



**SCHOOL OF HISTORY, PHILOSOPHY, POLITICAL SCIENCE AND INTERNATIONAL
RELATIONS**

HISTORY PROGRAMME

2008 TRIMESTERS 1 and 2

HIST421:

A TOPIC IN EUROPEAN HISTORY 2

CRN 4921

Lecturer	Steve Behrendt, MA (1988), PhD (1993)
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Seminars	Friday, 2:00-4:00pm (see below for schedule)
Venue	Old Kirk (OK) 406
Office hours	Wednesday, 2:00-4:00pm

Additional information

Will be sent by email to your preferred email account

Course content

This honours course on the European outreach into the Atlantic, 1400-1800, focuses on maritime and economic history. The first section of the course examines the late medieval background to Europe's Atlantic outreach. Subsequent sections analyse the development of Atlantic history through the late eighteenth century. Most readings will be English-language primary sources compiled in the EEBO (Early English Books Online), ECCO (Eighteenth Century Collections Online, and the Making of the Modern World, Goldsmith-Kress collection (MMW) databases, available via the VUW Library website. We also will examine eighteenth-century newspapers (shipping gazettes), and students will have the opportunity to construct their own historical databases.

Course objectives

Students passing the paper will understand major themes in Atlantic history, 1400-1800. The course is designed so that students should be able to: evaluate the value of primary source evidence; use the functionality of Excel and SPSS; construct an historical database; incorporate primary source evidence effectively in formal written essays; write quantitative information to read like an essay and not like a report; annotate primary source passages to a standard that would be accepted by an editor of an historical journal; and structure essays in sections by writing transitional paragraphs. The course will teach essay-writing by example: during the year the lecturer will write a 900-word book review, an 8,000-word historiographical book chapter and a 7,500-word journal article. Paragraphs and sections will be presented to the class for critique.

Expected workload

At honours level the degree of student independent learning and responsibility increases significantly over undergraduate courses. It is expected that students attend all seminars, which meet, on average, once a fortnight over the 24-week academic year. Students should participate fully in seminars; indeed, the lecturer, in many instances, will function as a facilitator. In accordance with Faculty Guidelines, this course has been constructed on the assumption that students will devote 10 hours per week to HIST421. This includes 17 meetings from 29 February to 3 October: 12 two-hour seminars in OK406, based on primary and secondary source readings, two quantitative learning sessions (location TBA), and three essay-writing sessions in September-October in OK406.

Group work

Students may pair to locate 17th and 18th Century primary source articles on EEBO, ECCO, and MMW, details of which will be announced in advance.

Readings

Students will locate primary source readings on the VUW Library databases; prescribed readings will be distributed before seminars. Details on readings will be provided 1-2 weeks before seminars meet.

Essential texts

No essential texts

Recommended reading

No recommended reading

Materials and equipment

No specific materials and equipment required. History honours students have access to three computers (with requisite software) and a laser printer in OK409. We also advise that students purchase flash/pen drives to backup all files.

Assessments

Monday, 17 March, 5pm	Atlantic history essay (1,500 words)	15% of course mark
Monday, 5 May, 5pm	Primary source exercise (1,500 words)	15% of course mark
Thursday, 7 August, 5pm	England-Africa customs essay (2,000 words)	20% of course mark
Wednesday, 22 October, 5pm	Research essay (5,000 words)	50% of course mark

Statement on penalties

Students will be penalised for late submission of essays—a deduction of 5% for the first day late, and 2% per day thereafter, up to a maximum of 10 weekdays. Work that is more than 10 weekdays late can be accepted for mandatory course requirements but will not be marked. However, penalties may be waived if there are valid grounds, e.g., illness (presentation of a medical certificate will be necessary) or similar other contingencies. In such cases prior information will be necessary.

Mandatory course requirements

To gain a pass in this course each student must:

- Submit all four pieces of written work specified for this course, on or by the specified dates (subject to such provisions as are stated for late submission of work)
- Earn a 50 (C) mark for the course
- The final date for submission of all written work is **Friday 31 October 2008**

Statement on the use of Turnitin (only for courses which make use of Turnitin)

Student work provided for assessment in this course may be checked for academic integrity by the electronic search engine <<http://www.turnitin.com>>. Turnitin is an online plagiarism prevention tool which identifies material that may have been copied from other sources including the Internet, books, journals, periodicals or the work of other students. Turnitin is used to assist academic staff in detecting misreferencing, misquotation, and the inclusion of unattributed material, which may be forms of cheating or plagiarism. At the discretion of the head of School, handwritten work may be copy typed by the School and subject to checking by turnitin. You are strongly advised to check with your tutor or the course coordinator if you are uncertain about how to use and cite material from other sources. Turnitin will retain a copy of submitted materials on behalf of the University for detection of future plagiarism, but access to the full text of submissions will not be made available to any other party.

Aegrotats

Please note that under the Assessment Statute (Sections 4.5) students may now apply for an aegrotat pass in respect of any item of assessment falling within the last three weeks before the day on which lectures cease. In the case of History **honours** courses in 2008 the starting point for this period is **Monday 15 September 2008**.

The following rules apply:

- where a student is not able to sit a test falling within these last three weeks because of illness or injury etc., an alternative test will be arranged where possible. If the student has completed in the view of the course supervisor, sufficient marked assessment relevant to the objectives of the course, an average mark may be offered. Where a student has an essay or other piece of assessment due in the last three weeks, and has a medical certificate or other appropriate documentation, the student will be given an extension.
- if none of the above is available to the student, e.g., if she/he has an ongoing illness, than an aegrotat will be considered. See Assessment Statute (Sections 4.5) for a full explanation of the rules governing the provision of aegrotats in these circumstances.

Academic Integrity and Plagiarism

Academic integrity is about honesty – put simply it means *no cheating*. All members of the University community are responsible for upholding academic integrity, which means staff and students are expected to behave honestly, fairly and with respect for others at all times.

Plagiarism is a form of cheating which undermines academic integrity. The University defines plagiarism as follows:

The presentation of the work of another person or other persons as if it were ones own, whether intended or not. This includes published or unpublished work, material on the Internet and the work of other students or staff.

It is still plagiarism even if you re-structure the material or present it in your own style or words.

Note: It is, however, perfectly acceptable to include the work of others as long as that is acknowledged by appropriate referencing.

Plagiarism is prohibited at Victoria and is not worth the risk. Any enrolled student found guilty of plagiarism will be subject to disciplinary procedures under the Statute on Student Conduct. All cases will be recorded on a central database and severe penalties may be imposed. Consequences of being found guilty of plagiarism can include:

- an oral or written warning
- cancellation of your mark for an assessment or a fail grade for the course
- suspension from the course or the University.

Find out more about plagiarism, and how to avoid it, on the University's website:

www.victoria.ac.nz/home/study/plagiarism.aspx

GENERAL UNIVERSITY STATUTES AND POLICIES

The University requires that certain information be communicated to students, either in the course outline or electronically (ref. Assessment Handbook 3.3). The current version of this information (adapted for FHSS courses) is below, and has also been saved as a separate document in the Common Folder (M:\Common\Course Administration\Course Outlines). This may be appended to your course outline without alteration.

Students should familiarise themselves with the University's policies and statutes, particularly the Assessment Statute, the Personal Courses of Study Statute, the Statute on Student Conduct and any statutes relating to the particular qualifications being studied; see the *Victoria University Calendar* available in hardcopy or under "about Victoria" on the Victoria homepage at:

http://www.victoria.ac.nz/home/about_victoria/calendar_intro.html

Information on the following topics is available electronically under "Course Outline General Information" at:

<http://www.victoria.ac.nz/home/about/newspubs/universitypubs.aspx#general>

- Academic Grievances
- Student and Staff Conduct
- Meeting the Needs of Students with Impairments
- Student Support

HIST421 SEMINAR SCHEDULE (FRIDAYS, 2:00-4:00pm, OK406)

- 29 February** **Introduction: Atlantic history (1)**
- 7 March** **Mediterranean colonies and colonisation, 1200-1400 (2)**
- 14 March** **Portuguese pioneers, 1400-1600 (3)**
- 17 March* *Atlantic history essay (1,500 words), due 5pm*
- 21 March** **NO CLASS** (Good Friday)
- 28 March** **Newfoundland fishing, 1500-1750 (4)**
- 4 April** **NO CLASS**
- 11 April** **Spain and the Dutch in the Atlantic world, 1492-1660 (5)**
- MIDTERM BREAK, 14-28 April*
- 2 May** **Shipping in the 17th Century (6)**
- 5 May* *Primary source annotation essay (1,500 words), due 5pm*
- 9 May** **European “imperial” rivalries in the 17th Century Atlantic (7)**
- 16 May** **NO CLASS**
- 23 May** **Europe and the slave trade, 1660s-1690s (8)**
- 30 May** **NO CLASS** (HIST489 progress report due)
- STUDY WEEK, EXAMINATIONS and TRIMESTER BREAK, 2 June – 4 July*
- 11 July** **18th Century: ships and cargoes (9)**
- 18 July** **NO CLASS** (HIST489 presentation day)
- 25 July** **Quantitative seminar (location TBA) (10)**
- 1 August** **Quantitative review (location TBA or meet in OK409) (11)**
- 7 August* *England-Africa customs data essay (2,000 words), due 5pm*

8 August **18th Century: newspapers as primary sources (12)**

15 August **18th Century: merchants (13)**

MIDTERM BREAK, 18-31 August

22 August **NO CLASS (HIST489 draft due)**

5 September **18th Century: sailors (14)**

12 September **Research essay progress report 1: Three-paragraph introduction (15)**

19 September **Research essay progress report 2: Best example paragraphs (16)**

26 September **NO CLASS (HIST489 essay due)**

3 October **Research essay progress report 3: Transitional paragraphs (17)**

10 October **NO CLASS**

22 October *5,000 word research essay due, 5:00pm*