**HISTORICAL METHODS & ANALYSIS**

HIS 410  
Westminster College  
Fall 2018  
107 Patterson

Course website: https://learn.westminster.edu/d2l/home/18859

Instructor: Dr. Patricia Clark  
E-mail: clarkpg@westminster.edu  
Office: 317 Patterson  
Phone: 724-946-7248

**Purpose**

In this course, students are introduced to the research methods of the historian. Students will examine the nature and use of historical sources (primary and secondary) and develop mastery of presentation and reference conventions. Ancillary historical disciplines are also introduced.

**Objectives**

Students will work individually utilizing primary and secondary sources to produce an original work of historical scholarship of at least 15 pages in length.

Students will work in groups utilizing primary and secondary sources to present original historical scholarship in alternative formats.

**Goals**

Through practice in research, analysis, writing, and presentation, students will come to an introductory understanding of ways to use the skills of the historian to present historical research in various ways to multiple audiences.

**Outcomes**

Students will be able to:
- Apply research skills to the gathering of primary and secondary historical sources.
- Sharpen analytical skills through critically evaluating primary and secondary sources.
- Improve writing skills through drafting and revising essays.
- Develop proficiency in using the Chicago Manual of Style format to document sources.
- Synthesize historical knowledge into an original product of scholarship.

**Required Reading**

https://ebookcentral.proquest.com/lib/westminsterpa/detail.action?docID=4785166#

*The Chicago Manual of Style* (17th ed.)

https://www-jstor-org.wc-eproxy.westminster.edu/stable/j.ctt1dszxzd

https://ebookcentral.proquest.com/lib/westminsterpa/detail.action?docID=2027518#

Online readings as indicated below

**Requirements**

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<th>Requirement</th>
<th>Percentage</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>class participation</td>
<td>10%</td>
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<tr>
<td>The Historian's Toolbox tasks</td>
<td>5%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Chicago Manual of Style quizzes</td>
<td>5%</td>
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<tr>
<td>archive report</td>
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<td>project proposal</td>
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<td>peer review</td>
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<tr>
<td>oral presentation</td>
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<td>portfolio</td>
<td>3%</td>
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<tr>
<td>public history project</td>
<td>22%</td>
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<tr>
<td>final project</td>
<td>35%</td>
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**Grading Scale**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Grade</th>
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<td>A-</td>
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<td>B+</td>
<td>88-89</td>
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<td>B</td>
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<td>C</td>
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Regular attendance at and participation in class meetings is required. Students who merely attend each class meeting without contributing to class discussion will receive a failing grade for participation. Participation includes not only oral contribution to class discussion, but also completion of quizzes and other written work as assigned. Expectations for written work include proper documentation, good grammar, and clear, persuasive writing.

Absences are excused at the instructor's discretion. If you miss class for a legitimate reason, you must provide appropriate documentation in writing for the absence to be excused. E-mail the instructor within 24 hours of the absence regarding the reason for your absence and your plans for making up the work missed.

Failure to complete all course requirements will result in an "F" for the course.

More information about assignments will be forthcoming in a timely manner.

**Accommodations**
Westminster College actively strives for the full inclusion of all our students. Students with disabilities who require access solutions for environmental or curricular barriers should contact Faith Craig, Director of Disability Resources, located in 415 Thompson-Clark Hall (phone: 724-946-7192, e-mail craigfa@westminster.edu).

Students who may need academic accommodations are encouraged to discuss options with their instructor no later than the second week of class.

**Academic Integrity**
Violations of the Westminster College Academic Integrity Policy include (but are not limited to) cheating, misconduct, plagiarism, and providing false information. All students are responsible for familiarizing themselves with the definitions of these infractions of academic integrity. Academic dishonesty will be penalized in accord with the procedures outlined on pages 29-31 of the Westminster College Handbook for Students 2018-2019. The instructor reserves the right to submit students' written work to turnitin.com, and encourages students to use the turnitin.com web site as a resource to learn more about intentional and unintentional plagiarism.

**Schedule**

Please read all assigned readings before the class for which they are scheduled, and bring an annotated copy of the day's readings (or your extensive notes on the readings) with you to each class meeting.

This schedule is subject to revision by the instructor.

### What is Research?
August 28
Text: chapter 1, "Thinking in Print," in *The Craft of Research*

### What is History?
August 30

September 4
Text: chapters 4-6, "Metahistory," "Antihistory," and "The Present" in *The Historian's Toolbox*

### Historical Sources
September 6
Text: chapter 9, "Sources and Evidence" in *The Historian's Toolbox*

Text: chapter 5, "From Problems to Sources" in *The Craft of Research*
Case Study: Westminster History

September 11
Text: chapter 17, "Public History" in *The Historian's Toolbox*
Website: John A. Veverka, "Planning Interpretive Walking Tours for Communities and Related Historic Districts"

September 13
library research day (meet in McGill Library)

September 18
Website: Stephen Hague, “How to Plan and Implement Interpretation”

September 20
library research day (meet in McGill Library)

Case Study: American Women Missionaries in China

September 25
Text: preface-chapter 2 in *The Gospel of Gentility*
Text: chapter 3, "From Topics to Questions" and chapter 6, "Engaging Sources" in *The Craft of Research*

September 27
library research day (meet in McGill Library)

October 2
Text: chapters 3-4 in *The Gospel of Gentility*
Text: sections 14.1-14.18 in *The Chicago Manual of Style*

October 4
Group meetings with instructor

October 9
PUBLIC HISTORY PROJECT PRESENTATIONS

October 11
PUBLIC HISTORY PROJECT PRESENTATIONS

October 16
Text: chapters 5-6 in *The Gospel of Gentility*

October 18
library research day (meet in McGill Library)

October 23
Text: chapter 7 & afterword in *The Gospel of Gentility*
Text: chapter 12, "Planning and Drafting" in *The Craft of Research*

Doing Research. Citing, and Writing

October 25
Text: sections 5.212-5.215, 6.8-6.11, 7.5-7.18, and 8.70-8.80 in *The Chicago Manual of Style*
Text: chapter 11, "Narrative and Explanation" in *The Historian's Toolbox*

October 30
Fall Break--No Class

November 1
Text: chapter 12, "Interpretation" in *The Historian's Toolbox*

November 6
individual meetings with instructor

ARCHIVE REPORT DUE
November 8  
Text: chapter 10, "Credit and Acknowledgement" in *The Historian's Toolbox*
Text: chapter 14, "Incorporating Sources" in *The Craft of Research*

November 13  
library research day (meet in McGill Library)

November 15  
PROJECT DRAFT DUE
PEER REVIEW

November 20  
individual meetings with instructor

November 22  
Thanksgiving Break--No Class

November 27  
individual meetings with instructor
PORTFOLIO DUE

November 29  

December 4  
ORAL PRESENTATIONS

December 6  
ORAL PRESENTATIONS

Monday December 10  
FINAL PROJECT DUE  5:30 p.m.