

### HIST 583-1: Introduction to Advanced Historical Study

Instructor	Day(s)	Time(s)	Maximum Enrollment
Lesser and Rogers	W	9:00 am – 12:00 pm	12

#### Semester Description:

What does it mean to be a professional historian? How do we research and present the past? What tools are available to us to investigate, interpret, and explain the lives of the unliving and the structures that influence societies and cultures?

This course, designed primarily for incoming Ph.D. students in the History Program, has three main areas of focus. We will: 1) seek to understand the different genres in which historians produce knowledge, from grant proposals and conference presentation to books and blogs; 2) deconstruct the profession, from how universities work to the varied ways that Ph.D. students can organize their careers; and 3) discuss approaches to understanding the past inspired by weekly engagement with texts including books, articles, blogs, and films.

These three weekly approaches will allow us think about research and its communication before students visit memory and data repositories and produce interpretations of their findings. These approaches will teach us about critical aspects of the profession including the importance of collaboration, the use of techniques from many disciplines, the relationship of the present to the past, and the consideration of how the local can impact our research in any place or about any time.

#### Required Textbooks, Articles, and Resources:

1. Benedict R. O'G Anderson, *Imagined Communities: Reflections on the Origin and Spread of Nationalism*, revised edition (London: Verso, 2016).  
**ISBN:** 9781784786755.
2. Gloria Anzaldúa, *Borderlands/La Frontera: The New Mestiza* (Aunt Lute Books, 2012).  
**ISBN:** 9781879960855.
3. Max Brooks, *World War Z: An Oral History of the Zombie War* (Three Rivers Press, 2007).  
**ISBN:** 9780307346612.
4. Ken Burns, Lynn Novick, Geoffrey C. Ward, Peter Coyote, Public Broadcasting Service, and Kanopy. *The Vietnam War*. San Francisco, California, USA]: PBS, 2018.
5. William Cronon, "Storytelling," *The American Historical Review*, Volume 118, Issue 1, 1 February 2013, Pages 1–19, <https://doi.org/10.1093/ahr/118.1.1>.
6. Leslie Harris and Daina Ramey Berry, eds., *Slavery and Freedom in Savannah* (Athens: University of Georgia Press, 2014).  
**ISBN:** 9780820344102.

7. Madeline Hsu, *Dreaming of Gold, Dreaming of Home: Transnationalism and Migration Between the United States and South China* (Stanford: Stanford University Press, 2000).  
**ISBN:** 9780804746878.
8. Tony Judt, *The Memory Chalet* (New York: Penguin Books, 2011).  
**ISBN:** 9780143119975.
9. Maud Mandel, *In the Aftermath of Genocide: Armenians and Jews in Twentieth-Century France* (Durham: Duke University Press, 20013).  
**ISBN:** 9780822331216.
10. Marc Maron, WTF with Marc Maron. <http://www.wtfpod.com/>
11. Ian Parker, "Ken Burns's American Canon," *The New Yorker*, September 4, 2017.
12. Allesandro Portelli, "A Dialogical Relationship. An Approach to Oral History."  
[http://www.swaraj.org/shikshantar/expressions\\_portelli.pdf](http://www.swaraj.org/shikshantar/expressions_portelli.pdf)
13. Soweto Historical GIS Project. <http://www.dhinitiative.org/projects/shgis>
14. Jonathan Spence, *The Question of Hu* (New York: Vintage Books, 1989).  
**ISBN:** 9780679725800.
15. James H. Sweet, Domingos Álvares, *African Healing, and the Intellectual History of the Atlantic World* (Chapel Hill: University of North Carolina Press, 2011).  
**ISBN:** 9781469609751.
16. Michel-Rolph Trouillot, *Silencing the Past: Power and the Production of History*. Boston: Beacon Press, 1995.  
**ISBN:** 9780807043110.

**Grading:**

TBA