



The University of Western Ontario

HIS9800: PUBLIC HISTORY: THEORY, HISTORY & PRACTICE

HIS9801: PUBLIC HISTORY GROUP PROJECT

Fall/Winter 2018-19

Tuesdays 10:30-1:30, LwH 2270C/LwH 1218

Instructor: Michelle A. Hamilton

Office Hours: TBA

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*****DRAFT*****

Course Description:

This seminar course examines history as it is interpreted for and understood by the public including:

-**The practice of public history:** Through readings, guest speakers, site visits, workshops and projects, students learn the methods and skills practiced by public historians today.

-**Public history theory:** Topics and issues such as authenticity, commemoration, 'imagined communities,' invention of tradition, 'usable pasts,' contested places, colonialism and culture, historical designation and preservation, living history, heritage tourism, cultural legislation, public policy, cultural (mis)representation, oral history, ethics, gender and class, the natural and built environment, intangible heritage, education vs. entertainment, and social memory.

-**The history of public history:** Examination of the establishment of Canadian museums, archives, government agencies and the individuals key to their development.

We meet weekly to discuss assigned readings, hear guest speakers, and participate in workshops. Some classes will be or include meetings with project partners which will not necessarily take place in the classroom. The 3rd hour will mostly be used for our Professional Development series and any additional student-scheduled in-house group project meetings, as needed. Some PD seminars may be slotted on other days when speakers' schedules conflict with ours or we need more time.

Learning Objectives:

At the end of these courses, students will have:

- conducted graduate level research in primary and secondary sources;
- examined the theory and history of public history;
- an understanding of the main avenues for practicing public history;
- a broad range of the different skills that public historians use;
- an ability to communicate history to the public through a variety of media;
- a familiarity with the major issues public historians face;
- a familiarity with the legislation relevant to public history;
- an ability to examine critically public presentations of history;

-practiced non-traditional historical skills such as project management, team work, budgeting, and working with community stakeholders;
-had opportunities for reflective, collaborative, service-based, and experiential learning;
contacts with practicing public historians.

Course Materials:

Almost all readings are online, through the library catalogue (**LC**), digital repository (**DR**) <http://history.uwo.ca/Grad/readings/>. Weldon has hard copies of most readings. For books to be shared, find a common place to leave them.

Methods of Evaluation:

Fall 2018

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| Participation (class discussion, blogging, PDS) (Individual mark) | 30% |
| City of London Heritage report (Individual mark) | 25% |
| Presentation of (Individual mark) | 10% |
| Ignite Talk | 10% |
| Research Report & Annotated Bibliography (group mark) | 25% |

Winter 2019

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| Participation (class discussion, blogging, PDS) (Individual mark) | 20% |
| Hear, Here project (group mark) | 60% |
| Final Reports/budget (group mark) | 20% |

Due Dates and Late Penalties:

Assignments are due on the listed dates. Penalty for late assignments is 2% each day (including Saturdays and Sundays). Extensions may be granted if legitimate circumstances are presented by the student well in advance of the due date. Poor work planning (eg: "I have XX other work due") is not grounds for an extension. There will be no exceptions unless students provide medical documentation. For cases of illnesses, see the Policy on Accommodation for Illness

http://www.uwo.ca/univsec/pdf/academic_policies/appeals/accommodation_illness.pdf

Participation

Students are expected to have read and digested the assigned readings before class and participate fully in class seminars. Students must actively participate in all workshops, PD seminars and in group project work that occurs outside of class. Students may also blog about their readings and activities.

Participation Rubric

Participation will be marked weekly and then averaged at the end of each term. You may come and see your weekly marks at any time.

Preparation: Evident preparation for the seminar.

Initiative: Questions asked focus, clarify and summarize discussion.

Response: Quality of response reflects knowledge, comprehension and application of readings.

Discussion: Quality of response extends discussion, and reflects analysis, synthesis and evaluation.

Group Project Meetings (GPM)

Most of the time set aside for group project meetings will be student-run sessions, discussing stages of the project as determined by the students, or conducting group-related research. However, during the first 10-15 minutes of each meeting, groups will provide the instructor with project updates. This is also an opportunity to ask questions or seek advice. Some group project meetings may be, or include, meetings with project partners, and may be outside of the classroom. Groups will also decide to meet at additional times, to be determined by each group and the stage of the project.

Additional Statements

Academic Offences:

Scholastic Offences are taken seriously and students are directed to read the appropriate policy, specifically, the definition of what constitute a Scholastic Offence, at the following Web site: http://www.uwo.ca/univsec/pdf/academic_policies/appeals/scholastic_discipline_undergrad.pdf

Accessibility Options:

Please contact the course instructor if you require material in an alternate format or if you require any other arrangements to make this course more accessible to you. You may also wish to contact Services for Students with Disabilities (SSD) at 519 661-2111 x 82147 for any specific question regarding an accommodation. Information regarding accommodation of exams is available on the Registrar's website: www.registrar.uwo.ca/examinations/accommodated_exams.html

Medical Issues

The University recognizes that a student's ability to meet his/her academic responsibilities may, on occasion, be impaired by medical illness. Please go to:

https://studentservices.uwo.ca/secure/medical_accommodations_link_for_OOR.pdf

to read about the University's policy on medical accommodation. This site provides links the necessary forms. In the event of illness, you should contact Academic Counselling as soon as possible. The Academic Counsellors will determine, in consultation with the student, whether or not accommodation should be requested. They will subsequently contact the instructors in the relevant courses about the accommodation. Once the instructor has made a decision about whether to grant an accommodation, the student should contact his/her instructors to determine a new due date for tests, assignments, and exams. Students must see the Academic Counsellor and submit all required documentation in order to be approved for certain accommodation:

http://counselling.ssc.uwo.ca/procedures/medical_accommodation.html

Plagiarism:

Students must write their essays and assignments in their own words. Whenever students take an idea, or a passage from another author, they must acknowledge their debt both by using quotation marks where appropriate and by proper referencing such as footnotes or citations. Plagiarism is a major academic offense (see Scholastic Offence Policy in the Western Academic Calendar).

The following rules pertain to the acknowledgements necessary in academic papers.

A. In using another writer's words, you must both place the words in quotation marks and acknowledge that the words are those of another writer.

You are plagiarizing if you use a sequence of words, a sentence or a paragraph taken from other writers without acknowledging them to be theirs. Acknowledgement is indicated either by (1)

mentioning the author and work from which the words are borrowed in the text of your paper; or by (2) placing a footnote number at the end of the quotation in your text, and including a correspondingly numbered footnote at the bottom of the page (or in a separate reference section at the end of your essay). This footnote should indicate author, title of the work, place and date of Publication and page number. Method (2) given above is usually preferable for academic essays because it provides the reader with more information about your sources and leaves your text uncluttered with parenthetical and tangential references. In either case words taken from another author must be enclosed in quotation marks or set off from your text by single spacing and indentation in such a way that they cannot be mistaken for your own words. Note that you cannot avoid indicating quotation simply by changing a word or phrase in a sentence or paragraph which is not your own.

B. In adopting other writer's ideas, you must acknowledge that they are theirs.

You are plagiarizing if you adopt, summarize, or paraphrase other writers' trains of argument, ideas or sequences of ideas without acknowledging their authorship according to the method of acknowledgement given in 'A' above. Since the words are your own, they need not be enclosed in quotation marks. Be certain, however, that the words you use are entirely your own; where you must use words or phrases from your source; these should be enclosed in quotation marks, as in 'A' above.

Clearly, it is possible for you to formulate arguments or ideas independently of another writer who has expounded the same ideas, and whom you have not read. Where you got your ideas is the important consideration here. Do not be afraid to present an argument or idea without acknowledgement to another writer, if you have arrived at it entirely independently.

Acknowledge it if you have derived it from a source outside your own thinking on the subject. In short, use of acknowledgements and, when necessary, quotation marks is necessary to distinguish clearly between what is yours and what is not. Since the rules have been explained to you, if you fail to make this distinction, your instructor very likely will do so for you, and they will be forced to regard your omission as intentional literary theft. Plagiarism is a serious offence which may result in a student's receiving an 'F' in a course or, in extreme cases, in their suspension from the University.

Scholastic Offences

Scholastic offences are taken seriously and students are directed to read the appropriate policy, specifically, the definition of what constitutes a Scholastic Offence, at the following web site:

www.uwo.ca/univsec/pdf/academic_policies/appeals/scholastic_discipline_undergrad.pdf

Support Services

Students who are in emotional/mental distress should refer to Mental Health@Western, http://uwo.ca/health/mental_wellbeing/ for a complete list of options about how to obtain help.

Please contact the course instructor if you require material in an alternate format or if you require any other arrangements to make this course more accessible to you. You may also wish to contact Services for Students with Disabilities (SSD) at 661-2111 x 82147 for any specific question regarding an accommodation.

If you have any further questions or concerns please contact, Heidi Van Galen, Administrative Officer, Department of History, 519-661-2111 x84963 or e-mail vangalen@uwo.ca.