

*History 3000: Introduction to Historical Studies CTW*

Tuesday & Thursday 8am - 9:40am, Sparks Hall 307

Instructor: Dr. Nick Wilding

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Office Hours: Tuesday & Thursday, 32 Peachtree 2146, 12pm – 1pm.

**Course Description:**

This course introduces students to the practice of history. Students will find out what historians do, and how and why they do it. We will learn the practical skills of the craft of history and think about what it is for and how it is used. In particular, we will look at the specific methods and techniques used in writing the history of Europe (and beyond) in the Early Modern Period (c. 1400 – 1700). We will analyse a variety of primary and secondary texts, learn how to make bibliographies and write history papers.

**Course Requirements:**

Much of our thinking and learning will take place in class, so attendance and participation are extremely important, counting for 20% of your grade. Let me know if you will be unable to attend any classes.

Participation (20%)

Sample Bibliography (10%)

Assigned Book Paper (20%)

Research Presentation (20%).

Final Research Paper (30%)

The final paper will use the research skills acquired during the course.

**Ethical Requirements:**

All students will show mutual respect at all times. Students who fail to respect each other will fail the class.

You will learn what plagiarism is and why it is a bad thing. Any student caught plagiarising will fail the course. See GSU's Policy on Academic Honesty (Section 409) for clarification.

**Critical Thought through Writing**

*The History Department subscribes to the definition of Critical Thinking as it was proposed to the Faculty Senate: our courses will help “students develop the ‘wide range of cognitive skills and intellectual dispositions needed to effectively identify, analyze, and evaluate arguments and truth claims; to discover and overcome personal prejudices; to formulate and present convincing reasons in support of conclusions; and to make reasonable, intelligent decisions about what to believe and what to do.’”*

**Required Texts:**

Rampolla, Mary Lynn, *A Pocket Guide to Writing in History* (5<sup>th</sup> edn., Bedford / St. Martin's, 2007) ISBN: 0-312-44673-X, ISBN-13: 978-0-312-44673-4  
Burke, Peter, *The European Renaissance – Centres and Peripheries* (Blackwell, 1998) ISBN 9780631198451  
Davis, Natalie Zemon. *The Return of Martin Guerre*, (Harvard University Press, 1983). 0-674-76691-1  
Ginzburg, Carlo, *The Cheese and the Worms* (Johns Hopkins, 1992). ISBN: 0801843871.  
Balestracci, Duccio, *The Renaissance in the Fields* (Pennsylvania State University Press, 1999) ISBN 0271 018798  
Origo, Iris, *The Merchant of Prato*, (David Godine, 2002) ISBN 0-87923-596-9.  
Camporesi, Pietro, *The Bread of Dreams* (University of Chicago Press, 1989) ISBN 0226092585

*The course syllabus provides a general plan for the course; deviations may be necessary*

Week 1 (January 6<sup>th</sup> & 8<sup>th</sup>) Overview, Introduction

Week 2 (January 13<sup>th</sup> & 15<sup>th</sup>) Rampolla

Week 3 (January 20<sup>nd</sup> & 22<sup>th</sup>) Bibliographies, Catalogues, Research & Reference

Week 4 (January 27<sup>th</sup> & 29<sup>th</sup>) Early Modern History – an Introduction

Week 5 (February 3<sup>rd</sup> & 5<sup>th</sup>) Early Modern Sources & Historiography

[5<sup>th</sup> February – Sample Bibliography due]

Week 6 (February 10<sup>th</sup> & 12<sup>th</sup>) Burke

Week 7 (February 17<sup>th</sup> & 19<sup>th</sup>) Origo

Week 8 (February 24<sup>th</sup> & 26<sup>th</sup>) Balestracci

[2<sup>nd</sup> March Full semester Midpoint – last chance to withdraw from course]

[Week 9, March 3<sup>rd</sup> & 5<sup>th</sup> Spring Break - no classes]

Week 10 (March 10<sup>th</sup> & 12<sup>th</sup>) Camporesi

Week 11 (March 17<sup>th</sup> & 19<sup>th</sup>) Ginzburg

Week 12 (March 24<sup>th</sup> & 26<sup>th</sup>) Davis

Week 13 (March 31<sup>st</sup> & April 2<sup>nd</sup>) *Le retour de Martin Guerre* (film)

Week 14 (April 7<sup>th</sup> & 9<sup>th</sup>) Research Paper presentations

Week 15 (April 14<sup>th</sup> & 16<sup>th</sup>) Research Paper presentations

Week 16 (April 21<sup>st</sup> & 23<sup>rd</sup>) Research Paper presentations

April 28<sup>th</sup> – Final papers due.