

History 600: Senior Project I

Spring 2009

M 3:00-4:15

Professor Paula A. Treckel

Course Description & Learning Outcomes:

This seminar will prepare students for the successful completion of their senior project in the following semester. Students enrolled in History 600 will:

- Study the use of proper form and citation.
- Identify and evaluate sources.
- Write logical and convincing arguments.
- Develop a Thesis for their Senior Project.
- Read and understand other historians' interpretations of their chosen topic and write an essay summarizing those interpretations.
- Write an Outline of their Senior Project.

Course work will combine class discussion, writing assignments and presentations organized around the two major writing components of History 600---the Senior Project Proposal and Outline. In addition, students are expected to devote a significant amount of time outside of class researching their Project. By the end of the semester, students will have made significant progress in conceptualizing their Senior Project, completing the necessary research, and formulating an effective strategy for carrying their project to its culmination.

Please note: If you fail this course, you will be required to re-enroll in History 600 next semester.

Text:

Turabian, Kate L. *A Manual for Writers of Term Papers, Theses, and Dissertations, 7th ed.* Chicago: University of Chicago Press. This is the required standard for Senior Projects in the Department of History. Several copies are also available at the Library. It is also available on-line via a link in the History Department's webpage and the Pelletier Library webpage.

Course Pack for History 600

Course Requirements:

You must attend all classes. Attendance will be taken. You are required to submit a Senior Project Proposal (worth 25% of your final grade), a Senior Project Outline (worth 25% of your final grade), write an Historiographical Essay (worth 25% of your final grade), give a presentation of your research in class (worth 15% of your final grade), and participate in class discussions and peer review of your classmates' work (worth 10% of your final grade).

Discussion Topics, Due Dates and Reading Assignments:

Weekly class sessions will be supplemented by individual meetings with the course instructor and/or your Senior Project Director.

- 1/19 Introduction to the Senior Project
- 1/26 What is History? Formulating a Research Project
Boorstin, "Hidden History" & Kammen, "The Historian's Vocation."
- 2/2 Evaluating Sources
Boyer, "Whose History is it Anyway?" & Appleby et.al, "The Future of History"
- 2/9 Footnotes and Bibliographies: Bring Turabian to class.
Grafton, Anthony. "Footnote: The Origin of a Species"
Form verifying meeting with Reference Librarian is due.

- 2/16 **Rough Draft of Senior Project Proposals is due.**
- 2/23 **No Class: Senior Project Proposal is due.** (Turn in one copy to me and one to your Director.)
- 3/2 Historiography
Brundage, "Exploring Changing Interpretations: The Historiographical Essay"
- 3/9 **No Class: Historiographical Essays are due** (Turn in one copy to me and one copy to your Director.)
- 3/16 **Spring Break**
- 3/23 The pitfalls of historical research and writing.
Allegheny College Honor Code; Articles by Mark Fitzgerald, David Gates and Lynne McTaggart
- 3/30 **Thesis Statements: Bring your Thesis Statement to Class for Discussion**
- 4/6 **Rough Draft of your Senior Project Outline is due.**
- 4/13 **No Class: Senior Project Outlines are due** (Turn in one copy to me and one copy to your Director.)
- 4/20 **Student Presentations**
- 4/27 **Student Presentations**

Office Hours:

203 Arter Hall

M 10:00-12:00, 1:30-3:00

T 8:00-9:30, 11:00-12:00

W 8:00-12:00

TH 8:00-9:30

& by appointment

Office Phone: 332-4309

Cell Phone: 330-606-5006

Home Phone: 330-677-2323 (OH) TH-Sun.

email: paula.treckel@allegheny.edu