



**FACULTY OF HUMANITIES AND SOCIAL SCIENCES**

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

**HISTORY PROGRAMME  
HIST 331 THE TRANSATLANTIC SLAVE TRADE  
20 POINTS**

**TRIMESTER 2 2016**

**Key dates**

**Trimester dates:** 11 July–13 November 2016

**Teaching dates:** 11 July–16 October 2016

**Mid-trimester break:** 22 August–4 September 2016

**Study period:** 17–20 October 2016

**Examination/Assessment Period:** 21 October–12 November 2016

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/students/study/withdrawals-refunds](http://www.victoria.ac.nz/students/study/withdrawals-refunds).

If you cannot complete an assignment or sit a test in the last three weeks of teaching, or an examination, it may instead be possible to apply for an aegrotat (refer to [www.victoria.ac.nz/students/study/exams/aegrotats](http://www.victoria.ac.nz/students/study/exams/aegrotats)).

**Class times and locations**

Lectures: Monday, 4:10pm–6:00pm

Venue: Hunter Building (HU) Lecture Theatre (LT) 119

Seminars: Wednesday, 3:10–5:00 Old Kirk (OK) 406

Thursday, 2:10–4:00 Murphy (MY) 108

Friday, 2:10–4:00 New Kirk (KK) 106

**Names and contact details**

Course Coordinator: Steve Behrendt

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Office hours: Weeks 1–6, Monday 3:15–4:00; Weeks 7–12, Thursday 1:15–2:00

## Communication of additional information

This course uses Blackboard and presumes that all enrolled students have valid myvuw.ac.nz addresses. Please check that this account is active and you have organised email forwarding. Additional information and any changes to the timetable or lecture and seminar programme will be advised by email, announced in lectures, and posted on the course Blackboard site.

## Prescription

The history of the transatlantic slave trade, 1519–1867, and its impact on Europe, Africa and the Americas. Seminars discuss slavery in the early modern world, the commercial organisation of the slave trade, shipboard disease and mortality, the development of the plantation complex in the Atlantic islands and Americas, and abolition and slave emancipation.

## Course learning objectives (CLOs)

Students who pass this course should be able to:

- 1) recognise major terms, concepts and themes in slave trade studies;
- 2) interpret documents in their historic and historiographical context;
- 3) demonstrate concise essay writing, which includes the ability to paraphrase secondary source information and differentiate between proper paraphrasing and unacceptable plagiarism;
- 4) demonstrate research skills, including skills in evaluating history-content websites;
- 5) implement research skills in a formal academic essay.

## Teaching format

HIST 331 includes twelve 50-minute lectures and eight 100-minute seminars. Students should complete readings in advance of each lecture and seminar. Seminars reinforce lecture themes and help you prepare for the assessments.

## Workload

HIST 331 assumes that students will devote **200** hours to the course throughout the trimester. The 200-hour total includes attendance at lectures and seminars. Share the remainder of your time between lecture and seminar preparation, studying for the two tests and making progress on your research essay.

To consider when planning your time:

- Seminar preparation requires careful reading of set texts for meaning and argument, as well as note-taking and preparation of responses to discussion questions. 'Budget' for at least one hour per reading, including additional internet research to help understand the historic and/or historiographical context of readings.
- Your independent research essay requires time to locate, retrieve and read a range of sources. Note-taking, planning, drafting and editing the draft are necessary before writing a final version. Begin your research essay early.
- Revision and preparation should reflect the fact that the two tests, worth 25% and 25%, combine to total 50% of your course mark.

## Assessment

Assessment items and workload per item		%	CLOs	Due date
1	Midterm test	25%	1	Monday 15 Aug, 4:10-6:00PM
2	Independent 4,000-word research essay	50%	2–5	Monday 12 Sep, 5:00PM
3	Final test	25%	1, 2	Monday 10 Oct, 4:10-6:00PM

## Marking criteria

Tests 1 and 2 contain multiple-choice and short-answer questions that cover material from lectures, and lecture/seminar readings. Short answers require 3–4 sentences of historical information (and not vague answers) to earn full marks.

The independent research essay requires: 1) paraphrasing in own words; 2) a formal argument supported by historical evidence; 3) writing clarity and concision; 4) well-structured paragraphs and sections; 5) sufficient independent research to support 4,000 words (without reference material).

## Submission and return of work

Essays should be submitted in hard copy through the History office essay drop-off point, Old Kirk Room 405, together with completed cover sheets available on Blackboard or from the office. We reserve the right to ask for an electronic copy of any essays for checking in Turnitin.com (see [www.cad.vuw.ac.nz/wiki/index.php/Turnitin](http://www.cad.vuw.ac.nz/wiki/index.php/Turnitin)).

When marked, assignments will be returned to you first in lectures or seminars. Afterward, marked essays and tests will be available from the History Office, Old Kirk 405, between 1.00 and 2.00 pm, Monday–Friday, and students must show their Student ID card before collection.

## Extensions and penalties

The development of work discipline and time management skills are an important part of the education process and it is expected that each student takes responsibility for allocating sufficient time for their studies.

The course coordinator may grant extensions if exceptional and unforeseen circumstances arise, for example, illness or a family emergency. **You must inform the course coordinator as soon as a problem emerges, complete a Request for an Extension form (available in the History office Old Kirk 405), and agree to a new due date.** For instances of illnesses, presentation of a medical certificate will be necessary, and the doctor should note the number of days the illness has prevented students from undertaking any university work.

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 may not be marked.

## Set texts

Course readings will be made available via Blackboard and some handouts of 18<sup>th</sup> century documents will be supplied.

## 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 and details place on Blackboard.

## Student feedback from HIST 331 Transatlantic Slave Trade (2015)

Based on student feedback, in 2016 HIST 331 will:

- front-load lectures to provide more historical background information early in the course;
- again convene eight two-hour seminars;
- again set two tests rather than an examination;
- again set a 4,000-word rather than a 5,000-word independent research essay;
- set the research essay due date early in Week 8 to avoid the cluster of due dates in Week 9;
- include more essay writing instruction in seminars.

Student feedback on University courses may be found at [www.cad.vuw.ac.nz/feedback/feedback\\_display.php](http://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](http://www.victoria.ac.nz/students/study/exams/integrity-plagiarism)
- Academic Progress: [www.victoria.ac.nz/students/study/progress/academic-progress](http://www.victoria.ac.nz/students/study/progress/academic-progress) (including restrictions and non-engagement)
- Dates and deadlines: [www.victoria.ac.nz/students/study/dates](http://www.victoria.ac.nz/students/study/dates)
- FHSS Student and Academic Services Office: [www.victoria.ac.nz/fhss/student-admin](http://www.victoria.ac.nz/fhss/student-admin)
- Grades: [www.victoria.ac.nz/students/study/progress/grades](http://www.victoria.ac.nz/students/study/progress/grades)
- Special passes: refer to the *Assessment Handbook*, at [www.victoria.ac.nz/documents/policy/staff-policy/assessment-handbook.pdf](http://www.victoria.ac.nz/documents/policy/staff-policy/assessment-handbook.pdf)
- Statutes and policies including the Student Conduct Statute: [www.victoria.ac.nz/about/governance/strategy](http://www.victoria.ac.nz/about/governance/strategy)
- Student support: [www.victoria.ac.nz/students/support](http://www.victoria.ac.nz/students/support)
- Students with disabilities: [www.victoria.ac.nz/st\\_services/disability](http://www.victoria.ac.nz/st_services/disability)
- Student Charter: [www.victoria.ac.nz/learning-teaching/learning-partnerships/student-charter](http://www.victoria.ac.nz/learning-teaching/learning-partnerships/student-charter)
- Subject Librarians: <http://library.victoria.ac.nz/library-v2/find-your-subject-librarian>
- Terms and conditions: [www.victoria.ac.nz/study/apply-enrol/terms-conditions/student-contract](http://www.victoria.ac.nz/study/apply-enrol/terms-conditions/student-contract)
- Turnitin: [www.cad.vuw.ac.nz/wiki/index.php/Turnitin](http://www.cad.vuw.ac.nz/wiki/index.php/Turnitin)
- University structure: [www.victoria.ac.nz/about/governance/structure](http://www.victoria.ac.nz/about/governance/structure)
- Victoria graduate profile: [www.victoria.ac.nz/learning-teaching/learning-partnerships/graduate-profile](http://www.victoria.ac.nz/learning-teaching/learning-partnerships/graduate-profile)
- VUWSA: [www.vuwsa.org.nz](http://www.vuwsa.org.nz)