



FACULTY OF HUMANITIES AND SOCIAL SCIENCES

SCHOOL OF HISTORY, PHILOSOPHY, POLITICAL SCIENCE AND INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS

HISTORY PROGRAMME

HIST 428: Special Topic: Class in History

TRIMESTER 1 AND 2 2013

4 March to 17 November 2013

Trimester dates

Trimester dates: 4 March to 17 November 2013

Teaching dates: 4 March to 18 October 2013

Easter break: 28 March to 3 April 2013

Mid-trimester break 1/3: 22–28 April 2013

Mid-year break: 4–14 July 2013

Mid-trimester break 2/3: 26 August to 8 September 2013

Study week: 21–25 October 2013

Examination/Assessment Period: 25 October to 16 November 2013

Withdrawal dates

Information on withdrawals and refunds may be found at

www.victoria.ac.nz/home/admisenrol/payments/withdrawalsrefunds

Names and contact details

Course Coordinator: Jim McAloon

Room No.: OK 414

Email: jim.mcaloon@vuw.ac.nz

Office hours: By arrangement.

Class times and locations

HIST 428 is a seminar-taught course.

Class times: Tuesday, 2.10 – 4.00pm, approximately fortnightly. Dates will be notified in the first week. Room: Wood Seminar Room, OK 406

Teaching/learning summary

HIST 428 is a seminar-taught course. For the first part of the course, all students will be expected to have read the prescribed readings and to contribute to the discussion. Thereafter, students will lead the seminars in discussing their major project for the course.

Communication of additional information

Additional information and any changes to the timetable or lecture and seminar programme will be advised by email and announced in seminars.

Course prescription

This course will examine the importance of social class as an analytical category and a historical reality. Attention will be paid to classical and more recent theoretical debates, and to the concrete meaning of class in a variety of historical situations.

Course content

The course will deal with elites and the middle classes as much as with the working class, and with historiographical discussion as well as with current research.

Learning objectives

Students who pass this course should be able to:

1. Demonstrate their understanding of subject material via clear and concise prose;
2. Summarise historiographical and theoretical debates in a variety of historical situations;
3. Interpret primary and secondary sources and integrate historical research into structured essays;
4. Understand major themes in the development of class as an analytical and historiographical category

Graduate attributes

As with all History courses, learning objectives of this course contribute to the attainment of specific graduate attributes. For more details please consult our website:

<http://www.victoria.ac.nz/hppi/about/overview-of-the-school/hist-overview#grad-attributes>

Expected workload

The Faculty of Humanities and Social Sciences suggests that students should spend a total of 300 hours for this course.

Readings

Set texts:

There is no set text or book of readings for HIST 428. Readings will be distributed for seminars throughout the year. A recommended reading list will be made available in the first session.

Assessment requirements

HIST 428 is a fully internally assessed course, with no final examination. As with all History Honours courses, final results are subject to external assessment.

Assessment is as follows:

Book review, 25%, 1500 words, due Tuesday 16 April.

Historiographical essay, 35%, 3,500 words, due Tuesday 30 July.

Research essay, 40%, 4,500 words, due Tuesday 15 October.

All students will also be expected to present one major seminar on their research essay, in the second half of the year.

Further information about these assignments will be circulated.

Relationship between assessment and course objectives:

The book Review and historiographical essay are designed to develop critical understanding of key concepts and historiographical debates in the field of class and history. They require discrimination in reading and distillation in the articulation of ideas and argument.

The research essay is designed to provide an opportunity to design a research project dealing with a specific case, episode, or issue. The topic will require a subject and line of enquiry to be determined, pertinent sources to be identified, read and interpreted, and conclusions brought together in a cogent piece of historical writing.

In all pieces of work creative and critical skills used by historians are to be fostered.

Marking criteria

Book review: depth of understanding of work under review; ability to relate work to wider field; succinctness and originality in expression.

Historiographical essay: breadth and discrimination in reading of relevant scholarly works; soundness and originality in argument; clarity in expression; application of conventions of historical scholarship.

Research essay: creativity and clarity in formulation of research project; identification of relevant sources and effective use of such sources; ability to blend primary and secondary sources in answering an historical question or addressing an historical problem; clarity in expression; application of conventions of historical scholarship.

Penalties

Students will be penalised for late submission of essays—a deduction of 5% per day up to a maximum of 5 working days. Work that is more than 5 working days 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 notice will be necessary, unless exceptional circumstances make this impossible. You must complete an extension form, available from the History Office (Old Kirk Room 405), and agree to a new due date with your lecturer. A photocopy of the extension form (approved and signed by the lecturer) must be handed in with the essay.

Mandatory course requirements

To gain a pass in this course each student must:

- a) Submit the written work specified for this course, on or by the specified dates (subject to such provisions as are stated for late submission of work)
- b) Miss no more than three seminars. It is expected that all students will attend all seminars and that the lecturer will be advised of any absence and the reasons for it. This is common courtesy.

NB: A student who has obtained an overall mark of 50% or more, but failed to satisfy a mandatory requirement for a course, will receive a K grade for that course, while a course mark less than 50% will result in the appropriate fail grade (D, E or F).

The final date for any written work in HIST 428 in 2013 is 22 October.

Submission of work

All written work must be submitted in hard copy to the History Programme office with History Programme cover sheet attached. All written work must be printed to an acceptable standard.

Return of marked course work

Essays and tests will be returned at times to be advised.

Academic integrity and plagiarism

Academic integrity means that university staff and students, in their teaching and learning are expected to treat others honestly, fairly and with respect at all times. It is not acceptable to mistreat academic, intellectual or creative work that has been done by other people by representing it as your own original work.

Academic integrity is important because it is the core value on which the University's learning, teaching and research activities are based. Victoria University's reputation for academic integrity adds value to your qualification.

The University defines plagiarism as presenting someone else's work as if it were your own, whether you mean to or not. 'Someone else's work' means anything that is not your own idea. Even if it is presented in your own style, you must acknowledge your sources fully and appropriately. This includes:

- Material from books, journals or any other printed source
- The work of other students or staff
- Information from the internet
- Software programs and other electronic material
- Designs and ideas
- The organisation or structuring of any such material

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

<http://www.victoria.ac.nz/home/study/plagiarism>

Where to find more detailed information

Find key dates, explanations of grades and other useful information at www.victoria.ac.nz/home/study. Find out how academic progress is monitored and how enrolment can be restricted at www.victoria.ac.nz/home/study/academic-progress. Most statutes and policies are available at www.victoria.ac.nz/home/about/policy, except qualification statutes, which are available via the *Calendar* webpage at www.victoria.ac.nz/home/study/calendar (See Section C).

Other useful information for students may be found at the Academic Office website, at www.victoria.ac.nz/home/about/avcacademic.