

HIS 317N 39680 Fall 2013
MW 3:00-4:30 GAR 2.126
Dr. Restad

THINKING LIKE A HISTORIAN seminar

Professor

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Office hours: Monday 1-3 pm and Tuesday 1-2 pm

This course focuses on developing systematic ways of thinking, questioning, digging, sorting re-thinking, and presenting history. It is designed expressly for those interested in pursuing a degree in history,

REQUIRED

Larson, *Summer for the Gods*
Linenthal and Engelhardt, *History Wars*
Articles and documents as noted on Canvas

COURSE WEBSITE

Reading and research assignments, the course syllabus, announcements, course revisions, grades, and related material will be posted on Canvas.
<https://utexas.instructure.com/courses/1020172> Check the site frequently for updates (Note: Firefox tends to be most responsive, although Canvas has been working well on Chrome.)

CIVILITY, GRADING, ABSENCES, ETC.

This is a seminar, a small working group that depends on you. You are expected to attend each class, be on time, and stay for the entire class. Late arrival, early departure, ringing cell phones, texting, tweeting, surfing, FB'ing, sleeping, etc. distract and disrupt the entire class. Your courtesy is necessary and appreciated. Students with disabilities may request appropriate academic accommodations from the Division of Diversity and Community Engagement, Services for Students with Disabilities, 471-6259 <http://www.utexas.edu/diversity/ddce/ssd/>. Students seeking assistance with writing may wish to contact The Undergraduate Writing Center <http://uwc.utexas.edu/handouts>. Medical assistance/ counseling services are available at <http://www.cmhc.utexas.edu/>. If you have concerns about the behavior or well-being of another member of the campus community, call BCAL at 512-232-5050. www.utexas.edu/safety/bcal

ACADEMIC HONESTY. It is your personal responsibility to be honest and aware of what constitutes dishonesty. Each student is expected to turn in work completed independently, except when assignments specifically authorize collaborative effort. It is not acceptable to use the words or ideas of another person or your own previous work without proper acknowledgement of that source. This means that you must use footnotes and quotation marks to indicate the source of any phrases, sentences, paragraphs, or ideas found in published volumes, on the internet, or created by another student. Plagiarism or any action that violates the letter and intent of the policy of academic integrity is explained fully here

http://deanofstudents.utexas.edu/sjs/spot_honorcode.php and here http://www.utexas.edu/cola/depts/history/about/academic_integrity/. Any violation will be punished to the fullest extent possible, up to and including failing the course and suspension from UT.



NOT EVEN PAST www.notevenpast.org is the UT History Department blog. You will find something of interest here—and may wish to contribute to it.

GRADES and ABSENCE.

Grading will be determined on the basis of:

Participation (20 %) Simply put, you must come to every class, every week, well-prepared, ready to work hard. This means that you will always arrive having done the required reading, writing, or other preparation as assigned, and ready to contribute to the class discussion or team collaboration in ways that will enhance our examination of the topics at hand. Excuses of any sort for falling short of these expectations is strongly discouraged. Peer-evaluation may be reflected as a portion of this grade.

Posting, Papers, Related Research Assignments (40%). This is a writing-intensive class. Although some of your assignments will be conventional papers, blog posts will also constitute part of your writing grade.

Blog (10%) While good posts will contribute to your writing grade, the visual on-going appearance (design, image and video posts, links, etc.) reflect your attention to communication (and tech) skills. All blogs must be posted by noon before class begins.

Final Project (30%) History is not only about research and writing. It involves selection, organization, and presentation as well, all of which will be incorporated into a final project. Details will be discussed mid-term.

Plus and minus will be used in assigning a course grade.

You must complete all assignments to pass the course. Permission to submit work other than on the date scheduled is left solely to professor's discretion and convenience, and will be allowed without penalty *only* in the instance of a valid, officially documented medical infirmity or an absence from Austin on official and documented university business, preferably before the missed day. Please do not ask for exceptions.

READING AND RESEARCH ASSIGNMENTS and SCHEDULE OF CLASS MEETINGS

All assignments will be posted on Canvas. <https://utexas.instructure.com/courses/1020172> They are to be completed before coming to class on the date they are listed. This syllabus is a general guideline; the sequence, topics, and dates are subject to change.

WEEK I August 26

- a. (Monday)
- b. (Wednesday) Introduction

WEEK II September 2

- a. LABOR DAY. No Class.

THE BIG PICTURE—HOW HISTORIANS WORK, TALK, AND WRITE

b. Fact and Interpretations. See Canvas. Bring *printed* copy to class.

WEEK III September 9

- a. Going Public. See Canvas “Wordpress Blog” page. POST URL on Canvas.
- b. Tools of the Trade

WEEK IV September 16

- a. Perry-Castañeda Library
- b. Primary Sources and the WWW

WEEK V September 23

- a. The Scholarly Article

THE SCOPES TRIAL

b. History in the Media

WEEK VI September 30

- a. Part 1: *Summer for the Gods*
- b. Part 2: *Summer for the Gods*

WEEK VII October 7

- a. Part 3: *Summer for the Gods*
- b. Check out the Reviews
DUE Friday: Essay on Scopes Trial

WEEK VIII October 14

THE ENOLA GAY

- a. Public History: Read Read Linenthal, “Anatomy of a Controversy,” in *History Wars*
- b. Themes in the Controversy.

WEEK IX October 21

- a. Read Kohn, “History at Risk: the Case of the *Enola Gay*”

THE BRISCOE CENTER FOR AMERICAN HISTORY

b. Working in Archives. Sanborn Maps.

WEEK X October 28

- a. Work at the Briscoe Center
- b. Organize research

WEEK XI November 4

- a. Work at the Briscoe Center
- b. Organize research

WEEK XII November 11

- a. Work at the Briscoe Center
- b. Organize research

WEEK XIII November 18

- a. Work at the Briscoe Center
- b. Organize research

WEEK XIV November 25

- a. Work at the Briscoe Center
- b. THANKSGIVING. No class.

WEEK XV December 2

- a. Final Project
- b. Final Project

FINAL Project due: December 6 @ 5 pm.

The syllabus, lectures, and exams that comprise this course are the property of P. Restad and are for the exclusive use of those enrolled in this specific class for use in this specific class. They may not be shared, reproduced or summarized in any form, including electronically, partially or in full, without the professor's express, written permission.

