

**History Senior Seminar
History 4380
6:00 M
Cook 204**

Dr. Donald S. Frazier (dfrazier@mcm.edu)

Office 203 Old Main

793-3862

Formal Office Hours: 8-9, 10-11 MWF

By Appointment: 2-5 MWF

Class Format: Heavy emphasis on discussion, outside research, and analysis.

Course Content: A practicum on the researching and writing of history

Grading: Your final grade in the course will be determined as follows:

Milestones (25%)

Critique (25%)

MFAT (25%)

Final Revised (25%)

The following grading scale will be observed:

A: 93-100; A-: 90-92;

B+: 88-89; B=83-87; B-=80-82;

C+: 78-79; C: 73-77; C-:70-72;

D+: 68-69; D: 63-67; D-: 60-62;

F: less than 60.

Attendance Policy:

Attendance is Mandatory. Only official University absences are recognized as excused. Unexcused students missing tests can not take a make-up. **IT IS THE STUDENT'S RESPONSIBILITY TO KEEP TRACK OF ALL DOCUMENTATION OF EXCUSED ABSENCES AND TO BE ABLE TO PRODUCE THEM FOR THE INSTRUCTOR UPON REQUEST.**

A reminder:

- If you are sick, a doctor's note is required
- If there is a death in the family, an obit is required
- If there are other circumstances, a note in writing is required
- Makeup exams will not be administered except under the above conditions

Plagiarism and Academic Honesty:

Plagiarism will not be tolerated in this class. Students must turn in their own work and if ANY evidence of plagiarism exists, the student will receive a "0" on the assignment, and may be asked to withdraw from the class (at the instructor's discretion). Plagiarism is defined as either writing the words of another author (whether a fellow student or a published author) as one's own, OR using the ideas of another author without giving the proper credit (citing your source). If you have any doubts or questions, come see me.

Class Participation

Students will be asked to participate in all class discussions regarding the writing and researching of history. All students in class will be expected to participate in debating the salient points presented by very prepared students.

Milestones

Participants will need to follow closely the attached schedule of assignments, and to turn in the various "milestones" of their projects as directed. Failure to do so will erode your grade.

Paper Critique

- A. Evaluate the author's writing style (Did you like it? Why or why not?) . How well did the author organize the paper. Is the work mainly chronological narrative or topical analysis?
- B. Evaluate the author's sources and documentation. Did the author base this piece mainly on secondary works (other books, journal articles), or did the notes include primary sources (newspapers, diaries, collections of letters and contemporary documents). How well did the author's evidence support his/her thesis?
- C. Your evaluation of the above points may be either favorable or unfavorable. Was the author's thesis convincing? What were the work's strong points? What were its weak points?

MFAT

All students will take the nationally recognized Major Field Aptitude Test for history. Students scoring in the 45-55% percentile nationally will earn a C for the exam. Students scoring in the 25% or lower percentile will earn an F for the exam. Students earning over the 75% will be awarded an A.

Week One - Aug. 25

Assign topics; Discuss research planning/process/begin preparing prospectus

Week Two – Sept. 1:

PROSPECTUSES DUE—discussion of sources, plan of research: Discuss how to outline your paper. Assignment: Bring examples of good introductions from articles in the library to class next week

Week Three - Sept. 8:

How to write an Introduction. Discuss the qualities of different introductions. Compare between the ones brought to class by students.

Week Four - Sept. 15:

OUTLINES DUE—seminar discussion of outlines, next steps;

Week Five - Sept. 22

NO CLASS

Week Six – Sept. 29:

INTRODUCTIONS DUE—seminar discussion of introductions. Discuss next steps. Gather working bibliography.

Week Seven – Oct. 6

Show and discuss sources. Footnote workshop.

Week Eight - Oct. 13

No Class

Week Nine - Oct. 20

Progress Reports and troubleshooting; Assign official critics; instructions to critics

Week Ten - Oct. 27

Progress Reports and trouble shooting;

Week Eleven - Nov. 3

FIRST DRAFT OF PAPER DUE; COPIES TO ALL IN THE SEMINAR;
Assignment: Read and mark up all papers; write official critiques for your assigned classmate

Week Twelve - Nov. 10

MFAT Given

Week Thirteen - Nov. 17

CRITIQUE PAPERS

Week Fourteen - Nov. 24

CRITIQUE PAPER. For next week, revise papers; gather names and addresses of likely targets for submission;

Week Fifteen - Dec. 1

Final Corrected Draft of Paper Due; Meet to discuss publication submissions.

Week Sixteen – Dec. 8

Submit Paper for publication