



FACULTY OF HUMANITIES AND SOCIAL SCIENCES

SCHOOL OF HISTORY, PHILOSOPHY, POLITICAL SCIENCE AND INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS

HISTORY PROGRAMME

HIST 428: SPECIAL TOPIC: CLASS IN HISTORY

30 POINTS

TRIMESTERS 1 AND 2 2015

Important dates

Trimester dates: 2 March to 15 November 2015
Teaching dates: 2 March to 16 October 2015
Easter/Mid-trimester break: 3–19 April 2015
Mid-year break: 2–12 July 2015
Mid-trimester break 2/3: 24 August to 6 September 2015
Date of last assessment: 14 October 2015

Withdrawal dates: Refer to www.victoria.ac.nz/students/study/withdrawals-refunds. If you cannot complete an assignment or sit a test or examination, refer to www.victoria.ac.nz/students/study/exams/aegrotats.

Class times and locations

Seminars: Tuesdays (usually but not always alternate weeks) 10.00-11.50 am
Venue: OK406 Wood Seminar Room

Names and contact details

Course Coordinator: Jim McAloon
Room No: OK 414
Phone: 463 6751
Email: jim.mcaloon@vuw.ac.nz
Office hours: By appointment or drop in if the door is open.

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.

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.

Course learning objectives (CLOs)

Students who pass this course will 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. understand major themes in the development of class as an analytical and historiographical category;
4. interpret primary and secondary sources and integrate historical research into structured essays.

Teaching format

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. Students may be asked to open the discussion in particular seminars. In the second trimester, students will lead the seminars in discussing their major project for the course.

Mandatory course requirements

In addition to gaining an overall mark of 50% or greater, in order to pass the course students must:

- hand in all written work by the due dates (or as agreed with the course coordinator);
- present one major seminar on their research essay in the second half of the year.

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.

Workload

The total number of hours of work expected for this course is 300 hours. Students should therefore expect to allocate their time during teaching terms as follows:

- 24 hours for fortnightly seminars
- four hours a week (or eight hours a fortnight) reading and taking notes in preparation for the fortnightly seminars and
- 180 hours divided between three assignments, allocated proportionately to the grade percentage, e.g. around 90 hours for the final essay which is worth 50% of the total grade.

Assessment

Assessment items and workload per item		%	CLO(s)	Due date
1	Book review, 1500 words	20%	1, 2, 3	6 May

2	Historiographical essay, 3500 words	30%	1, 2, 3	5 August
3	Research essay, 5000 words	50%	1, 2, 3, 4	14 October

Submission and return of work

Essays and book review should be submitted in hard copy through the office essay drop-off point, Old Kirk Room 405 by 5.00 pm, together with completed cover sheet which is available from the office.

At the same time, an electronic copy of each assignment must be emailed to the course co-ordinator.

Essays will be returned at times to be advised.

Extensions and penalties

Honours students are expected to manage their workloads sufficiently to submit assignments on time. If you have any problems please see your course coordinator as soon as possible, or the Honours Coordinators, or the Head of Programme.

There are no penalties in this course beyond the Mandatory Course Requirements.

Set texts

There is no set text. Required readings will be photocopied and distributed in class. A small photocopying fee may be levied by the History Programme (arrangements for payment will be advised in Week One).

Recommended reading

A lengthy list of suggested readings will be distributed.

Student feedback

Feedback on the content and conduct of the course is welcome at any time. Formal feedback will be sought at a time to be arranged. Enhancements made to this course based on the feedback of previous students, will be covered during the course.

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/students/study/exams/integrity-plagiarism
- Aegrotats: www.victoria.ac.nz/students/study/exams/aegrotats
- Academic Progress: www.victoria.ac.nz/students/study/progress/academic-progress (including restrictions and non-engagement)
- Dates and deadlines: www.victoria.ac.nz/students/study/dates
- FHSS Student and Academic Services Office: www.victoria.ac.nz/fhss/student-admin
- Grades: www.victoria.ac.nz/students/study/progress/grades

- Resolving academic issues: www.victoria.ac.nz/about/governance/dvc-academic/publications
- Special passes: www.victoria.ac.nz/about/governance/dvc-academic/publications
- Statutes and policies including the Student Conduct Statute: www.victoria.ac.nz/about/governance/strategy
- Student support: www.victoria.ac.nz/students/support
- Students with disabilities: www.victoria.ac.nz/st_services/disability
- Student Charter: www.victoria.ac.nz/learning-teaching/learning-partnerships/student-charter
- Student Contract: www.victoria.ac.nz/study/apply-enrol/terms-conditions/student-contract
- Subject Librarians: <http://library.victoria.ac.nz/library-v2/find-your-subject-librarian>
- Turnitin: www.cad.vuw.ac.nz/wiki/index.php/Turnitin
- University structure: www.victoria.ac.nz/about/governance/structure
- Victoria graduate profile: www.victoria.ac.nz/learning-teaching/learning-partnerships/graduate-profile
- VUWSA: www.vuwsa.org.nz