HIST 3801E 550: The Historian’s Craft
Dr. Amy Bell
Huron University College
2022-3

Email: abell44@uwo.ca
Class Time: Tuesdays 1230-230 p.m.
Class: W101 Office Hours: V130; After class or by appointment.

Prerequisite(s): 1.0 History course at the 2200 level or above.

Course Description

History 3801E is a seminar course that tries to answer two questions: what is History, and why does it matter? The Historian’s Craft is a capstone course in your career as a History student, but it also asks you to question and evaluate the way you understand all your undergraduate work, and your experience outside the boundaries of academic study. Who creates knowledge? How is it used or misused? What is true, how do we know, and what do we do in the face of the limits of knowledge? What gets left out of our accounts of the past, and how do we recognize these phantoms haunting the present?

This course guides students through a history of how histories have been written in the Western tradition since Ancient Greece, along with a survey of the changing methods of historians. We combine theoretical knowledge with practice in a series of skill-building workshops, working in digital source repositories and in traditional archives. Individual year-long independent research projects based on primary source material will be published on our website. Students will end the course with a much broader understanding of how history works, and how knowledge of the past continues to be vital to our understandings of the world today.

Course Objectives

By the end of the course, students will be able to:

1. Demonstrate your understanding of the broad sweep of the history of writing history, and the methods that historians have used;
2. Develop the close readings skills that will equip them for advanced study in history, law or education (readings and responses);
3. Improve their writing skills; their ability to organize their time; their critical and analytical faculties; their ability to develop, discuss, and defend their ideas in person and in writing (responses, tutorials, research assignment, final paper);
4. Learn digital history skills through a variety of hands-on exercises (responses, workshops and research assignment);
5. Conduct original research using primary and secondary materials, and present their research findings effectively through written assignments and in class (workshops, research assignment, tutorials);
6. Increase their understanding of how current global events are rooted in the historical past; understand the value of historical inquiry to the present; engage politically as historians (responses, tutorials, final paper).

**Required Texts:**

Books are available through the campus bookstore.


On-line articles are available via Western Library (W-Lib) and J-Stor, as marked. Supplemental articles are posted on OWL, as marked.

**Assignments**

Participation: 30% (class meetings and reading responses)
Archival Workshops: 4 x 5% = 20%
Research project= proposal (Nov 18) 10%, blog (Mar 10) 10%, reflection (Mar 24) 10% = 30%
Final take-home exam (April 10) = 20%

**Field Trips**

**October 14:** Day trip to Black Mecca Museum in Chatham, Ontario.
**October 20-21:** Optional overnight trip to University of Oberlin, Ohio, Must have passport and visa if not Canadian.
Academic Integrity
All your work, including any reading responses, must be based on your own research and in your own words. All assignments will be checked through the anti-plagiarism software Turnitin. Copying from the internet or other student work is plagiarism and will result in a mark of zero and a notification to the Associate Dean. For more information on academic plagiarism is, students consult the official Western policy:
http://www.uwo.ca/univsec/pdf/academic_policies/appeals/scholastic_discipline_undergrad.pdf

Late Penalties and Last Day to Submit: Late assignments are penalized 2% per day, including weekends. Essays must be submitted within a week of the deadline; no essays will be accepted after the seventh day (unless the student has been granted Academic Consideration). No late final paper/take-home exams will be accepted. Students must complete the written assignments to pass essay courses. If the written assignments are not handed in, the default grade will be 48% or the cumulative average of the student, whichever is lower.

Academic Consideration: All requests for consideration must first go through Academic counsellors in appropriate Faculty Dean’s Office. In-class participation and reading responses are designed for communal discussion and cannot be accommodated.

There are two systems of Academic Consideration at Western/Huron:
1) Requests for consideration through Academic Counselling for short and medium-term concerns:
   https://registrar.uwo.ca/academics/academic_considerations/
2) and longer-term accommodations through Accessible Education:
   http://academicsupport.uwo.ca/accessible_education/index.html

No matter which system the student is registered with, they must contact the course instructor with a request to accommodate within 24 hours of the assignment deadline. It is the prerogative of the instructor to decide the academically appropriate accommodation for that specific course and assignment. Please note that Western’s Academic Handbook, Rights and Responsibilities, Accommodation for Students with Disabilities, Section 2 states that “academic accommodation.. addresses the limitations experienced by a student with disabilities in a manner that allows them to meet the essential requirements of a course or program of study, without resulting in undue hardship to the University. There will often be a range of reasonable academic accommodations available, and a student might not be entitled to preferred accommodation.”
https://www.uwo.ca/univsec/pdf/academic_policies/appeals/Academic%20Accommodation_disabilities.pdf
Assignments

Participation: 30%

Most of our classes will have a marked in-person or written component. Students will also gain participation marks by making substantive comments on the course material and on their colleagues’ presentations. Participation and RR marks (1% each) cannot be made up or accommodated if they are missed.

Workshops: 4x5% = 20%

This course combines theory with hands-on practice. In these workshops, students will use various methodological tools to complete exercises in different archives. More details are available through OWL.

Black History in Ontario Research Project = 30%
(Proposal 10%; Blog Post 10%; Reflection Paper 10%)

For this assignment, students will choose one record (document, photograph, map, image, etc.) from either the Black Mecca Museum in Chatham or ARCC at Weldon that relates to Black Canadian history, supplement it with additional primary and secondary research, and analyse what it can tell us about Black History, Ontario and Great Lakes history, historical memory, the process of archiving and the importance of remembering.

Think of the record as the starting place for your narration of a moment in time which provides an interpretive window into the past. This micro-historical approach focuses on historical action at the level of the individual and the local community, as well as the historiographical processes of archiving and interpreting. The proposal will provide details of the record, an annotated bibliography of the secondary research (500~ words) and a research plan (500~ words). Students will present their research to the class and meet individually with the professor throughout the year to discuss the final project. The research outcomes are a blog post to be posted on our History website (1,500 words), and a reflection paper that explores how the research process links to the theoretical and practical tools we’ve explored in the class (1,500 words). Full instructions are posted on OWL.

Final Historiographical Paper (1,500 words) 20%

Students will be given one week to answer an essay question with reference to the course readings, themes and discussions. No outside research is required or permitted. No late exams will be accepted.
MODULE SCHEDULE

September 13
Week 1: Lecture: The Historian’s Craft 1%
Read: Graham Broad, One in a Thousand, Introduction & Chapter 1

Sept 20
Week 2: Lecture: The Past is a Foreign Country 1%
Read: Arnold, Chapter 1

September 27:
Week 3: Lecture: Black History in Ontario 1%

October 30: History Day Lecture 1%

October 4
Week 4: Lecture: Sources 1%
Read: Broad, Chapter 2 and James Walvin, Slavery in Small Things: Slavery in Modern Cultural Habits (Intro and Chapter 1) via OWL.
Watch: Jim Crow Museum Tour (25 min.)
https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=vIHvQngdR7o
Reading Response 1 (Due Friday): 1%

October 11
Week 5: No Class meeting, instead Trip to Chatham, Friday Oct 14: 2%

October 18
Week 6: Lecture: National Histories and the Archives 1%
Read: Arnold Chapter 4
Ingrid Peritz, “CBC says it didn’t mean to offend with history series Canada: The Story of Us,” Globe and Mail, April 11, 2017
Watch: Worlds Collide: Canada: The Story of Us, Episode 1 (44 min)
https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=MWdOQE459vg
Reading Response 2 (Due Friday): 1%

October 20-21: Trip to Oberlin
October 25
Week 7: No Class Meeting: Complete Oberlin Field Trip Workshop 1 OR Today in the News Workshop: 5% by October 28

November 1
Week 8: Reading Week

November 8
Week 9: Lecture: The Ancients 1%
Watch: Thucydides: Father of History? (12 min.)
https://www.youtube.com/channel/UC7pr_dQxm2Ns2KlzRSx5FZA/videos
Read: Arnold, Chapter 2.
Reading Response 3 (Due Friday): 1%

November 15
Week 10: Lecture: Medieval and Enlightenment History 1%
Read: Arnold, Chapter 3

***Proposal Due Nov 18: 10%

November 22
Week 11: Lecture: Digital History 1%

November 29
Week 12: Individual Research Meetings 1%

December 6
Week 13: Review

Second Term

January 10
Week 1: Lecture: Historical Controversy and History Writing 1%
Read: Arnold, Chapter 5 and Broad, Chapter 3
Listen: BBC Radio “The Holocaust Denial Trial” (9 min.)
https://www.bbc.co.uk/programmes/w3csyx03
Reading Response 4 (Due Friday): 1%

January 17
Week 2: ARCC Tour in Class Time, Weldon Library: 2%
Read: Arnold, Chapter 6.
**ARCC Workshop 2:** Due by January 20: 5%

January 24
**Week 3:** Lecture: **Military History** 1%
**Read:** Broad, Chapter 4

January 31
**Week 4:** Guest Lecture: **Graham Broad** 1%
**Read:** Broad, Chapter 5, *Appendixes*

February 7
**Week 5:** Lecture: **Postcolonial History in Canada** 1%
**Watch:** *Treaties, Reconciliation and Indigenous History in Canada* [videorecording] / Canadian Broadcasting Corporation (W Lib) 54 min.
**Read:** Krista Mcracken, “Challenging Colonial Spaces: Reconciliation and Decolonizing Work in Canadian Archives” Canadian Historical Review, 100: 2, June 2019, 182-201. (W-Lib)
**Decolonizing the Archive Workshop 3:** Due Feb 10: 5%

February 14
**Week 6:** **Gender, Race and Postmodernism** 1%
**Read:** Arnold, Chapter 7
**Listen:** Sojourner Truth’s Speech
https://www.thesojournertruthproject.com/
**Reading Response 5 (Due Friday):** 1%

February 21
**Week 7:** **Reading Week**

February 28
**Week 8:** **Medical Artifact Tour in Class Time**- Lawson Hall 1%
**Read:** Michelle Hamilton, “‘A Wealth of Historical Interest:’ The Medical Artifact Collection at the University of Western Ontario,” *The Public Historian* 29, 1: 77-91. [OWL]
https://medicalhistory.uwo.ca/
**Medical Artifact Workshop 4:** Due March 3: 5%

March 7
**Week 9:** **Archive Fever** 1%

*** March 10: Blog Due 10%

March 14  
**Week 10: Lecture**: Public History and Digital History 1%  
**Reading Response 6 (Due Friday)**: 1%

March 21  
**Week 11: Lecture**: What is History? 1%

*** March 24: Reflection Due 10%

March 28  
**Week 12: Presentation of Projects** 1%

April 4  
**Week 13: Review**

*** April 10: Last day of classes and Final Paper Due 20%
RULES AND REGULATIONS

The History Department has specified that:

1. Accommodation will not be granted for missed classes.

2. All written assignments are to be submitted electronically following your professor’s instructions. Students are responsible for making sure they are familiar with each professor’s policy on electronic submissions.

3. Footnotes, endnotes and bibliographies are to be prepared according to the Departmental Guide (which follows).

4. Late marks are calculated on the copy submitted to OWL. Late penalties are calculated according to calendar day, including Saturdays.

5. Lateness will be penalized as follows: First day late -- 3 marks deduction. Each subsequent calendar day late -- 2 marks per day deduction to a maximum of 15% of the final assignment grade.

6. Unless Academic Consideration has been granted by the professor, assignments will not be accepted after one week. Extensions will only be given for assignments worth more than 10% once appropriate documentation has been submitted through Academic Advising.

7. Students must complete all essay assignments in order to pass essay courses. If essay assignments are not handed in, the default grade will be 48% or the cumulative average of the student, whichever is lower.

8. Assignments will not be accepted after the final date of the examination period unless the student has applied for – and received – incomplete standing

https://www.uwo.ca/univsec/pdf/academic_policies/general/grades_undergrad.pdf

Guide to Footnotes and Bibliographies: Huron History Department

Footnotes have several purposes in a history paper:

1. They acknowledge your use of other peoples’ opinions and ideas.

2. They allow the reader to immediately find your reference.

3. They give authority for a fact which might be questioned.

4. They tell the reader when a source was written.

Footnotes can appear either at the bottom of the page or collected together at the end of the essay where they are referred to as endnotes. The numeral indicating the footnotes should come at the end of the quotation or the sentence, usually as a superscript. ¹

¹ They should be in Arabic, not Roman numerals or letters.
A footnote gives four main pieces of information which are set off by commas in the following order:

1. Author (surname after initials or first name),
2. Title
   - The title of a book is underlined or written in *italics*.
   - The title of an article is put within quotation marks, followed by the periodical in which it was published, underlined or in *italics*
3. Place and date of publication in parentheses ( ),
   - A fuller reference will include the publisher after the place of publication.
   - Article citations do not include the place of publication and publisher.
4. Page number (including volume number if necessary)

For example:


In subsequent references, a shorter reference can be used. It should include the author's last name, a meaningful short title, and page numbers. For example:


Where the reference is exactly the same as the preceding one, the Latin abbreviation *ibid*. can be used; where it is the same, but the page number is different, use *ibid.*, followed by the relevant page number. However, the short title form is preferable for subsequent references and the use of other Latin abbreviations such as *op.cit.* is not recommended.

Examples:

a) for a book by a single author: Author, title (place of publication: press, year), p#.


b) for an article in a book that has chapters by different people: Author, “title of chapter,” in title of book, ed. editor’s name (place of publication: press, year), total pages of article, page number you are referencing.

c) for an article in a journal, magazine, or newspaper: Author, “title of article,” title of periodical, vol. #, issue # (year): total pages, the page you are referencing.


d) for an old work that has been reissued: Try to find a way to include the original publication date somewhere. The easiest method is to use brackets.


**Bibliography**

All the works you consulted, not just those cited in the footnotes, should be included in the bibliography. You may be required to prepare an annotated bibliography, in which you comment on the contents, utility, or worth of each source. If so, make sure you understand what the instructor expects, in particular the length as well as the nature of each annotation.

Generally, list the sources in alphabetical order, by author. The format for a bibliography is similar to that for footnotes, except that the author's surname *precedes* the other names and initials, periods instead of commas are used to divide the constituent parts, publication data is not put in brackets, and pages numbers are not included except in the case of articles where the full page reference is necessary.

For example:


Appendix to Course Outlines: Academic Policies & Regulations Fall/Winter 2022

Pandemic Contingency

Huron will continue to follow the guidance of public health and government officials. It is anticipated that there will be no further disruptions to in-person instruction. This is subject to change.

Student Code of Conduct

Membership in the community of Huron University College and Western University implies acceptance by every student of the principle of respect for the rights, responsibilities, dignity and well-being of others and a readiness to support an environment conducive to the intellectual and personal growth of all who study, work and live within it. Upon registration, students assume the responsibilities that such registration entails. While in the physical or online classroom, students are expected to behave in a manner that supports the learning environment of others. Please review the Student Code of Conduct at: https://huronatwestern.ca/sites/default/files/Res%20Life/Student%20Code%20of%20Conduct%20-%20Revised%20September%202019.pdf.

Prerequisite and Antirequisite Information

Students are responsible for ensuring that they have successfully completed all course prerequisites and that they have not completed any course antirequisites. Unless you have either the requisites for this course or written special permission from your Dean to enroll in it, you may be removed from this course and it will be deleted from your record. This decision may not be appealed. You will receive no adjustment to your fees in the event that you are dropped from a course for failing to have the necessary prerequisites.

Attendance Regulations for Examinations

A student is entitled to be examined in courses in which registration is maintained, subject to the following limitations:

1) A student may be debarred from writing the final examination for failure to maintain satisfactory academic standing throughout the year.
2) Any student who, in the opinion of the instructor, is absent too frequently from class or laboratory periods in any course will be reported to the Dean of the Faculty offering the course (after due warning has been given). On the recommendation of the Department concerned, and with the permission of the Dean of that Faculty, the student will be debarred from taking the regular examination in the course. The Dean of the Faculty offering the course will communicate that decision to the Dean of the Faculty of registration.

Review the policy on Attendance Regulations for Examinations here: Academic Calendar - Western University (uwo.ca)

Statement on Academic Offences

Scholastic offences are taken seriously and students are directed to read the appropriate policy, specifically, the definition of what constitutes a Scholastic Offence, at the following website: Academic Calendar - Western University (uwo.ca). The appeals process is also outlined in this policy as well as more generally at the following website: https://www.uwo.ca/univsec/pdf/academic_policies/appeals/appealsundergrad.pdf.

Turnitin.com

All required papers may be subject to submission for textual similarity review to the commercial plagiarism detection software under license to the University for the detection of plagiarism. All papers submitted for such checking will be included as source documents in the reference database for the purpose of detecting plagiarism of papers subsequently submitted to the system. Use of the service is subject to the licensing agreement, currently between The University of Western Ontario and Turnitin.com (http://www.turnitin.com).

Statement on Use of Electronic Devices

It is not appropriate to use electronic devices (such as, but not limited to, laptops, tablets, cell phones) in the classroom for non-classroom activities. Such activity is disruptive and distracting to other students and to the instructor, and can inhibit learning. Students are expected to respect the classroom environment and to refrain from inappropriate use of technology and other electronic devices in class.

Statement on Use of Personal Response Systems (“Clickers”)

Personal Response Systems (“clickers”) may be used in some classes. If clickers are to be used in a class, it is the responsibility of the student to ensure that the device is activated and functional. Students must see their instructor if they have any concerns about whether the clicker is malfunctioning. Students must use only their own clicker. If clicker records are used to compute a portion of the course grade:

- the use of somebody else’s clicker in class constitutes a scholastic offence
• the possession of a clicker belonging to another student will be interpreted as an attempt to commit a scholastic offence.

**Academic Consideration for Missed Work**

All students pursuing academic consideration, regardless of type, must contact their instructors no less than 24 hours following the end of the period of absence to clarify how they will be expected to fulfill the academic responsibilities missed during their absence. **Students are reminded that they should consider carefully the implications of postponing tests or midterm exams or delaying submission of work, and are encouraged to make appropriate decisions based on their specific circumstances.**

Students who have conditions for which academic accommodation is appropriate, such as disabilities or ongoing or chronic health conditions, should work with Accessible Education Services to determine appropriate forms of accommodation. Further details concerning policies and procedures may be found at: [http://academicsupport.uwo.ca/](http://academicsupport.uwo.ca/).

**Policy on Academic Consideration for a Medical/ Non-Medical Absence**

**(a) Consideration on Medical Grounds for assignments worth less than 10% of final grade:**
Consult Instructor Directly and Contact Academic Advising

When seeking consideration on **medical grounds** for assignments worth *less than 10%* of the final course grade, the student should contact the instructor directly. The student need only share broad outlines of the medical situation. The instructor may require the student to submit documentation to the academic advisors, in which case she or he will advise the student and inform the academic advisors to expect documentation. If documentation is requested, the student will need to complete and submit the **Student Medical Certificate**. The instructor may not collect medical documentation. The advisors will contact the instructor when the medical documentation is received, and will outline the severity and duration of the medical challenge as expressed on the Student Medical Certificate and in any other supporting documentation. The student will be informed that the instructor has been notified of the presence of medical documentation, and will be instructed to work as quickly as possible with the instructor on an agreement for accommodation.

**(b) Medical Grounds for assignments worth 10% or more of final grade:** Go Directly to Academic Advising

University Senate policy, which can be found at [Academic Calendar - Western University (uwo.ca)](http://academicsupport.uwo.ca/) requires that all student requests for accommodation on medical grounds for assignments worth 10% or more of the final grade be made directly to the academic advising office of the home faculty (for Huron students, the “home faculty” is Huron), with supporting documentation in the form (minimally) of the Senate-approved Student Medical Certificate found at: [https://www.uwo.ca/univsec/pdf/academic_policies/appeals/medicalform.pdf](https://www.uwo.ca/univsec/pdf/academic_policies/appeals/medicalform.pdf).
The documentation is submitted in confidence and will not be shown to instructors. The advisors will contact the instructor when the medical documentation is received, and will outline the severity and duration of the medical challenge as expressed on the Student Medical Certificate and in any other supporting documentation. The student will be informed that the instructor has been notified of the presence of medical documentation, and will be instructed to work as quickly as possible with the instructor on an agreement for accommodation. The instructor will not normally deny accommodation where appropriate medical documentation is in place and where the duration it describes aligns with the due date(s) of assignment(s). Before denying a request for accommodation on medical grounds, the instructor will consult with the Dean. The instructor’s decision is appealable to the Dean.

c) Consideration on Non-Medical Grounds: Consult Huron Support Services/Academic Advising, or email huronsss@uwo.ca.

Students seeking academic consideration for a non-medical absence (e.g. varsity sports, religious, compassionate, or bereavement) will be required to provide appropriate documentation. All consideration requests must include a completed Consideration Request Form. Late penalties may apply at the discretion of the instructor.

Please review the full policy on Academic Consideration for medical and non-medical absence at: accommodation_medical.pdf (uwo.ca). Consult Huron Academic Advising at huronsss@uwo.ca for any further questions or information.

Support Services

For advice on course selections, degree requirements, and for assistance with requests for medical accommodation, students should email an Academic Advisor in Huron’s Student Support Services at huronsss@uwo.ca. An outline of the range of services offered is found on the Huron website at: https://huronatwestern.ca/student-life/student-services/.

Department Chairs, Program Directors and Coordinators are also able to answer questions about individual programs. Contact information can be found on the Huron website at: https://huronatwestern.ca/contact/faculty-staff-directory/.

If you think that you are too far behind to catch up or that your workload is not manageable, you should consult your Academic Advisor. If you are considering reducing your workload by dropping one or more courses, this must be done by the appropriate deadlines. Please refer to the Advising website, https://huronatwestern.ca/student-life/student-services/academic-advising/ or review the list of official Sessional Dates on the Academic Calendar, available here: http://www.westerncalendar.uwo.ca/SessionalDates.cfm.
You should consult with the course instructor and the Academic Advisor who can help you consider alternatives to dropping one or more courses. Note that dropping a course may affect OSAP and/or Scholarship/Bursary eligibility.

Huron Student Support Services: https://huronatwestern.ca/student-life/student-services/
Office of the Registrar: https://registrar.uwo.ca/
Student Quick Reference Guide: https://huronatwestern.ca/student-life/student-services/#1
Academic Support & Engagement: http://academicsupport.uwo.ca/
Huron University College Student Council: https://huronatwestern.ca/student-life/beyond-classroom/hucsc/
Western USC: http://westernusc.ca/your-services/#studentservices

**Wellness and Health Supports at Huron and Western**
University students may encounter setbacks from time to time that can impact academic performance. Huron offers a variety of services that are here to support your success and wellbeing. All Huron staff and faculty have received training on responding to disclosures of Gender-Based Sexual Violence (GBSV); students should know that the Community Safety Office is a resource for survivors, providing support and, if desired, guidance while referring them to the further supports that they may require. Please visit https://huronatwestern.ca/student-life-campus/student-services/wellness-safety for more information or contact staff directly:

Wellness Services: huronwellness@huron.uwo.ca
Community Safety Office: safety@huron.uwo.ca
Additional supports for Health and Wellness may be found and accessed at Western through, https://www.uwo.ca/health/.

Western Calendar - Policy Pages -

[Academic Calendar - Western University (uwo.ca)](https://www.uwo.ca/academic_calendar)