



HIST*3450 The Uses of History

Winter 2020

Section(s): C01

Department of History

Credit Weight: 0.50

Version 1.00 - December 12, 2019

1 Course Details

1.1 Calendar Description

As an introduction to the use of history outside the classroom, this course discusses public history and memory through the activities of governments, corporations, and voluntary associations. History as political propaganda, marketing strategy, and ideological support in a global and historical context is examined. Discussions will focus on history as presented in films, television, monuments, museums, commemorations, and other public and popular media.

Pre-Requisites: 7.50 credits including HIST*2450

1.2 Course Description

The particular focus of this course will be the application of historical context to current debates about the place of the past in public life. We will apply a critical examination of past uses of History to the assessment of present-day uses of History. There will be a balance of collaborative group work as well as individual assignments.

Format: This course will follow a joint lecture and discussion format. Some days, particularly at the beginning of the semester, will introduce key concepts in lecture format. Other days will mix lecture and discussion. Some days will involve small group discussions.

1.3 Timetable

MCKN 307

Tuesdays and Thursdays 2:30-4:00

Timetable is subject to change. Please see WebAdvisor for the latest information.

1.4 Final Exam

There is no final exam

2 Instructional Support

2.1 Instructional Support Team

Instructor:	Alan Gordon
Email:	alan.gordon@uoguelph.ca
Telephone:	+1-519-824-4120 x53123
Office:	MCKNEXT 2005
Office Hours:	Tuesdays 1:30-2:30
	Thursdays 10:30-11:30

3 Learning Resources

3.1 Required Resources

Textbook (Textbook)

There is no required textbook. Weekly readings will be assigned through course reserve and Courselink. Expect to read an average of 3 journal articles / book chapters per week.

4 Learning Outcomes

4.1 Course Learning Outcomes

By the end of this course, you should be able to:

1. • intensively analyze historical themes, facilitating investigation in some depth (both in terms of factual material and of theoretical approaches)
2. • explain the temporal dimensions of constructing historical inquiries, and particularly understand the diversity of historical perspectives that proceed from the different framing of historical inquiries by place, culture, and time.

3. • evaluate and differentiate historical and political narratives grounded in cultural contexts
 4. • read and analyze primary sources, and explore secondary material at an advanced level
 5. • use advanced skills associated with bibliographic research beyond basic bibliographic search resources
 6. • produce original research that reflects not only a synthesis of scholarship, but an original interpretation
 7. • demonstrate skills in written communication through the completion of written assignments
 8. • understand how cultural similarities and differences, and historical, geographical, and political contexts can affect the construction of historical knowledge.
 9. • describe the variety of uncritical media through which contentious historical arguments have been presented and consumed by the public.
 10. • recognize the importance of integrity and accuracy in the communication of historical interpretations in the public sphere.
 11. • develop a critical understanding of how historical knowledge can be and has been used in the public sphere to support a variety of ideological positions.
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5 Teaching and Learning Activities

Expect to read an average of 3 journal articles / book chapters per week. Specific assigned readings will be listed on Courselink and a separate document. Readings are to be completed prior to the week's first class. Classes will mix lecture and discussion formats, including breaking into smaller group discussions from time to time.

6 Assessments

6.1 Assessment Details

First Assignment (20%)

Date: Tue, Feb 4

Details will be provided on a separate handout and on CourseLink

Midterm (20%)

Date: Tue, Feb 25

Details will be provided on a separate handout and on CourseLink

Group Report (15%)

Date: Tue, Mar 24

Details will be provided on a separate handout and on CourseLink

Group Presentation (10%)

Date: Tue, Mar 24

Details will be provided on a separate handout and on CourseLink

Essay (25%)

Date: Thu, Apr 2

Details will be provided on a separate handout and on CourseLink

Peer Evaluation (10%)

Date: Thu, Apr 2

Details will be provided on a separate handout and on CourseLink

7 University Statements

7.1 Email Communication

As per university regulations, all students are required to check their e-mail account regularly: e-mail is the official route of communication between the University and its students.

7.2 When You Cannot Meet a Course Requirement

When you find yourself unable to meet an in-course requirement because of illness or compassionate reasons please advise the course instructor (or designated person, such as a teaching assistant) in writing, with your name, id#, and e-mail contact. The grounds for Academic Consideration are detailed in the Undergraduate and Graduate Calendars.

Undergraduate Calendar - Academic Consideration and Appeals

<https://www.uoguelph.ca/registrar/calendars/undergraduate/current/c08/c08-ac.shtml>

Graduate Calendar - Grounds for Academic Consideration

<https://www.uoguelph.ca/registrar/calendars/graduate/current/genreg/index.shtml>

Associate Diploma Calendar - Academic Consideration, Appeals and Petitions
<https://www.uoguelph.ca/registrar/calendars/diploma/current/index.shtml>

7.3 Drop Date

Students will have until the last day of classes to drop courses without academic penalty. The deadline to drop two-semester courses will be the last day of classes in the second semester. This applies to all students (undergraduate, graduate and diploma) except for Doctor of Veterinary Medicine and Associate Diploma in Veterinary Technology (conventional and alternative delivery) students. The regulations and procedures for course registration are available in their respective Academic Calendars.

Undergraduate Calendar - Dropping Courses
<https://www.uoguelph.ca/registrar/calendars/undergraduate/current/c08/c08-drop.shtml>

Graduate Calendar - Registration Changes
<https://www.uoguelph.ca/registrar/calendars/graduate/current/genreg/genreg-reg-regchg.shtml>

Associate Diploma Calendar - Dropping Courses
<https://www.uoguelph.ca/registrar/calendars/diploma/current/c08/c08-drop.shtml>

7.4 Copies of Out-of-class Assignments

Keep paper and/or other reliable back-up copies of all out-of-class assignments: you may be asked to resubmit work at any time.

7.5 Accessibility

The University promotes the full participation of students who experience disabilities in their academic programs. To that end, the provision of academic accommodation is a shared responsibility between the University and the student.

When accommodations are needed, the student is required to first register with Student Accessibility Services (SAS). Documentation to substantiate the existence of a disability is required; however, interim accommodations may be possible while that process is underway.

Accommodations are available for both permanent and temporary disabilities. It should be noted that common illnesses such as a cold or the flu do not constitute a disability.

Use of the SAS Exam Centre requires students to book their exams at least 7 days in advance and not later than the 40th Class Day.

For Guelph students, information can be found on the SAS website
<https://www.uoguelph.ca/sas>

For Ridgetown students, information can be found on the Ridgetown SAS website
<https://www.ridgetownc.com/services/accessibilityservices.cfm>

7.6 Academic Integrity

The University of Guelph is committed to upholding the highest standards of academic integrity, and it is the responsibility of all members of the University community-faculty, staff, and students-to be aware of what constitutes academic misconduct and to do as much as possible to prevent academic offences from occurring. University of Guelph students have the responsibility of abiding by the University's policy on academic misconduct regardless of their location of study; faculty, staff, and students have the responsibility of supporting an environment that encourages academic integrity. Students need to remain aware that instructors have access to and the right to use electronic and other means of detection.

Please note: Whether or not a student intended to commit academic misconduct is not relevant for a finding of guilt. Hurried or careless submission of assignments does not excuse students from responsibility for verifying the academic integrity of their work before submitting it. Students who are in any doubt as to whether an action on their part could be construed as an academic offence should consult with a faculty member or faculty advisor.

Undergraduate Calendar - Academic Misconduct

<https://www.uoguelph.ca/registrar/calendars/undergraduate/current/c08/c08-amisconduct.shtml>

Graduate Calendar - Academic Misconduct

<https://www.uoguelph.ca/registrar/calendars/graduate/current/genreg/index.shtml>

7.7 Recording of Materials

Presentations that are made in relation to course work - including lectures - cannot be recorded or copied without the permission of the presenter, whether the instructor, a student, or guest lecturer. Material recorded with permission is restricted to use for that course unless further permission is granted.

7.8 Resources

The Academic Calendars are the source of information about the University of Guelph's procedures, policies, and regulations that apply to undergraduate, graduate, and diploma programs.

Academic Calendars

<https://www.uoguelph.ca/academics/calendars>
