

History 4280/7290 – 2013-2014

University of Manitoba Department of History

HIST 4280 Topics in the Cultural History of Canada: Society, Citizens and the State

HIST 7290 Canadian History 1860 to the Present: Canadian Cultural and Intellectual

Mondays, 2:30pm – 5:15pm

Instructors

Term 1: Barry Ferguson, Professor, History Department

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Consultation/Office Hours: Tuesday 1:30-3:00, or by appointment Wed/Thu.

Term 2: Len Kuffert, Associate Professor, History Department

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Website: <http://home.cc.umanitoba.ca/~kuffertl>

Consultation/Office Hours: drop-in Wednesdays 1:30pm – 2:30pm. Monday mornings or Friday afternoons by appointment.

Introduction

This course will be built upon weekly readings and discussions of how various streams of culture and a number of social structures have functioned to affect meaning, habit, and action over time in the place we know as Canada. The course will treat topics such as sport, public life, political ideas, social concepts, folk culture, sexuality, and others. The class will meet once per week in seminar style, with assigned readings drawn from the historical literature relevant to the theme of the week. Most times, individual students will present their analyses of the readings, and the entire class will discuss the assigned readings. Other written assignments will complement the weekly readings. Each term will be graded separately and equally.

TERM 1 (Prof Ferguson) Assignments and Evaluation

Item 1: Class Participation: Your participation in the seminars is central. As noted above, doing the readings, attending and contributing to the seminar will be rewarded and the absence of these attributes noted. Individual styles of participation will vary but all students should engage in the weekly discussions. If you are unable to attend a class, please inform the instructor (in advance if possible) and submit a brief written summary (two-page/500 words) of the week's required readings. This will constitute **25%** of the term grade.

Item 2: Critical Review: The goal is to identify two or three books **on one of the topics assigned as a seminar topic** and to write a short, critical essay on them. The basis for assessment lies your critical assessment of what the author(s) intends to do in their books, how the author(s) achieve the goals, and especially whether the author(s) provide a sufficiently-persuasive argument. Your critical assessment of the books on the theme is most important. This paper is worth **25%** of the term grade. You should select a topic as early as possible in the term, perhaps aligning it with your preferred seminar presentation.

Due date: Tuesday October 15, 2013 (nb: no class Oct. 14, Thanksgiving Day)
Undergraduates (HIST 4280): 8 pp. 2,000 words maximum
Graduate students (HIST 7670): 10 pp. 2,500 words maximum

Item 3: Term Paper: The term paper is a major investigation, based upon either primary or secondary works, and extending from your first term work, into a major problem or theme in Canadian cultural history. The goals are to develop a clear depiction of the theme you are engaging, present an extensive discussion of the issues and evidence, and conclude with a meaningful contribution to historical explanation of the theme. This paper is worth **50%** of the term grade.

Due date: Monday December 16, 2013
Undergraduates: approximately 12 pp. 3,000 words
Graduate students: approximately 16 pp. 4,000 words

TERM 2 (Dr Kuffert) Assignments and Evaluation

Item 1: Class Participation: This is not a lecture course. **25%** of each student's term grade will be determined by participation in seminar discussions. For many of you this will be your first seminar. Doing the readings, showing up and contributing to the seminar discussion in an engaged fashion will be rewarded. Conversely, if you exhibit no evidence of having done and/or thought about the assigned readings (i.e. you remain silent in class), you will fare poorly in this part of the course. If an absence is unavoidable, please inform the instructor in advance (if possible) and submit a two page (500 word) written summary of the week's required readings at the next meeting; otherwise your participation grade for the missed day will be zero. Submitting written work in place of active participation is not a long-term solution.

Item 2: Two Readings Critiques: these written assignments will include: 1) your view of how the assigned readings address the week's theme and 2) your view of how they fit into the historical literature surrounding that theme. The main points of each critique will be presented to the seminar (maximum 10-minute presentation) ***on the day we discuss the assigned readings***. Please provide only *short summaries* of the articles' main arguments in your oral presentation, because *everyone in the class will have read the assigned articles/books*. In your critiques and presentations try to address topics like the following: Do you find the readings on theme X to be valuable as interpretations of the history of theme X? Why or why not? What was especially well done, or what was missing? How were the pieces you read similar, or how did they differ? Did any of the historians use their sources in an especially insightful way? Can you bring in other evidence (perhaps from other historians or historical sources) to support your critique? Presentation dates will vary depending on when readings are to be discussed, but the ***written critiques should be submitted within two weeks*** after the date we discuss the readings. This requirement will account for **35%** of the term grade (15% per written critique x 2 = 30%; 2.5% per presentation x 2 = 5%).

Undergraduates (HIST 4280): each critique 8-10 pages (2000-2500 words)
Graduate students (HIST 7670): each critique 10-12 pages (2500-3000 words)

Item 3: Source Interpretation: Scan through a month's worth of pre-1960 daily newspapers from any Canadian city you wish (available in microfilm at Dafoe Library), and present your

reading of what preoccupied that community (or its journalists) during that month. Account for your interpretations by relating them to the overall historical context. This assignment will account for **25%** of the term grade.

Due date: 11 February 2014.

Undergraduates (HIST 4280): 10-12 pages (2500-3000 words)

Graduate students (HIST 7670): 12-14 pages (3000-3500 words)

Item 4: Public History Spotlight: Choose one of the ‘Heritage Minutes’ put out by the Historica-Dominion Institute (<https://www.historica-dominion.ca/content/videos>). Using the video and its accompanying text, write a piece discussing the Heritage Minute’s purpose and providing a critical analysis of its execution. In other words, what is the video trying to teach viewers? Can you suggest alternative interpretations to those offered in the video or text? Would any of the readings we discussed in the course (or any other sources you care to bring up) have been helpful in constructing the minute you chose?

This assignment will account for **15%** of the term grade.

Due date: 17 March 2014

Undergraduates (HIST 4280): 8-10 pages (2000-2500 words)

Graduate students (HIST 7670): 10-12 pages (2500-3000 words)

There is **NO FINAL EXAMINATION** for the course.

Procedures and Policies

Students will receive feedback on both assignment content and style, and we assume that students in Honours or graduate programmes will take sufficient pride in the clarity of their arguments and the clarity of their writing to produce drafts of their papers before submitting the final product. Some class time will be devoted to discussing documentation and writing strategies. Having a classmate or someone else proof-read your assignments before submission is highly recommended.

All written assignments should be typed or word-processed, (not hand-written) and double-spaced in a 12-point font like Times. All written assignments requiring reference to other works must use footnotes or endnotes and include a bibliography listing the sources from which you obtained your information. Keep a copy when you submit your work.

A good guide to citation style: Kate Turabian, *A Manual for Writers of Term Papers, Theses, and Dissertations*. This should be available in the reference section of Dafoe Library. Dr Kuffert doesn’t agree with her tolerance of *Ibid.* and its even uglier offspring (e.g. *op. cit.*, *loc. cit.*), but the rest is fine.

Late assignments will be accepted, but unless they are late for a compelling reason (medical or personal crisis) they will be graded without comments or suggestions for improving your work.

Academic Dishonesty

The University’s regulations re: **plagiarism, cheating and impersonation** may be found in Section 8 of the General Academic Regulations in the online Academic Calendar, and Catalogue.

For undergraduate students, the Faculty of Arts regulations pertain. They are found at:
http://umanitoba.ca/faculties/arts/student/student_responsibilities.html

“The common penalty in Arts for plagiarism on a written assignment is a grade of F on the paper and a final grade of F (DISC) (for Disciplinary Action)) for the course. For the most serious acts of plagiarism, such as purchase of an essay and repeat violations, this penalty can also include suspension for a period of up to five (5) years from registration in courses taught in a particular department/program in Arts or from all courses taught in this Faculty.

The Faculty also reserves the right to submit student work that is suspected of being plagiarized to Internet sites designed to detect plagiarism or to other experts for authentication.

The common penalty in Arts for academic dishonesty on a test or examination is F for the paper, F (DISC) for the course, and a one-year suspension from courses acceptable for credit in the Faculty. For more serious acts of academic dishonesty on a test or examination, such as repeat violations, this penalty can also include suspension for a period of up to five years from registration in courses taught in a particular department or program in Arts or from all courses taught in or accepted for credit by this Faculty.”

For graduate students, Faculty of Graduate Studies regulations pertain. The Faculty requires that the following information is posted:

“Academic Integrity: University policy on academic integrity will be enforced. A full description of academic integrity matters, including plagiarism and cheating, can be found in Section 8 of the General Academic Regulations and Requirements of the University of Manitoba.”

Important Course and *University* Dates

First seminar	9 September 2013
<i>Thanksgiving Day (no meeting)</i>	<i>14 October 2013</i>
Assignment 1 due	15 October 2013
Last meeting, Term 1	2 December 2014
Assignment 2 due	16 December 2013
Meetings resume for Term 2	6 January 2014
Source Interpretation due	11 February 2014
<i>Mid-term Break (no classes)</i>	<i>17-21 February 2014</i>
Public History Spotlight paper due	17 March 2014
<i>Voluntary Withdrawal date</i>	<i>19 March 2014</i>
Last meeting, Term 2	7 April 2014