Overview
This course will acquaint students with the various schools of history, famous scholars, and common debates in the field of history. The class will also provide instruction in the various tools and research methods that are utilized by historians.

Course Objectives
Active participants will
1. practice to think historically (and learn why it is not as easy as it seems);
2. advance their abilities to read scholarly literature (such as monographs, book chapters, and journal articles);
3. learn how to analyze and interpret primary sources;
4. learn how to conduct independent research and to present their findings in written form.

Required Readings
This course works with three textbooks. You are required to rent or purchase a copy of the following books:


Any other readings will be made available as PDFs or links through Blackboard.

Format and Assignments
*Historiography and Method* is a 3.000 credit hours class. Since 1.00 credit hour translates roughly into 3 “real” hours per week, you are expected to spend about 9 hours each week on this course. Keep this in mind when planning your workweeks and your entire semester.
This class is not a traditional lecture class. Instead it builds upon group discusses and small in-class exercises. Thus, active participation is keep. In addition, you have to complete several assignments.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Activity</th>
<th>Percentage of Final Grade</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Active Participation</td>
<td>15%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Citation and Plagiarism Test</td>
<td>10%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Article Review</td>
<td>15%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Primary Source Analysis</td>
<td>20%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Bibliography</td>
<td>15%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Final Research Essay</td>
<td>25%</td>
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**Rules of the Road**

1. **Attendance and Participation** are mandatory. Attendance will be verified at the beginning of each class session. However, students may miss up to 2 class sessions without questions asked. You do not need to inform me that you will be absent nor do you have to give a reason for your absence. But be aware: students who miss more than 2 sessions will automatically receive an F (0) on their participation grade, unless they can provide sufficient documentation (official doctor’s note, hospital admittance, obituaries; official letter from athletic director etc.) that testifies to why the extensive absence was necessary. It is your responsibility to provide me with official document and it is your responsibility to catch up on readings and homework.

2. **No Electronics!** The usage of electronics such as laptops, tablets, phones, voice recorders, video cameras, or photo cameras are strictly prohibited unless your instructor explicitly tells you otherwise. Electronic devises have to be turned off and stored in your backpacks. Students who disregard this rule will be dismissed from class and receive an F (0) for participation. Students with disabilities may be excused from this rule (see UTRGV policies at the end of the syllabus).

3. **General and Email Etiquette:** The university should constitute a professional work environment. You want to be polite and cordial. Treat others the way you want them to treat you. This also applies to email communication. As a general rule, I only respond to emails that start with a formal greeting (e.g. Good Morning Dr. Bruehoefer), have a body of text, and end with a formal greeting (Cordially, …). If you email me the first time, please indicate the class you are enrolled in.

4. **No extra-credit assignments** will be offered in this class. **No late papers or other written work will be accepted** except in the case of dire emergencies that you can document (official doctor’s note, police record, hospital admittance, obituaries etc. are required). Remember to make back-up copies of all your drafts and papers (a crashing hard drive on the day, or a couple of days before a paper are due, is not an acceptable excuse for turning in an assignment late).
UTRGV Policies

5. **Academic Dishonesty**: As members of a community dedicated to Honesty, Integrity and Respect, students are reminded that those who engage in scholastic dishonesty are subject to disciplinary penalties, including the possibility of failure in the course and expulsion from the University. Scholastic dishonesty includes but is not limited to: cheating, plagiarism (including self-plagiarism), and collusion; submission for credit of any work or materials that are attributable in whole or in part to another person; taking an examination for another person; any act designed to give unfair advantage to a student; or the attempt to commit such acts. Since scholastic dishonesty harms the individual, all students and the integrity of the University, policies on scholastic dishonesty will be strictly enforced (Board of Regents Rules and Regulations and UTRGV Academic Integrity Guidelines). All scholastic dishonesty incidents will be reported to the Dean of Students.

6. **Sexual Harassment, Discrimination, and Violence**: In accordance with UT System regulations, your instructor is a “responsible employee” for reporting purposes under Title IX regulations and so must report any instance, occurring during a student’s time in college, of sexual assault, stalking, dating violence, domestic violence, or sexual harassment about which she/he becomes aware during this course through writing, discussion, or personal disclosure. More information can be found at www.utrgv.edu/equity, including confidential resources available on campus. The faculty and staff of UTRGV actively strive to provide a learning, working, and living environment that promotes personal integrity, civility, and mutual respect in an environment free from sexual misconduct and discrimination.

7. **Disabilities**: Students with a documented disability (physical, psychological, learning, or other disability which affects academic performance) who would like to receive academic accommodations should contact Student Accessibility Services (SAS) as soon as possible to schedule an appointment to initiate services. Accommodations can be arranged through SAS at any time, but are not retroactive. Students who suffer a broken bone, severe injury or undergo surgery during the semester are eligible for temporary services. **Brownsville Campus**: Student Accessibility Services is located in Cortez Hall Room 129 and can be contacted by phone at (956) 882-7374 (Voice) or via email at ability@utrgv.edu. **Edinburg Campus**: Student Accessibility Services is located in 108 University Center and can be contacted by phone at (956) 665-7005 (Voice), (956) 665-3840 (Fax), or via email at ability@utrgv.edu.

8. **Course Drops**: According to UTRGV policy, students may drop any class without penalty earning a grade of DR until the official drop date. Following that date, students must be assigned a letter grade and can no longer drop the class. Students considering dropping the class should be aware of the “3-peat rule” and the “6-drop” rule so they can recognize how dropped classes may affect their academic success. The 6-drop rule refers to Texas law that dictates that undergraduate students may not drop more than six courses during their undergraduate career. Courses dropped at other Texas public higher education institutions will count toward the six-course drop limit. The 3-peat rule refers to additional fees charged to students who take the same class for the third time.

9. **Mandatory Course Evaluations**: Students are required to complete an ONLINE evaluation of this course, accessed through your UTRGV account (http://my.utrgv.edu); you will be contacted through email with further instructions. Students who complete their evaluations will have priority access to their grades. Online evaluations will be available:

- **Fall 2017 Module 1**: Oct. 5 – Oct. 11
- **Fall 2017 Module 2**: Nov. 29 – Dec. 5
- **Fall 2017 (full semester)**: Nov. 15 – Dec. 6
Schedule

WEEK I

Monday, August 28
Introduction to the Course and the Study of History
Readings:
- Peter Stearns “Why Study History”
- Salevouris, The Methods and Skills, 3-6 and 13-20.

Wednesday, August 30
How Do Historians Study The Past? – Context, Continuity, Change, and Causality
Required Readings:
- Handout “Paragraphs” by UNC-Chapel Hill’s Writing Center.

WEEK II

Monday, September 4 – Labor Day

WEEK III

Monday, September 11
The Historians’ Daily Delight: Primary, Secondary, and Tertiary Sources
Required Readings:
- Turabian, A Manual for Writers, 24-36.
- Salevouris, The Methods and Skills of History, 103-114. Recommended Websites:
- Webpage “Identifying Scholarly Sources” by George State University, University Library
- Webpage “Primary, Secondary, and Tertiary Sources” by Virginia Tech University
Wednesday, September 13
*Reading and Engaging with Secondary Sources I*

Required Readings:
- Hoefferle, *The Essential Historiography Reader*, 114-120 and 139-146.
- Salevuris, *The Methods and Skills of History*, 131-139.

WEEK IV

Monday, September 18
*Reading and Engaging with Secondary Sources II*

Required Readings:

Wednesday, September 20
*Reading and Engaging with Secondary Sources III*

Required Readings:

WEEK V

Monday, September 25
*Quotations, Citations, and Plagiarism*

Required Readings and Exercise:
- Handout “Quotations” and Tutorial “Identifying Plagiarism” of UNC-Chapel Hill’s Library.

Wednesday, September 27
*Independent Study*

*Students should take the time to study for the In-Class Text on Quotations, Citations, and Plagiarism*
WEEK VI

Monday, October 2

In-Class Test: Quotations, Citations and Plagiarism
The Art of Writing a Review
Article Review will be discussed in class.
No required readings.

Wednesday, October 4

Writing and Special Office Hours
Students should take the time to work on their article review. I will be in my office to discuss any questions or problems you might have.

WEEK VII

Monday, October 9

Writing and Special Office Hours
Students should take the time to work on their article review. I will be in my office to discuss any questions or problems you might have.

Wednesday, October 11

Article Review is due by 3:00 PM via blackboard.
Identifying, Analyzing, and Interpreting Primary Sources I
Required Readings:

- “How to Identify and Find Primary Documents from the Internet” from California State University, Long Beach, University Library

Week VIII

Monday, October 16

Identifying, Analyzing, and Interpreting Primary Sources II
Required Readings:


Wednesday, October 18

Identifying, Analyzing, and Interpreting Primary Sources IV
Guest Lecture by Dr. Riccardo Pizzinato (UTRGV School of Art)
Week IX

Monday, October 23
Primary Source Report will be discussed in class
Identifying, Analyzing, and Interpreting Primary Sources III
Required Readings:
• Stephen Vella, “Newspapers,” in Reading Primary Sources: The Interpretation of Texts from Nineteenth- and Twentieth Century History, eds. Miriam Dobson and Benjamin Ziemann (London and New York: Routledge, 2009), 192-208.

Wednesday, October 25
Writing and Special Office Hours
Students should take the time to work on their article review. I will be in my office to discuss any questions or problems you might have.

Week X

Monday, October 30
Writing and Special Office Hours
Students should take the time to work on their article review. I will be in my office to discuss any questions or problems you might have.

Wednesday, November 1
Primary Source Report is due by 3:00 PM via blackboard.
Research Essay and Bibliography will be discussed in class
Finding a Topic – Developing a Research Question – Finding Sources
Required Readings:
• Turabian, A Manual for Writers, 12-18 and revisit 24-36.

Week XI

Monday, November 6
Writing and Special Office Hours
Students should take the time to work on their article review. I will be in my office to discuss any questions or problems you might have.

Wednesday, November 8
Writing and Special Office Hours
Students should take the time to work on their article review. I will be in my office to discuss any questions or problems you might have.

Bibliography is due by 11:59 PM on Friday, November 10, 2017 via blackboard.
Week XII

Monday, November 13
Discussion of Bibliography
Students are required to meet with me during special office hours to discuss their bibliographies. Students who fail to discuss their bibliography with me will receive an F (0) on the assignment.

Wednesday, November 15
Discussion of Bibliography
Students are required to meet with me during special office hours to discuss their bibliographies. Students who fail to discuss their bibliography with me will receive an F (0) on the assignment.

Week XIII

Monday, November 20
If requested by professor students have to resubmit their bibliography.
Writing For Your Reader
Required Readings:

Wednesday, November 22
Writing and Special Office Hours
Students should take the time to work on their research essay. I will be in my office to discuss any questions or problems you might have.

Week XIV

Monday, November 27
Procrastination, Writer’s Block, and Other Challenges
No required readings, but students should bring a printed version (hard copy) of their introduction to class.

Wednesday, November 29
Procrastination, Writer’s Block, and Other Challenges
No required readings, but students should bring a printed version (hard copy) of their drafts to class

Week XV

Monday, December 4
Writing and Special Office Hours
Students should take the time to work on their research essay. I will be in my office to discuss any questions or problems you might have.

Wednesday, December 6
Final Paper is due by 3:00 PM via Blackboard
Review and Outlook: Historians in the Making