

HIS 559/MST 559
Doing Visual History

Schedule

The class meets on Mondays from 3:30-6:20 in Carmichael 002.

Instructors: Matt Barr and Chuck Bolton

Barr contact info:

Office: Brown Building, 201
Office Hours: Mondays 9:30-11:30 or by appointment.
Phone: 334-3887; e-mail: mbarr@uncg.edu

Bolton contact info:

Office: Moore Humanities Bldg., 2135
Office Hours: 1:00 p.m. - 3:00 p.m. M, or by appointment
Phone: 334-5204; e-mail: ccbolton@uncg.edu

Required Text/Readings

Donald A. Ritchie, Doing Oral History: A Practical Guide 2nd ed. (Oxford University Press, 2003)—available at the UNCG Bookstore and various other outlets

Additional required course readings are included on the course schedule and are available through blackboard.

Schedule

August 23:	Introduction
August 30:	Oral History: Definition and Theory; Conducting Interviews: Research Preparation, Shaping a Project, Treatments, Asking Questions Readings: <u>Doing Oral History</u> , 19-30, ch. 3; Portelli, “Research as an Experiment in Equality” and “What Makes Oral History Different”; Morissey, “Oral History Interviews.”
September 13	Conducting Interviews: Videotaping--Setting and Equipment Readings: <u>Doing Oral History</u> , ch. 5
September 20:	Conducting Interviews: Videotaping—Lighting; Practice Interviews First essay due (see attached)

- September 27: Legal Matters and Ethical Considerations
- Readings: Neuenschwander, “Legal Release Agreements” and “Institutional Review Boards and Oral History”; Doing Oral History, 75-79, Appendix 1, and Appendix 2
- October 4: Introduction to Final Cut Pro Edit System; Capturing Raw Footage for Editing
- October 18: Class Presentation of Raw Video Interviews
- First video interview should be complete
- October 25: Class Presentation of Raw Video Interviews
- Book essay due (see attached)
- November 1: Editing of Raw Video Interviews
- November 8: DVD Production
- November 15: DVD Production
- November 22: DVD Production; Memory and Recall in Personal Narratives
- Readings: Portelli, “The Death of Luigi Trastulli”; Hoffman and Hoffman, “A Psychological Overview of Memory”; Jefferson, “Interfaced Memory”
- Remaining video interviews should be complete
- November 29: Personal Narratives and Documentary Film/Archiving of Oral Histories
- Readings: “Oral History, Documentary, and the Mystification of Power,” in Frisch, A Shared Authority; Hardy and Dean, “Oral History in Sound and Moving Image Documentaries”
- December 6: Class Presentations of DVDs
- DVDs due; Final papers due for graduate students

Grading and Evaluation (Undergraduates):

Three Video Interviews	25%
Menu-Driven DVD from Raw Interviews	25%
Book Essay	10%
Oral Report on Documentary	10%
Class Participation/Class Presentations	30%

Grading and Evaluation (Graduate Students):

Four Video Interviews	20%
Menu-Driven DVD from Raw Interviews	20%
Book Essay	10%
Oral Report on Documentary	10%
Class Participation/Class Presentations	25%
Final Paper	15%

Explanations of Assignments:

The major project for this class is to complete a series of video oral histories (a minimum of three for undergraduates and four for graduate students) and then develop a menu-driven DVD that highlights key themes from the series of interviews. Students will work in teams of two.

The book essay provides an opportunity for students to examine how various authors have used personal narratives to construct explorations of the past. Each student will be assigned a book from the list at the end of the syllabus, which also contains the question to answer in your essay.

For the oral report on a documentary film, you should go to folkstreams.net and choose a documentary film to watch. Among the films on this site are those of one of your instructors, Matt Barr. As you watch the film, you should take particular note of how personal narratives are utilized to tell the story. In your oral report, you should offer a critical analysis of the documentary film you watched, including the use of personal narratives in the film. You should be prepared to make this report beginning September 13, and we will have people make their presentations throughout the semester, as time permits.

Success in this class requires your active participation. Students should be prepared to participate fully in all class discussion, in-class exercises, and other activities.

Final Paper for graduate students: Your papers should discuss your interview experiences in this class in the context of what you have learned from the readings and from class about the theory and practice of collecting personal narratives and the documentary process. In short, you should process your experiences, readings, and our discussions in some creative and brilliant way. Of course, your papers should be well organized and well written. And your papers should be typed, double-spaced, with twelve-point font and one-inch margins (6-8 pages).

Academic Integrity Policy:

Each student is required to adhere to the Academic Honor Policy on all major work submitted for the course. For additional information, see <http://academicintegrity.uncg.edu/complete/>

Attendance Policy:

Since this class meets once a week, attendance at all class meetings is essential. Any unexcused absences will adversely affect a student's grade.

Books for Essay

Austin, Curtis, *Up Against the Wall: Violence in the Making and Unmaking of the Black Panther Party* (2006)

Bolton, Charles C., *The Hardest Deal of All: The Battle Over School Integration in Mississippi, 1870-1980* (2005)

Chafe, William, *Civilities and Civil Rights: Greensboro, North Carolina, and the Black Struggle for Freedom* (1980)

Dent, Tom, *Southern Journey: A Return to the Civil Rights Movement* (1997)

Ellsworth, Scott, *Death in a Promised Land: The Tulsa Race Riot of 1921* (1982)

Fosl, Catherine, *Subversive Southerner: Anne Braden the Struggle for Racial Justice in the Cold War South* (2006)

Fugita, Stephen S. and Marilyn Fernandez, *Altered Lives, Enduring Community* (2000)

Grossman, James R., *Land of Hope: Chicago, Black Southerners, and the Great Migration* (1989)

Hall, Jacquelyn Dowd Hall et al., *Like a Family: The Making of a Southern Cotton Mill World* (1987)

Love, Spencie, *One Blood: The Death and Resurrection of Charles R. Drew* (1996)

Minchin, Timothy, *Hiring the Black Worker* (1999)

Moye, J. Todd, *Freedom Flyers: The Tuskegee Airmen of World War II* (2010)

Painter, Nell Irvin, *The Narrative of Hosea Hudson: His Life as a Negro Communist in the South* (1979)

Portelli, Alessandro, *The Order Has Been Carried Out: History, Memory, and Meaning of a Nazi Massacre in Rome* (2003)

Rogers, Kim Lacy, *Life and Death in the Delta* (2006)

Theodore Rosengarten, *All God's Dangers: The Life of Nate Shaw* (1974)

Smead, Howard, *Blood Justice: The Lynching of Mack Charles Parker* (1986)

Terkel, Studs, *Hard Times: An Oral History of the Great Depression* (1970)

Terkel, Studs, *Working* (1972)

Assignment: Read the book assigned to you. In a 3-5 page paper, offer a critical analysis of the book's use of personal narratives to document the past.