



FACULTY OF HUMANITIES AND SOCIAL SCIENCES

SCHOOL OF HISTORY, PHILOSOPHY, POLITICAL SCIENCE AND INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS

HISTORY PROGRAMME

HIST 315: MEDIA AND THE MODERN USA: FROM WATERGATE TO OBAMA NATION

20 POINTS

TRIMESTER 2 2013

Important dates

Trimester dates: 15 July to 17 November 2013

Teaching dates: 15 July to 18 October 2013

Mid-trimester break: 26 August to 8 September 2013

Study period: 21–25 October 2013

Examination/Assessment Period: 25 October to 16 November 2013

Note: students who enrol in courses with examinations must be able to attend an examination at the University at any time during the scheduled examination period.

Withdrawal dates: Refer to

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

If you cannot complete an assignment or sit a test or examination (aegrotats), refer to

www.victoria.ac.nz/home/study/exams-and-assessments/aegrotat

Class times and locations

Lectures: Friday, 2.10-3.00 pm.

Workshop/Viewing: Friday 3.10-4.00 pm

Lecture Venue: Hugh Mackenzie Lecture Theatre 002 (HMLT002).

Seminars:

Tuesday	14:10	15:00	KK104
Wednesday	14:10	15:00	OK301
Thursday	13:10	14:00	MY303
Thursday	14:10	15:00	MY105
Thursday	15:10	16:00	MY404

You will sign up for a tutorial at the first lecture. This will be posted onto Blackboard. Any changes to the tutorial programme will be announced in lectures and posted onto Blackboard. The Workshop/Viewing Session on Friday from 3:10-3:00 will focus on Media and will form a part of the tutorial programme so the same attendance requirements will apply. There will be follow-up questions through Discussion Board in your Tutorial Group on Blackboard.

Names and contact details

Course Coordinator: Dolores Janiewski
Room No: OK415
Phone: (463)6752
Email: Dolores.janiewski@vuw.ac.nz
Office hours: Wednesday 3.00-5.00 pm. You are also welcome to telephone or email me.

Communication of additional information

Additional information, handouts and notices will be posted onto Blackboard and official notices for the course (tutorial lists, terms lists etc.) will also appear on the programme notice board and be sent through the Blackboard e-mail function. You need to either use your student e-mail account or set up forwarding from that account to the e-mail account you do use to get these notices.

PLEASE NOTE: SEMINARS COMMENCE IN THE SECOND WEEK OF THE TRIMESTER

One of the media formats to be used extensively in HIST315 is the Discussion Board in the Groups area of the HIST315 course on Blackboard. File Exchange in the Groups area will also be used. Other available tools such as Wiki and Blogs may also be used so it is very important for you to access the HIST315 website regularly and put a forwarding from your student email account to whatever email account you do use to receive communications from me or other students in HIST315.

Prescription

This course examines the US from 1975 to 2010, exploring the interaction between media and major events including the conservative counteroffensive, the undermining of detente, the Reagan and Bush I eras, the impact of the end of the Cold War, the Clinton scandals, the Bush II presidency, and Obama's first term primarily concentrating on the domestic significance of these episodes.

Course learning objectives (CLOs)

Students passing this course should be able to

1. Acquire knowledge about important issues and domestic events in US History since 1975
2. Develop skills in the interpretation of media as historical sources
3. Improve on skills in the analysis of oral, visual, and written texts.
4. Improve on skills in historical research, analysis, and interpretation.
5. Develop skills in the selection and presentation of historical research.
6. Practice oral and electronic discussion and presentation skills.

Students passing this course will develop their skills in research, analysis, oral and electronic discussion, and presentation through the five pieces of assessment.

Teaching format

HIST315 is taught through ten weekly lectures, twelve workshop/viewing sessions, seminars, twelve electronic group discussions on Blackboard, and group presentations which replace lectures in the final two weeks of the course and count as workshop/viewing sessions. Participation in eight

out of eleven seminars and nine out of twelve workshop/viewing sessions and related electronic group discussions is a course requirement.

Mandatory course requirements

In addition to achieving an overall pass mark of 50%, students must:

1. Participate in eight out of eleven seminar discussions including presentation of one answer in one seminar as scheduled;
2. Attend nine out of twelve Workshop/Viewing Sessions and participate in related electronic group discussions on Blackboard;
3. Participate in the creation and performance of your group presentation;
4. Complete and hand in all assignments.

Workload

In accordance with Faculty Guidelines, this course has been constructed on the assumption that students will devote 200 hours to the course throughout the trimester. This includes weekly attendance at lectures and seminars, completion of all set weekly readings and research and writing for set assessment tasks.

Assessment

Assessment items and workload per item		%	CLO(s)	Due date
1	A Tutorial Presentation which includes at least one additional historical interpretation beyond what is in the Book of Readings and the selection and presentation of an appropriate media example due as assigned and posted into File Exchange in your tutorial group two days before the scheduled presentation in essay form. After the tutorial discussion, you may amend your written version before submitting it for marking, within a week of the Tutorial, with attached marking and cover sheet at OK405 (500 words)	10%	1, 3, 5, 6	As scheduled
2	A research proposal analysing two historical interpretations about your chosen research topic, justifying your historical research question(s), identifying the medium/media to be analysed, and discussing the research methods to be used (750-1000 words)	20%	1, 2, 3, 4	2 August
3	A research essay which interprets an episode, individual, or historical development in United States history between 1975 and 2012 based upon an analysis of media which compares your interpretation to the interpretation of two other historians (3,500 words)	45%	1, 2, 3, 4	11 September
4	A plan for a Group Presentation linking together the research topics in your Tutorial Group (500-750 words)	15%	3, 4, 5, 6	16 September

5	A report evaluating your presentation of your research topic and your contributions to the Group Presentation (500 words)	10%	3, 5, 6	18 October
---	---	-----	---------	------------

Marking Sheets will be circulated in advance of each assignment specifying marking criteria or issues to be addressed in the case of the Group Presentation plan and the report on the Group Presentation

Group Work

Each seminar group will consider the various plans, decide on an appropriate format and work together in two specified seminars to create a group presentation, but each student's contribution will be individually assessed. Each student will then be expected to participate in the group presentation on one of the two days specified, 11 or 18 October. A support person will help in this process.

PLEASE NOTE that **Friday 18 October** is the **FINAL DATE** on which any written work can be accepted by the Programme, since this is the date on which we must determine whether students have met the course requirements. This means that the provision for late submission with a penalty does not apply.

Submission and return of work

Essays should be submitted through the office essay drop-off slots next to the door of Old Kirk 405, together with completed marking sheet (circulated in lectures and seminars) and the History cover sheet which is available on Blackboard and from the table beside the door to the History office (OK405).

Essays and tests will be returned at times to be advised. If students fail to attend these times, they may collect their essay from the Office, Room 405, Old Kirk Building between the hours of 1.30 and 2.30 pm from Monday to Friday and must show their Student ID card before collection.

Penalties

Students will be penalised for late submission of assignments – **a deduction of 5% for the first weekday late, and 2% per weekday thereafter, up to a maximum of 10 weekdays.** Work that is more than 10 weekdays late can be accepted for mandatory course requirements but may not be marked. Penalties may be waived if there are valid grounds (for example, illness [presentation of a medical certificate will be necessary] or similar other contingencies). In such cases, students should get in touch with the course coordinator as soon as possible.

Set texts

Essential Text:

HIST 315 *Book of Readings*, (BR), available from Vicbooks.
vicbooks website: www.vicbooks.co.nz

Recommended reading

Suggested reading for specific seminars and topics will be inserted into the Tutorial Schedule to be circulated at the first lecture. It will also include suggestions about media to help in preparing seminar presentations and developing research projects. **Media** will form a part of the 'reading' for HIST 315. Many film/tv/musical items can be found in the library audiovisual section or on Youtube and similar internet sites. You can find appropriate historical interpretations for your assignments through the library catalogue, Worldcat, or in databases including Proquest News and Newspapers, America History and Life, Project Muse, Communications and Mass Media Complete, and JStor, but always check to make sure that the author is, in fact, a historian or an

interdisciplinary scholar in areas like American Studies, the history of communications, or film history.

Depending upon your media choices, the following journals may be of particular use: *Film & History*, *Film History*, *Journal of Popular Culture*, *American Quarterly*, *Historical Journal of Film, Radio and Television* and *Popular Music History* which you can find in databases by searching under those names in the library catalogue.

Class representative

The class representative provides a useful way to communicate feedback to the teaching staff during the course. A class representative will be selected at the first lecture of the course.

Student feedback

There have been no changes since the class was last taught. Student feedback on University courses may be found at www.cad.vuw.ac.nz/feedback/feedback_display.php.

Other important information

The information above is specific to this course. There is other important information that students must familiarise themselves with, including:

- Academic Integrity and Plagiarism: www.victoria.ac.nz/home/study/plagiarism
- Aegrotats: www.victoria.ac.nz/home/study/exams-and-assessments/aegrotat
- Academic Progress: www.victoria.ac.nz/home/study/academic-progress (including restrictions and non-engagement)
- Dates and deadlines: www.victoria.ac.nz/home/study/dates
- FHSS Student and Academic Services Office: www.victoria.ac.nz/fhss/student-admin
- Grades: www.victoria.ac.nz/home/study/exams-and-assessments/grades
- Resolving academic issues: www.victoria.ac.nz/home/about/avcacademic/publications2#grievances
- Special passes: www.victoria.ac.nz/home/about/avcacademic/publications2#specialpass
- Statutes and policies including the Student Conduct Statute: www.victoria.ac.nz/home/about/policy
- Student support: www.victoria.ac.nz/home/vicliffe/student-service
- Students with disabilities: www.victoria.ac.nz/st_services/disability
- Student Charter: www.victoria.ac.nz/home/vicliffe/student-charter
- Student Contract: www.victoria.ac.nz/home/admisenrol/enrol/studentcontract
- Turnitin: www.cad.vuw.ac.nz/wiki/index.php/Turnitin
- University structure: www.victoria.ac.nz/home/about
- VUWSA: www.vuwsa.org.nz