

History Fundamentals Section 01

HIST 99

Spring 2025 Hybrid 3 Unit(s) 01/23/2025 to 05/12/2025 Modified 08/11/2025

Contact Information

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Office Hours

Tuesday, 10:00 AM to 12:00 PM, DMH 239B

Drop-in office hours DMH or Zoom

Course Description and Requisites

An introduction to the skills, technology and technique of history reading, writing and research. It is a prerequisite to History 100W. Sophomores and transferring juniors are required to take this course.

Prerequisite: Open to History and Social Science Teacher Preparation majors only; lower or upper division standing.

Letter Graded

* Classroom Protocols

This course will consider issues in the political, social, economic, and cultural history of the United States. Students will conduct themselves in a civil and respectful manner. Students should avoid colloquial language, characterizations, remarks, or outright slurs that pertain to groups in the abstract or to their fellow students.

Disability Accommodations

I am committed to creating an inclusive and accessible classroom environment for students of all abilities. Students who may need academic accommodations are advised to reach out to the Accessible Education Center as early as possible in the semester for assistance. Knowing that ability status may shift during our time together, please let me know how I can best support your learning needs.

Academic Honesty

All work submitted in this course must be your own and plagiarism detection tools such as Turnitin will be used to monitor academic honesty. If you are unfamiliar or out of practice with the kind of citations that writers use to credit their sources, you can take the plagiarism tutorial and quiz on Canvas or contact the instructor.

Use of AI

This course is designed to develop the reading, writing, and research skills of a historian, to prepare students to take upper-division and writing-intensive history courses. Therefore, all assignments, analyses, research, and writing submitted in the course should be your own work and created without the use of generative AI, in order to develop these skills. If AI detection tools such as Turnitin suggest that work submitted in the course is AI-generated, students may be required to revise and resubmit their work.

Program Information

Program Learning Outcomes

- PLO 1** Describe and explain how peoples and societies evolved across time and space demonstrating the importance of context (social, political, economic, cultural, environmental, ideological, and technological).
- PLO 2** Illustrate the complexity of historical causality and describe past events from multiple perspectives.
- PLO 3** Analyze the credibility of historical sources and arguments, revising interpretations as new evidence warrants.
- PLO 4** Conceive and carry out historical research, constructing persuasive evidence-based arguments using primary and secondary sources according to recognized standards of the historical discipline.

Course Goals

Course Format

This course has a hybrid synchronous structure, which means that we meet once per week in class or via Zoom and conduct the remainder of the work online through the Canvas LMS and the online textbook Globalyceum. Course materials such as syllabus, handouts, notes, assignment instructions, etc. can be found on the Canvas learning management system course website. You are responsible for regularly checking with the messaging system through Canvas to learn of any updates.

Course Learning Outcomes (CLOs)

At the end of this course you will be able to:

1. **Think like a Historian:** devise and investigate historical questions and debates
2. **Read like a Historian:** locate the thesis and argument of different types of historical literature
3. **Write like a Historian:** compose and revise history essays according to disciplinary conventions of organization and style
4. **Research like a Historian:** locate and appraise secondary and primary sources to plan and write a research essay
5. **Cite like a Historian** – Apply the conventions of Chicago style citations appropriately and accurately
6. **Engage like a Historian** – Examine the different ways that historians apply their knowledge and skills

Course Materials

Online Textbook

Globalyceum American History

Availability: <https://www.globalyceum.com>

One of the texts for this course is Globalyceum American History. Go to: <https://www.globalyceum.com> register, and subscribe for this course with the following Unique Section Number **NN7KFTSL** (This number is case sensitive.) Your purchase options are debit/credit, or Paypal, or you can purchase an access code from the bookstore. Please make sure to verify your browser and update it if necessary on the Sign In page. Globalyceum recommends Chrome, and Firefox. If you have any technical problems during the term, please contact: support@globalyceum.com. You can CC me on the email, but your first contact should be with Globalyceum.

Course Requirements and Assignments

Thesis Writing Assignments (15 points):

Every week you will analyze a series of primary documents using the Globalyceum online textbook and use your analysis to write a thesis. Your analysis and thesis will usually be the basis of in class discussion and activities, so these will be due before class every week (Sunday night by 11:55pm)

Outlines and Short papers (50 points):

In each unit you will choose one of your primary source analysis and thesis to turn into an outline or short paper (3-4 pages). You must submit your outline (20 points) and draft (30 points).

Revised Short Paper (75 points):

You will choose one of the short papers you submitted as a draft and revise it according to instructor and peer feedback. Your paper will be graded according to how well you incorporated feedback and correct use of historical conventions and citations.

Group Presentations (50 points):

Each instructor-created group will present sourcing and contextualization information on one of the topics from the "Write a thesis" assignments. Groups will need to present together on the context and background to the topic, evaluate the primary sources, and detail their process and results finding secondary sources that could be used in the short paper on the topic.

Skills Practice Homework (10 points):

Students will practice skills learned during class sessions in weekly homework assignments.

Research Paper (150 points)

Through the semester you will develop a 6-8 page research paper on a topic chosen by your group. You will have group support as you develop a historical question and find and evaluate sources. You will write your own paper, but incorporate feedback from the instructor and others in your group. Each group will meet with the instructor during class time to discuss progress and get feedback on their ideas and writing.

Extra Credit (10 points)

Students may get extra credit for attending virtual history-related events or completing career-related activities.

Grading Information

Assignments

This course is based on low-stakes assessment principles. Completing weekly module activities in a timely manner will help to build your skills and comprehension and ensure your success in the course. In an hybrid course, setting a regular work schedule and keeping up with assignments is extremely important.

Grading policy

If you are unable to complete assignments by the due date you may submit within the Unit (typically made up of 3 modules) without explanation or penalty. If you need to submit work after the Unit has closed, you should contact the instructor.

Students will demonstrate their mastery of course learning objectives through the following assessment activities:

Thesis Writing Assignments	225	CLO 1, 3
Short papers	150	CLO 1, 2, 3, 5
Group presentation	50	CLO 2, 4, 6
Revised Short Paper	125	CLO 3, 5
Class assignments	150	CLO 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6
Research Paper	150	CLO 1, 2, 3, 4, 5
Total	900	

Breakdown

Writing Standard Test

If you have not taken the Writing Skills Test (WST), you will need to take it during this semester. When you have completed this class and passed the WST you will be eligible to sign up for History 100W.

Grade	Range	Notes
A+	97-100%	
A	93-96%	
A-	90-92%	
B+	87-89%	
B	83-86%	

Grade	Range	Notes
B-	80-2%	
C+	77-9%	
C	73-6%	
C-	70-2%	
D+	67-9%	
D	63-6%	
D-	60-2%	A student with a semester average below 60% will fail the course.

University Policies

Per [University Policy S16-9 \(PDF\)](http://www.sjsu.edu/senate/docs/S16-9.pdf) (<http://www.sjsu.edu/senate/docs/S16-9.pdf>), relevant university policy concerning all courses, such as student responsibilities, academic integrity, accommodations, dropping and adding, consent for recording of class, etc. and available student services (e.g. learning assistance, counseling, and other resources) are listed on the [Syllabus Information](https://www.sjsu.edu/curriculum/courses/syllabus-info.php) (<https://www.sjsu.edu/curriculum/courses/syllabus-info.php>) web page. Make sure to visit this page to review and be aware of these university policies and resources.

Course Schedule

All readings and write a thesis activities are before class time, all class assignments, Unit papers, and research paper components are due by the end of the module (Sundays).

When	Topic	Notes
UNIT ONE: THINKING LIKE A HISTORIAN August 20	Course Introduction	Subscribe to Globalyceum Why do I want to be a Historian?
August 25	Module 1: Historical Questions	Write a thesis: Nathaniel Bacon Module 1 Skills Practice
September 1	Module 2: Introduction to Historiography	Write a thesis: The Decline of the Mayan Civilization Module 2 Skills Practice

When	Topic	Notes
September 8	Module 3: Historical Tribes	Workshop: Write a thesis and outline Write a thesis: Culture and the Buddhist Persecution Module 3 Skills Practice Unit 1 Outline
UNIT TWO: READING LIKE A HISTORIAN September 15	Module 4: Reading Primary Sources	Write a thesis: Total War Module 4 Skills Practice
September 22	Module 5: Reading Primary Sources	Write a thesis: Aristocratic Women in Japan and Italy Reading: Glen Gendzel, "America Enters WWI" (Globalyceum), Module 5 Skills Practice
September 29	Module 6: Notes and Plagiarism	Workshop: Chicago Style Citations Write a thesis: Women's Education Module 6 Skills Practice Group Presentation Unit 2 Outline and Draft
UNIT THREE WRITING LIKE A HISTORIAN October 6	Module 7: Writing as a Process	Write a thesis: John White Module 7 Skills Practice Group Presentation
October 13	Module 8: Grammar etc.	Write a thesis: Jacob Riis's Photos Module 8 Skills Practice Group Presentation Group: Submit Research Project Topic

When	Topic	Notes
October 20	Module 9: Historical Conventions	Write a thesis: Sugar, Slavery, and Abolition Module 9 Skills Assignment (in class) Group Presentation Essay 3 Outline and Draft Revised Essay: Submit Essay for Peer Review
UNIT FOUR: RESEARCHING LIKE A HISTORIAN October 27	Module 10: Finding Sources	Write a thesis: Slaves and Slaveowners Module 10 Skills Practice
November 3	Module 11: Evaluating Sources	Write a thesis: Measuring Alcoholism Module 11 Skills Practice Revised Essay: Submit Two Peer Reviews
November 10 (No class Nov 11)	Module 12: Sifting Sources	Write a thesis: The Sapoy Rebellion Module 12 Skills Practice Assignment: Sifting Sources with Tags Group Presentation Unit 4 Paper (optional)
UNIT FIVE CITING LIKE A HISTORIAN November 17	Module 13: Mastering Chicago Style	Module 13 Skills Practice Revised Essay
UNIT 6: ENGAGING LIKE A HISTORIAN December 1	Module 14: History Careers	Research Project: Thesis and Outline
December 14	RESEARCH PAPER	