Harvard University
History Department

# History 97
# Historical Analysis
## Sophomore Tutorial
## Spring 2020





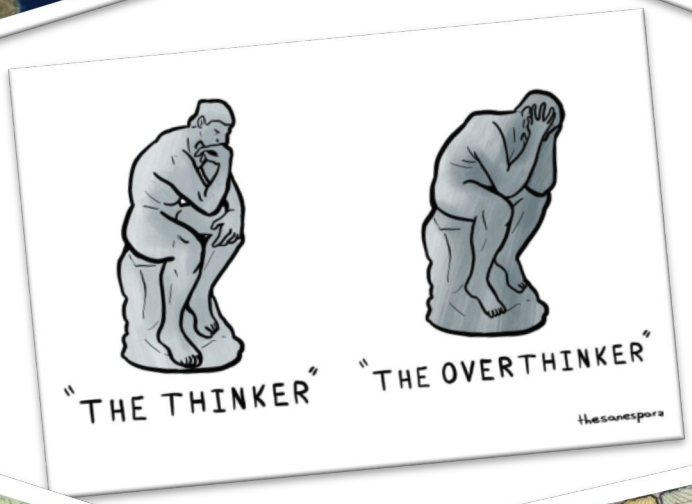








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## Seminars in Spring 2020

**History 97B, "What is Intellectual History?" Wednesdays, 3:00-5:45pm**
**Professor Ann Blair**
Intellectual historians study almost every period, place, and theme in human history: from classical times to the present, from Asia to the Americas, by examining philosophy and religion, social and political thought, literature and art, and other expressions of human agency and intention that range from ancient epics to graphic novels. This section will draw examples from a wide 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.

**History 97D, "What is Environmental History?" Tuesdays 12:00-2:45pm**
**Professor Sunil Amrith**
This section gives new History concentrators an introduction to environmental history. Most historians leave the natural world out of the story, but environmental historians regard nature as the inescapable context for human history, including the human impact on nature. We will explore how the histories of the environment and of humans can (and perhaps should) be written together. Is there a "natural archive" which historians can consult in parallel with conventional libraries and archives? Do places have "biographies," just as people do? Can natural entities (mountains, dogs, rivers, microbes, climate) have "agency" in the same way human actors can?

**History 97J, "What is Family History?" Wednesdays 3:00-5:45pm**
**Professor Jane Kamensky**
Every family has a history; every past actor had a family. This section investigates the practices and purposes of family history. We will explore primary sources such as diaries, child-rearing manuals, and portraits, and survey methods ranging from demography to cultural history to biography. Our topics will include the "invention" of childhood, the meanings of marriage, and the relationship between the household 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 97L, "What is Atlantic History?" Thursdays 12:00-2:45pm**
**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. 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 trade in commodities and slaves, the Atlantic and Haitian Revolutions, and the ecological impact of exchange, among other themes.

**History 97M, "What is International History?" Thursdays 3:00-5:45pm**
**Professor Erez Manela**
Relations between states define some of the most important aspects of human history, including major wars, trade relations, and movements of people, ideas, and cultural productions. States, of course, have been important actors in this history, but so have other types of actors, such as international organizations, NGOs, missionary groups, philanthropic foundations, and transnational movements. In this course, we will explore major events, themes, and approaches in international history, all with the goal of better understanding how international interactions have shaped human history and experiences across time.

**History 97: 2019-20**
**Harvard University**

**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, i.e. ___days at 5pm. Papers must be submitted using the course website Dropbox. Percentages refer to each assignment's percentage of the final grade.

- *Paper #1 Draft* (1500 words) due Sunday/Monday/Tuesday 9/10/11 February, 5pm: 5%; *Paper #1 Revision* (1500 words) due Sunday/Monday/Tuesday 16/17/18 February, 5pm: 5%

- *Paper #2 Draft* (Historiographic Essay, 1500 words) due Sunday/Monday/Tuesday 1/2/3 March, 5pm: 5%; *Paper #2 Revision* (Historiographic Essay, 1500 words) due Sunday/Monday/Tuesday 8/9/10 March, 5pm: 5%

- *Final paper statement of topic* and *final paper annotated bibliography* due Sunday/Monday/Tuesday March 29/30/31, 5pm

- *Paper #3* (Primary Source Analysis, 1500 words) due Sunday/Monday/Tuesday 5/6/7 April, 5pm: 10%, no revision, builds toward final paper

- Final Project Portfolio, 30%

    - *Final paper thesis statement* and *final paper outline* due Sunday/Monday/Tuesday 12/13/14 April, 5pm

    - *Final project presentations:* 14/15/16 April, during seminar

- *Paper #4 Draft* (Final paper, 3500 words) due Sunday/Monday/Tuesday 19/20/21 April, 5pm; *Paper #4 Revision* (Final Paper, 3500 words) due Wednesday May 6, 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**

**Academic Integrity Statement**

**Disability Accommodations Information**

## Unit 1: The Practice of History

Introducing the fundamentals of academic historical study

**Week I (Tuesday January 28/Wednesday January 29/Thursday January 30): Seminar – Introduction to Seminar Theme/ Discussion of Common Coursewide Reading**
John Lewis Gaddis, *The Landscape of History: How Historians Map the Past*. Oxford: Oxford University Press, 2002.

**Monday, February 3 : Evening Plenary Session** (Tsai auditorium, CGIS South, 6-8pm).

**Week II (Tuesday Feb 4/ Wednesday 5 Feb/ Thursday 6 Feb): Seminar**

**Sunday/Monday/Tuesday 9/10/11 Feb, 5pm: Paper #1 Draft due**

**Week III (11/12/13 Feb): Tutorials**

**Sunday/Monday/Tuesday 16/17/18 Feb, 5pm: Paper #1 Revision due**

## Unit 2: Historiography

Identifying and understanding successive layers of historical interpretation

**Week IV (18/19/20 February): Seminar**

**Thursday, February 27 (or thereabouts) 1-5pm:** 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.

**Week V (25/26/27 February): Seminar**

**Sunday/Monday/Tuesday 1/2/3 March, 5pm Paper #2 Draft due**

**Week VI (3/4/5 March): Tutorials**

**Sunday/Monday/Tuesday 8/9/10 March, 5pm: Paper #2 Revision due**

**Week VII (10/11/12 March)**: **Seminar archive visit week (to Houghton, Schlesinger, Loeb, 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.

**Spring Break –week of March 16**

## Unit 3: Primary Source Analysis

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

**Week VIII (24/25/26 March): Seminar.** Recommended: schedule a seminar visit from Fred Burchsted or Anna Assogba to discuss search techniques.

**Sunday/Monday/Tuesday March 29, 30, 31 5pm: Final Paper statement of topic and final paper annotated bibliography due**

**Week IX 31 March /1 April /2 April: Tutorials**

**Sunday/Monday/Tuesday 5/6/7 April, 5pm: Paper #3 due**

## Unit 4: Synthesis

Merging historiographic and primary source analyses into historical arguments

**Week X (7/8/9 April) Seminar**

**Sunday/Monday/Tuesday 12/13/14 April: Final paper thesis statement and final paper outline due**

**Week XI (14/15/16 April): Seminar – Presentations on final paper**

**Sunday/Monday/Tuesday 19/20/21 April: Paper #4 (Final Paper) Draft due**

**Week XII (21/22/23 April): Tutorials**

**Wednesday, May 6–Paper #4 FINAL PAPER DUE AT 5PM**, followed by a **Plenary party in the Great Space**