

Fall 2006 University of North Carolina - Greensboro
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Office: 2145 HHRA Office Hours: M 1-2, F 11-12, and by appt

HISTORY 703: GRADUATE RESEARCH SEMINAR IN U.S. HISTORY

This course is designed to assist students in the writing of a primary source research paper. Students will identify a compelling research question and a set of primary and secondary sources. They will write a paper proposal, draft, and final essay. We will read and critique each other's proposals and papers. The class will not meet every week, but I will always be available to meet individually with students.

Required Text:

Wayne C. Booth, Gregory G. Colomb, and Joseph M. Williams, *The Craft of Research*. Chicago: University of Chicago Press, 1995, 2003.

Grading:

Class Citizenship and Peer Review (15%): This grade is based on your attendance, contributions to class discussion, and reviews of your peers' proposals and papers. I expect you to attend all classes, participate actively, and provide thorough and thoughtful peer reviews. At the end of the semester, you will give a brief oral presentation of your findings.

Proposal (15%): You will write a proposal outlining the questions driving your research, your expected findings, and their significance. The proposal will include a literature review and a bibliography. You will need to conduct a significant amount of research in order to write a strong proposal.

Final Paper (70%): Your papers must be typed and double-spaced. They must have page numbers and a title page. Final papers should be significantly different from your first drafts, illustrating that you have thought carefully about the suggested changes. Papers should be well-organized, the prose should be clear and convincing, without any typos or spelling mistakes. Footnotes and bibliographies should be complete and correct. Proofread carefully.

NOTE: In order to succeed in this course you must seriously engage in the revision process. Although first drafts of papers and proposals will not receive a grade, if they are incomplete or otherwise insufficient, I will deduct from your final grade.

I use the following grading scale: 93 and above A, 90-92 A-, 88-89 B+, 83-87 B, 80-82, B-, 78-79 C+, 73-77 C, 70-72 C-, 68-69 D+, 63-67 D, 60-62 D-, 59 and below F.

E-Mail:

E-mail is the best way to reach me. I always confirm receipt of messages and try to respond quickly. If you do not receive a response within 48 hours, you should assume that I did not receive your message and try again. If you do not receive confirmation of your message, it means that I did not receive it and you will not be credited for any information that you communicated.

I will use e-mail to contact you, so you must check your UNCG email account regularly. All messages will be sent to UNCG accounts.

Plagiarism:

Plagiarism is presenting the words or ideas of others without giving them credit. If something you write implies that you are the originator of words or ideas, they must be your own. When you utilize written sources (including the internet), you must identify the sources to your reader. If you use someone else's exact words they must be enclosed in quotation marks and followed by a citation. If you put someone else's ideas into your own words, you must give that person credit. Anyone who commits plagiarism will be penalized. I report all case of plagiarism to the Dean of Students.