

# HIST 6301: Historiography

Fall 2016  
JO 4.708  
Tuesdays 7:00-9:45 pm

Dr. Eric R. Schlereth  
schlereth@utdallas.edu  
Office: JO 3.918, 972-883-2168  
Office Hours: By appointment.



## Course Overview

HIST 6301 is the required core course for students pursuing the M.A. in History. It is an advanced introduction to the study of history as a question-framing and problem-solving discipline. The course introduces students to major epistemological questions, methodological approaches, and research priorities driving the historical profession. Guest instructors from the HIST/HUHI faculty will help introduce the range of historical fields taught at UTD.

### Required Readings:

The following books can be purchased at the UTD bookstore or at Off Campus Books, 581 W. Campbell Road, #201.

John H. Arnold, *History: A Very Short Introduction* 10<sup>th</sup> ed. (New York: Oxford University Press, 2000) ISBN-10: 019285352X

Dipesh Chakrabarty, *Provincializing Europe: Postcolonial Thought and Historical Difference* (Princeton: Princeton University Press, 2007) ISBN: 9780691130019

Natalie Zemon Davis, *The Return of Martin Guerre* (Cambridge: Harvard University Press, 1984) ISBN-10: 0674766911

Pekka Hämäläinen, *The Comanche Empire* (New Haven: Yale University Press, 2009) ISBN-10: 0300151179

Jennifer Ratner-Rosenhagen, *American Nietzsche: A History of an Icon and His Ideas* (Chicago: University of Chicago Press, 2012) ISBN: 9780226006765

James C. Scott, *Domination and the Arts of Resistance: Hidden Transcripts* (New Haven: Yale University Press, 1992) ISBN-10: 0300056699

Daniel Lord Smail, *On Deep History and the Brain* (Berkeley: University of California Press, 2008) ISBN: 9780520258129

C. Vann Woodward, *The Strange Career of Jim Crow*, Commemorative Edition (New York: Oxford University Press, 2001) ISBN-10: 0195146905

### Grading:

Participation	25%
Weekly Questions	10%
Book Reviews	20%
Historiographic Essay	45%

### Assignments:

1. **Participation.** You are expected to attend every class prepared for in-depth discussion of the week's readings.
2. **Weekly Questions.** In order to facilitate discussion, each student is required to submit two detailed questions via email about the week's readings by **1:00 pm on Tuesday afternoon. You will not earn credit for late questions.** These questions might raise points about evidence, argumentation, or historiography in regard to a given reading. In any case, your questions should deal with interpretive or conceptual issues. Reserve questions of fact for the classroom discussion.
3. **Book Reviews.** Over the course of the semester each student will write two book reviews on assigned readings, which will be due according to a schedule determined by the instructor.

Academic book reviews should:

- Briefly summarize the book's content and identify the author's thesis.
- Assess the argument and the evidence used to support it.
- Place the book in the existing scholarship.
- Provide an overall assessment of the book.

More resources for writing book reviews will be provided.

4. **Historiographic Essay.** Students are required to write an essay (15 page minimum) assessing scholarship on a particular historiographic field or problem of their choosing. This assignment will be due in my office, JO 3.918, by **5:00 PM on Tuesday, December 13.** You are required to submit a précis and a bibliography to the class by **5:00 PM on Monday, November 29.** The précis and the bibliography will count toward your final essay grade. We will discuss this assignment in class and I will provide examples well before this assignment is due.

#### Course Policies:

1. All course communication not conducted in class will be made using UTD email addresses, and UTD email ONLY.
2. Late assignments will not be accepted without prior approval from the instructor.

Academic Calendar	Readings
<b>Week 1. Introduction</b>	
August 23	No readings
<b>Week 2. What Is History?</b>	
August 30	Arnold, <i>History: A Very Short Introduction</i> -Kerwin Lee Klein, "The Rise and Fall of Historiography," <i>From History to Theory</i> (2011) (eLearning)
<b>Week 3. Analytical Categories</b>	
September 6	-Joan W. Scott, "Gender: A Useful Category of Historical Analysis," <i>American Historical Review</i> 91:5 (1986): 1053-1075. -Walter Johnson, "On Agency," <i>Journal of Social History</i> 37:1 (2003): 113-124. -Harold Mah, "Phantasies of the Public Sphere: Rethinking the Habermas of Historians," <i>Journal of Modern History</i> 72:1 (2000): 153-182.
<b>Week 4. Narrative</b>	

September 13	-Hayden White, "The Historical Text as Literary Artifact," <i>Clio</i> 3:3 (1974): 277-303. -David Carr, "Narrative and the Real World," <i>History and Theory</i> 25:2 (1986): 117-131. -William Cronon, "A Place for Stories: Nature, History, and Narrative," <i>Journal of American History</i> 78:4 (1992): 1347-1376.
<b>Week 5. Evidence and Interpretation with Dr. Gerald Soliday</b>	
September 20	Davis, <i>The Return of Martin Guerre</i> -Robert Findlay, "The Refashioning of Martin Guerre," <i>American Historical Review</i> 93:3 (1988): 553-571. -Natalie Davis, "On the Lane," <i>American Historical Review</i> 93:3 (1988): 572-603.
<b>Week 6. Power</b>	
September 27	Scott, <i>Domination and the Arts of Resistance</i>
<b>Week 7. Library Tour</b>	
October 4	Meet at McDermott Library
<b>Week 8. Limits</b>	
October 11	Chakrabarty, <i>Provincializing Europe</i>
<b>Week 9. Temporality</b>	
October 18	Smail, <i>On Deep History and the Brain</i>
<b>Week 10. Empires and Colonies</b>	
October 25	Hämäläinen, <i>The Comanche Empire</i>
<b>Week 11. Intellectual History with Dr. Daniel Wickberg</b>	
November 1	Ratner- Rosenhagen, <i>American Nietzsche</i> -James Kloppenberg, "Thinking Historically: A Manifesto of Pragmatic Hermeneutics," <i>Modern Intellectual History</i> 9.1 (2012): 201-216
<b>Week 12.</b>	
November 8	<b>No Class</b>
<b>Week 13. Jim Crow with Dr. Natalie Ring</b>	
November 15	Woodward, <i>The Strange Career of Jim Crow</i> -Howard Rabinowitz, "More Than the Woodward Thesis: Assessing the Strange Career of Jim Crow," <i>Journal of American History</i> 75 (December 1988): 842-56. -C. Vann Woodward, "Strange Career Critics: Long May They Persevere," <i>Journal of American History</i> 75 (December 1988): 857-68.
<b>Week 14. Fall Break</b>	
November 22	<b>No Class</b>
<b>Week 15. Paper Workshop</b>	
November 29	Critique and Discussion of Pre-Circulated Précis
<b>Week 16. Borderlands</b>	

December 6	<p>-M. Baud and Willem van Schendel, "Toward a Comparative History of Borderlands," <i>Journal of World History</i> 8:2 (Fall 1997): 211-242.</p> <p>-Jeremy Adelman and Stephen Aron, "From Borderlands to Borders: Empires, Nation-States, and the Peoples in Between in North American History," <i>American Historical Review</i> 104, no. 3 (June 1999): 814-841</p> <p>-Charles Maier, "Consigning the Twentieth Century to History: Alternative Narratives for the Modern Era," <i>American Historical Review</i> 105, no. 3 (June 2000): 807-31.</p> <p>-Pekka Hämäläinen and Samuel Truett, "On Borderlands," <i>Journal of American History</i> (2011) 98 (2): 338-361.</p>
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**Please review important university policies at: <http://provost.utdallas.edu/syllabus-policies/>**

**\*\* The professor reserves the right to amend this syllabus as needed throughout the semester. Any changes made to this syllabus will be announced in class.\*\***