

History 310  
Introduction to Historical Studies  
University of Montevallo  
Spring 2022  
Dr. John R. Bawden

**Course Credit:** 3 hours

**Pre-requisites:** none

**Meets:** Thursday 5-7:30 pm, UMOM 309

**Contact:** jbwalden@montevallo.edu (205) 665-6179

**Office Hours:** MW 9-12, 1-3, UMOM 305 (or by appointment)

**Overview**

This course introduces students beginning their history coursework to the basic philosophical problems of recreating and understanding the past, to historical writing, and to the practical skills required of professional historians. The goal of this course is not to accumulate information, but rather to develop the skills needed for historical research, writing, and argument.

**Course Objectives**

1. Gain knowledge of key concepts, generalizations, and methods of inquiry appropriate to the study of history.
2. Develop historical research capabilities such as formulating historical questions, obtaining historical data, placing records in context, and constructing sound historical interpretations.
3. Practice skills of historical analysis and interpretation such as differentiating between facts and interpretations, considering multiple perspectives, analyzing cause and effect relationships, and comparing competing historical narratives.
4. Identify issues and problems for the interpretation of the past, recognizing the tentative nature of historical interpretations.

**Student Learning Outcomes:**

1. Demonstrate effective oral communication during classroom debates and presentations.
2. Demonstrate effective writing skills a result of four writing assignments.
3. Demonstrate critical thought during debate, discussion, and in writing assignments.
4. Demonstrate how to analyze primary sources and make use of electronic databases.
5. Demonstrate accurate bibliographic citations.
6. Demonstrate knowledge related to career planning and preparation for the job market.

| <b>Course Evaluation</b> | <b>Points</b> |
|--------------------------|---------------|
| Précis                   | 10 pts        |
| Historian's Toolbox      | 10 pts        |
| Midterm                  | 10 pts        |
| Wikipedia Review         | 15 pts        |
| Book Review              | 15 pts        |
| Participation            | 15 pts        |
| Historiographical Essay  | 25 pts        |

A: 100-90% B: 89-80% C: 79-70% D: 69-60% F: 59-50%

Please read carefully the following requirements for this course. The failure to complete any one of the requirements (i.e., not to hand in a written assignment) will result in a grade of "F" for the course. It is important that you complete all assignments on time. For late papers, you shall be penalized ten percentage points for every day the paper is late.

### **Course Withdrawal Deadline**

The last day for students to withdraw from a course and receive a grade of "W" is March 17.

### **Attendance**

Attendance in this class is crucial. I shall take attendance at the **END OF CLASS** (no skipping out at "halftime"). Missing more than **THREE** classes means that you will fail the class.

### **Participation**

Discussions shall usually be run with myself as a moderator/inquisitor, asking the class questions about the readings of the day. However, this course has several special discussion classes.

1. "Fishbowl" classes. On these days you have assigned readings. For these classes you are to bring in two or three typewritten questions about each of the readings. Five students, chosen at random, will form a "panel" that will be responsible for answering the questions of the other students (plus my own questions).
2. Martin Guerre Debate. Two groups of students will read and then debate upon two separate articles about the scholarship surrounding the film we see in class.
3. Bombing of Auschwitz Debate. Two groups of students will write papers on *The Bombing of Auschwitz*. The groups will then debate their positions on the day the paper is due.

### **Technology**

Laptops and iPad are prohibited. [Research](#) shows that flickering screens distract you and other students.

### **Writing Assignments**

All writing assignments must be typed, double-spaced, one-inch margins, and 12 point Times New Roman font.

### **Required Texts**

*History, a short Introduction*, John Arnold, Oxford, First Edition, 2000 ISBN-10: 1138808075

*The Bombing of Auschwitz*, Neufeld and Berenbaum, eds., Kansas, 2004 ISBN-10: 0700612807

**E-Reserves** (e-reserves are available on canvas)

E.H. Carr, "What is History?"

Robert C. Williams, *The Historian's Toolbox* (9 and 10)

Patrick Allitt, *I'm the teacher, you're the student* (chapters 2 and 17)

Robert Finlay, "The Refashioning of Martin Guerre"

Natalie Zemon-Davis, "On The Lame"

### **Course Schedule**

| Week | Topic                   | Readings, Discussions, and Assignments   |
|------|-------------------------|--|
| 1/13 | Introduction            | Discuss Précis Assignment  |
| 1/20 | History as a Profession | <b>One-page Précis Due</b><br><b>Fishbowl #1:</b><br>Arnold, Chapter 1<br>Carr, "What is History?" |

|              |                                 |   |
|--------------|---------------------------------|---|
| 1/27         | Historical Inquiry and Texts    | <b>Fishbowl #2:</b><br>Discuss “Historian’s Toolbox” assignment<br>Arnold, Chapters 2 and 3   |
| 2/3          | The History Paper               | <b>“Historian’s Toolbox” Assignment Due</b><br>Discuss Footnotes/Bibliography<br>Discuss Wikipedia Review Assignment                                      |
| 2/10         | Library Tour                    | <b>Meet at the Carmichael Library computer lab</b><br>Visit the Annie Crawford Milner Archives<br>Popular versus scholarly sources<br>Searching databases |
| 2/17         | Archives & Historical Causation | <b>Fishbowl #3</b><br>Arnold, Chapters 4 and 5<br>Mock midterm  |
| 2/24         | <b>Midterm</b>                  | <b>Midterm</b>  |
| 3/3          | Wikipedia                       | <b>Wikipedia Assignment Due</b><br>Guest: Andrew Cromer<br>Discuss Book Review Assignment   |
| 3/10         | The Professional Life           | <b>Fishbowl #4</b><br>Allitt, Chapters 2 and 17   |
| 4/7          | History and Film I              | Watch the <i>Return of Martin Guerre</i><br><a href="https://montevallo.kanopy.com/node/5903646">https://montevallo.kanopy.com/node/5903646</a>           |
| 4/14         | History and Film II             | <b>Finley and Zemon-Davis Debate</b><br>Carefully review the Finlay and Zemon-Davis articles  |
| SPRING BREAK |                                 |   |
| 3/17         | Early Alabama History           | Guest Discussant: Ruth Truss<br>Discuss, Alia Wong, “How History Classes Helped Create a 'PostTruth' America  |
| 3/24         | Early Modern English History    | <b>Book Review Due</b><br>Guest Discussant: Robert Barone<br>Discuss the Historiographical Essay  |
| 4/21         | The Past as Foreign Country     | <b>Fishbowl #5</b><br>Arnold, Chapters 6 and 7<br>Course review   |
| 4/28         | The Bombing of Auschwitz Debate | <b>Historiographical Essay Due</b>  |

Final exam is TBA in UMOM

### **Disclaimer**

I reserve the right, after written announcement, to change course requirements or the method of assessment.

### **Plagiarism and Academic Dishonesty**

To claim as one's own the ideas or words of another is plagiarism. Plagiarism is defined as the following: using the exact words of another person's work/writing without acknowledgement of your source through the use of quotation marks and correct citation/documentation; rephrasing a passage of another writer without giving proper credit; using someone else's facts or ideas without acknowledgement; using a piece of writing for one course that was already used in a previous course (or in courses in which you are simultaneously enrolled) without express permission from both instructors to do so; presenting fabricated or falsified citations or materials. An assignment on which plagiarism or cheating has occurred will receive no credit, i.e. a "zero," and an Academic Dishonesty Incident Form concerning the incident will be kept on file in the Office of the Vice President for Student Affairs. A plagiarist/cheater is also subject to failure in the course and/or appearance before the Justice Council.

### **Disability Policy**

The University of Montevallo provides equal opportunity to qualified students. If you have a disability (medical, physical, learning, psychological, etc.) and wish to request disability-related accommodations to complete course requirements, contact Disability Support Services (located in Main Hall, rear entrance; 665-6250). Course requirements cannot be waived, but reasonable accommodations may be provided based on disability documentation and course objectives. Accommodations cannot be made retroactively.

### **ForUM Email**

You are responsible for monitoring and managing your account regularly, even during breaks. You are responsible for all announcements, requests, and/or sensitive information delivered to your UM e-mail account, including information related to this course. You may electronically forward your UM e-mail to another e-mail address (e.g., @gmail.com, @hotmail.com), but at your own risk. The University is not responsible for the handling of forwarded e-mail. Having e-mail forwarded does not absolve you from the responsibilities associated with communication sent to your official UM e-mail address. If you have any questions regarding or problems with your UM email account, you should contact the Solution Center (205-665-6512). The Solution Center is available Monday – Thursday, 8:00 am-7:00 pm; Friday, 8:00 a.m.-5:00 p.m. If you are unsure of how to formally communicate with a professor, please consult the following article:

<https://www.insidehighered.com/views/2015/04/16/advice-students-so-they-dont-sound-silly-emails-essay>