HST 390 Historiography

Fall 2020

Prof. F. Thornton Miller

Email: FTMiller@missouristate.edu

Office Hours: Virtual—by email: Tuesday, 9:00-11:30, Wednesday, 9:00-11:30; and, by appointment, if any students want to, I will set up a Zoom session.

Correspondence by Email
Except for the Virtual Office Hours, on Tuesday, 9:00-11:30 and Wednesday, 9:00-11:30, I will try to respond to email by the next day. For email received on Friday, Saturday, and Sunday, I will try to reply by Monday. My email replies will be during the day Monday-Friday, 8:00-5:00. I will not be responding to email after 5:00 or on the weekend.

Course Objective

This course is a history of history; a study of the methods historians use in their research and writing; and a study of how historians disagree in interpreting the past.

Required Texts


Readings available on this Blackboard course site

% Breakdown of the Course

Quizzes: 15%

Online Class Discussion: 10%

Journal: 15%

Exams: 60% (3 exams, 20% each)

Lecture and Discussion Topics

I: Introduction: What is history?

II: History of History

III: Interpretation—How Historians Disagree

A: Issues in American History

Several Issues in Taking Sides to be assigned through the course

B: Issues and Methods in a single field, example: American Revolution

Notes and readings on the American Revolution available on the Blackboard course site
IV: On the Use of Primary Sources, example, Schoolcraft, *Journal*, available on the Blackboard course site

Exams

The exams will consist of essay questions. You will be graded on organization and clarity as well as accuracy of information. You should be comprehensive in discussing all significant points and give examples to support your statements. On the exams you are responsible for all lecture notes and assigned readings. There will be a review before each exam. The exams will be on Blackboard.

Quizzes and Journal

Generally each week there will be 1) online lectures or readings on the Blackboard course site or readings in Taking Sides, 2) a multiple choice quiz on Blackboard on the online lectures or readings, and 3) questions for you to respond to in your Journal which you will submit by email. Through the semester the Journal questions will be posted on the Blackboard course site.

Online Discussion

Twice during the semester, each for about two weeks, we will have an online class discussion on some broad topics we will be covering in the course.

Course Policies

Students are required to have a Missouri State email account.

Makeup exams are allowed and are given toward the end of the term.

Grading

For your course grade, you must have at least a 94% average for an A, 90% for a A-, 87% for a B+, 84% for a B, 80% for a B-, 77% for a C+, 74% for a C, 70% for a C-, 67% for a D+, and 60% for a D.

Attendance

This is an online course but keep up with the windows for the online discussion and each quiz that is posted and keep up with the course calendar on the Main Course Page. Failing to participate in the online discussion or taking a quiz will be like missing a seated class where there is a class discussion or a quiz is given. In that sense the attendance (quizzes & online discussion) part of the course is 25% of the course grade.

Academic Dishonesty

Missouri State University is a community of scholars committed to developing educated persons who accept the responsibility to practice personal and academic integrity. You are responsible for knowing and following the university’s student honor code, Student Academic Integrity Policies and Procedures and also available at the Reserves Desk in Meyer Library. Any student participating in any form of academic dishonesty will be subject to sanctions as described in this policy.

Nondiscrimination

Missouri State University is an equal opportunity/affirmative action institution, and maintains a grievance procedure available to any person who believes he or she has been discriminated against. At
all times, it is your right to address inquiries or concerns about possible discrimination to the Office for Institutional Equity and Compliance, Park Central Office Building, 117 Park Central Square, Suite 111, 417-836-4252. Other types of concerns (i.e., concerns of an academic nature) should be discussed directly with your instructor and can also be brought to the attention of your instructor’s Department Head. Please visit the OED website at www.missouristate.edu/equity/.

Disability Accommodation

To request academic accommodations for a disability, contact the Director of the Disability Resource Center, Plaster Student Union, Suite 405, 417-836-4192 or 417-836-6792 (TTY), www.missouristate.edu/disability. Students are required to provide documentation of disability to the Disability Resource Center prior to receiving accommodations. The Disability Resource Center refers some types of accommodation requests to the Learning Diagnostic Clinic, which also provides diagnostic testing for learning and psychological disabilities. For information about testing, contact the Director of the Learning Diagnostic Clinic, 417-836-4787, http://psychology.missouristate.edu/ldc.

Standard university policies not applicable to completely online courses: Cell Phone and Emergency Response policies.