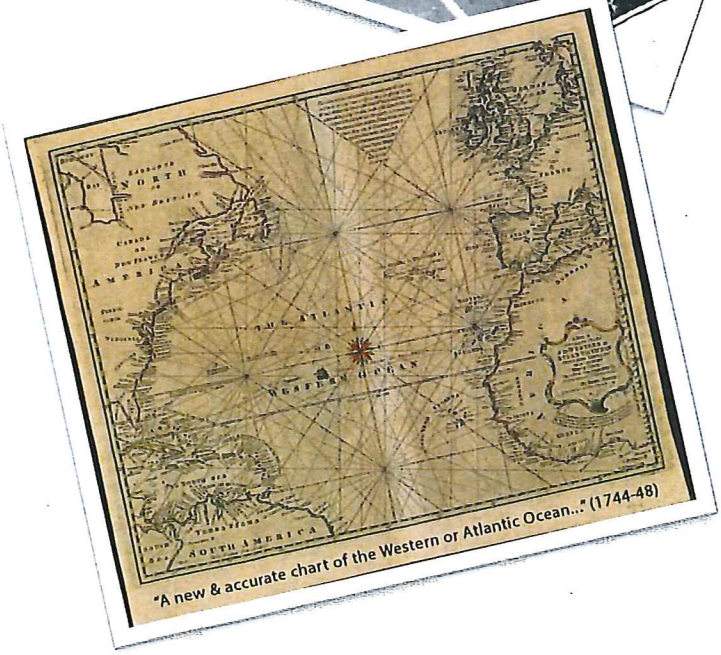










History 97

Historical Analysis

Sophomore Tutorial

Spring 2018

Harvard University

History Department

An Introduction to History 97

History 97 is the sophomore tutorial in History, the only course required of all concentrators. Taught by faculty in concert with graduate student tutors, History 97 is organized as a shared inquiry, which is why we begin the semester with a common set of readings examined in all the seminars. This is also one reason that the title of each seminar is phrased as a question. Students then embark on thematically-specific reading programs to see how other scholars have answered the question that frames their seminar. They read a wide variety of primary sources to hone their own interpretive skills, and are guided through the stages of producing original historical work of their own. Designed as an introduction to the discipline and the Department, History 97 has no prerequisites, though many students in the course will already have taken other departmental offerings.

Seminars in Spring 2018

History 97B, "What is Intellectual History?" Thursdays 1:00-4:00pm
Professor James Kloppenberg
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, religion, philosophy, literature, music, art, and other expressions of human agency and intention. Intellectual historians ask how people have experienced the world, and how they have remade that world through their experiences, beliefs, and disputes. How have humans thought about things like right and wrong, good and bad, us and them? What reasons do people give for their actions, and what assumptions have silently guided them? By what means have they argued, persuaded, insinuated, and found common ground? This section will take the Progressive-Era United States—from Victorian culture to the Harlem Renaissance—as a case study. We will 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.

History 97H, "What is Urban History?" Tuesdays 12:00-3:00pm
Professor Elizabeth Hinton
This section will explore the methods historians have used to understand the political, economic, and social development of cities and urban life over the past four centuries. How have historians approached the study of metropolitan regions and their inhabitants? What methods have they used to examine the ways in which social and spatial forms differ by time and place? How does urban history provide a unique vantage to analyze issues of class, ethnicity, migration, race, and gender? Readings and discussions will give special attention to cities and transformations in the United States, but we will draw comparative examples from the histories of urban centers across the globe.

History 97J, "What is Family History?" Wednesdays 2:00-5:00pm
Professor Jane Kamensky
History 97j investigates the diverse practices and purposes of family history. Every family has a history; every past actor had a family. We will explore primary sources such as diaries, memoirs, novels, and portraits, and survey methods ranging from demography to cultural history to biography. Our topics will include the "invention" of childhood, the political meanings of marriage, and the relationship between households and the state. In addition to tracing the contours of family life across a

wide array of times and places, we will investigate the ebbs and flows of family history itself, including the worldwide boom in amateur genealogy today.

History 97K, "What is Social History?" Thursdays 2:00-5:00pm
Professor Sidney Chalhoub
For a long time, the writing of history focused mainly on kings, politicians, landlords, slave owners, capitalists –that is, on those with the means to write letters, autobiographies, official documents. In the past decades, historians have increasingly studied the lives of people not apparently entitled to have their histories told: peasants, slaves, women, industrial workers. Social History is the study of the experiences of those who lived most or all of their lives submitted to the power and the oppression of others. What did these people do with what was done to them? What sources are there to investigate this question and how should historians analyze them?

History 97L, "What is Atlantic History?" Tuesdays 1:00-4:00pm
Professor Mary Lewis
We live in a world of intense exchange across borders and seas, yet most history is still taught from a national or regional perspective. Atlantic History was developed explicitly to avoid these limitations. By studying inter-regional developments of societies around the Atlantic Ocean, we will examine how the histories of Europe, North America, Latin America and Africa are intertwined. What methods have historians used to study the trade, migration, inter-imperial competition and revolutionary upheaval that together have helped create an "Atlantic World"? Topics include the triangular trade in commodities and slaves, the transfer of ideas, and the ecological impact of exchange, among other themes.

Purpose of the Course
Designed to equip students to engage in successful and original historical work, History 97 seeks to develop the following skills, which are at the core of work in history:

- Close-reading a primary source
- Constructing an evidence-based argument (e.g., adducing primary sources)
- Searching for and evaluating relevant secondary sources
- Reading a secondary source for its argument
- Constructing a historical argument (e.g., engaging with historiography)
- Making an oral presentation with visuals
- Articulating constructive criticism
- Writing with footnotes
- Speaking in discussion
- Revising a piece of writing based on feedback from instructors and peers

Structure of the Course
History 97 is offered every year in the spring semester. The course is taught in five, thematically-distinct seminars, which vary from year to year depending on the faculty involved. All five seminars have the same general requirements and schedule of assignments, but focus on different readings through different analytical lenses. Faculty members lead seminar sessions, which focus on discussion of the readings and build the analytical skills of history. Every third week, the seminar will meet in

smaller groups with the seminar's graduate student Tutor, who will facilitate peer review of written work. The course meets for 3 hours in seminar, so that there is ample time for active learning (small group work, field trips etc.) and a break. Tutorial sessions meet for 90 minutes.

Unit I: The Practice of History (Weeks 1-3)
The first seminar meetings will cover the difference between primary and secondary sources and discuss the kinds of archives that historians consult. The first paper assignment will be based on a common set of course readings shared across all History 97 seminars. Students will review drafts of their peers' papers in the first week of tutorials, when they will refine their skills for effective peer review and critique.

Opening Plenary Session: evening of Monday, January 29th (required)
Students, faculty, and tutors from all History 97 seminars will meet jointly for an evening plenary session. Students will work together on a common project designed to consider the contemporary relevance of making historical arguments, and will have the opportunity to chat informally with professors, tutors, other students, and senior history concentrators over a pizza dinner.

Unit II: Historiography (Weeks 4-6)
The two seminar meetings consider how historians have developed successive layers of historical interpretation over time, and discuss how to evaluate secondary sources. Students should, in consultation with their professor and tutor, arrive at a topic and bibliography for their final paper. The second paper assignment will be a historiographic essay comparing and contrasting at least two works of history on that topic, applying the material covered in seminar discussions. The tutorial in the third week of the unit will be a peer review session of these papers.

Spring Break Saturday, March 10th – Sunday, March 18th

Unit III: Primary Source Analysis (Weeks 7-9)
Seminar discussions highlight the range of historians' primary sources and of ways of analyzing them, and teach skills for doing close reading of a primary source. Seminars will meet one week in an archive to introduce archival work and think about the material and institutional context of our sources. Students will turn in a statement of topic and annotated bibliography for their final papers. Tutorial peer review sessions will evaluate these statements, and also discuss how to form a solid historical question and how to avoid logical fallacies. Students will write a primary source analysis paper, in which they will do a close reading of a primary source they will use in their final paper.

Unit IV: Synthesis (Weeks 10-12)
Seminars discuss merging historiographic and primary source analyses into making historical arguments. Students will give oral presentations (5 minutes) covering the topic of their final paper, and submit paper outlines and drafts of their final papers, which should integrate historiographical analysis, primary source analysis, and contextualization. Tutorial sessions will review final paper drafts.

Monday April 30th, 6-8pm: Capstone Event
The five seminars will reconvene at the end of the course for another evening plenary session.

Course Requirements – *due dates will vary slightly for each seminar*

- Paper #1 – 1,500-word essay due week beginning Sunday, February 4th
- Revised paper #1 due week beginning Sunday, February 11th
- Paper #2 – Historiographic Essay (1,500 words) due week beginning Sunday, February 25th
- Revised paper #2 due week beginning Sunday, March 4th
- Statement of topic and annotated bibliography due week beginning Sunday, March 25th
- Paper #3 – Primary source analysis paper (1,500 words) due week beginning Sunday, April 1st
- Paper #4 – Final paper (3,500 words) due in draft week beginning Sunday, April 15th
- Revised final paper due Wednesday May 2, 5pm (last day of reading period)
- Participation in seminar and in tutorial

Combined grade (draft and final) paper 1	10%
Combined grade (draft and final) paper 2	10%
Paper 3	10%
Combined grade (draft and final) paper 4	30%
Participation in seminar (20%) and in tutorial (20%)	40%