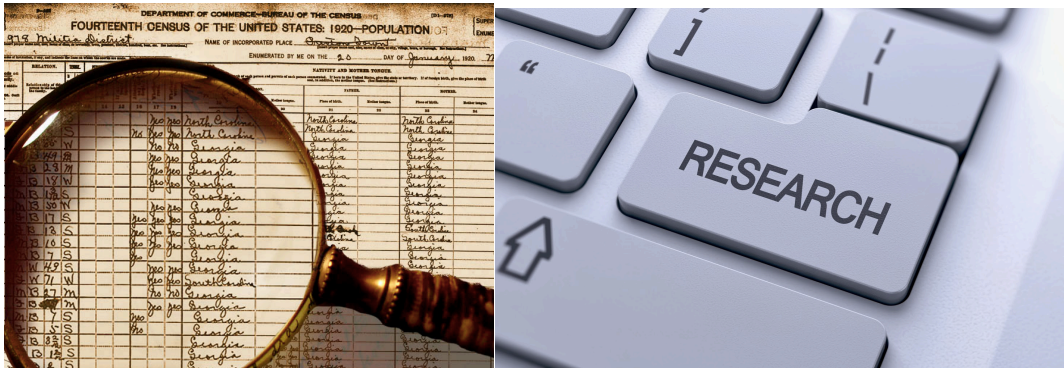


HIST 3300-004: Introduction to Historical Research Spring 2016



Instructor: Professor Kenyon Zimmer

- **Email Address:** kzimmer@uta.edu
- **History Department Phone:** 817-272-2861
- **Faculty Profile:** <https://www.uta.edu/profiles/kenyon-zimmer>
- **Office Number:** University Hall 332A
- **Office Hours:** Wednesday, 2:00pm-5:00pm

Time and Place of Class Meetings: Tues/Thurs 11:00am-12:20pm, University Hall 14

Description of Course Content: This course introduces students to the practice and craft of writing original historical scholarship. Students will learn how to locate and interpret primary sources, how to construct an original argument based on those sources, and how to write an historical narrative and analysis.

Student Learning Outcomes: Upon completion of the course students will be able to a) gather, analyze, and distinguish between primary and secondary sources; b) construct evidence-based historical arguments; c) critically analyze secondary historical works; and d) write an original argument-driven essay based on primary source research

Required Textbooks and Other Course Materials:

- Jules R. Benjamin, *A Student's Guide to History*, 11th Edition
- Philip S. Foner, ed., *The Autobiographies of the Haymarket Martyrs*, ed. (This text is also available online for free at <https://libcom.org/history/autobiographies-haymarket-martyrs>)

Additional online sources are listed in the Course Schedule, below.

Descriptions of major assignments and examinations:

- **In-Class Trial Argument:** Team-based verbal arguments based on primary source evidence
- **Short Research Essay:** 5-7 page essay based on primary sources
- **Historiographical Review:** 3-5 page analysis of a contemporary historiographical debate
- **Project Proposal:** 1-2 page proposal for Final Research Paper

- **Annotated Bibliography:** 3-5 page bibliography identifying and describing primary and secondary sources to be used in Final Research Paper
- **First Draft of Research Paper:** Complete 15-20 page draft of Final Research Paper
- **In-Class Research Presentation:** 5-minute presentation of research project
- **Final Research Paper:** 15-20 page research paper, based off of original primary source research

Attendance: At The University of Texas at Arlington, taking attendance is not required. Rather, each faculty member is free to develop his or her own methods of evaluating students' academic performance, which includes establishing course-specific policies on attendance. As the instructor of this section, I will take attendance, and more than two unexcused absences will begin to reduce your grade.

Grading: Your final grade for the course will be calculated according to the following:

- In-Class Trial Argument: 5%
- Short Research Essay: 15%
- Historiographical Review: 10%
- Project Proposal: 10%
- Annotated Bibliography: 5%
- First Draft of Research Paper: 15%
- In-Class Research Presentation: 10%
- Final Research Paper: 30%

Students are expected to keep track of their performance throughout the semester and seek guidance from available sources (including the instructor) if their performance drops below satisfactory levels

Late Assignments: Unless you have a documented excused absence (a medical or family emergency or a conflicting university commitment), assignments will be docked 10% for each calendar day they are turned in past the due date.

Drop Policy: Students may drop or swap (adding and dropping a class concurrently) classes through self-service in MyMav from the beginning of the registration period through the late registration period. After the late registration period, students must see their academic advisor to drop a class or withdraw. Undeclared students must see an advisor in the University Advising Center. Drops can continue through a point two-thirds of the way through the term or session. It is the student's responsibility to officially withdraw if they do not plan to attend after registering. **Students will not be automatically dropped for non-attendance.** Repayment of certain types of financial aid administered through the University may be required as the result of dropping classes or withdrawing. For more information, contact the Office of Financial Aid and Scholarships (<http://wwwb.uta.edu/aao/fao/>).

Disability Accommodations: UT Arlington is on record as being committed to both the spirit and letter of all federal equal opportunity legislation, including *The Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA)*, *The Americans with Disabilities Amendments Act (ADAAA)*, and *Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act*. All instructors at UT Arlington are required by law to provide "reasonable accommodations" to students with disabilities, so as not to discriminate on the basis of disability. Students are responsible for providing the instructor with official notification in the form of a letter certified by the **Office for Students with Disabilities (OSD)**. Students experiencing a range of conditions (Physical, Learning, Chronic Health,

Mental Health, and Sensory) that may cause diminished academic performance or other barriers to learning may seek services and/or accommodations by contacting:

- **The Office for Students with Disabilities, (OSD)** www.uta.edu/disability or calling 817-272-3364.
- **Counseling and Psychological Services, (CAPS)** www.uta.edu/caps/ or calling 817-272-3671.

Only those students who have officially documented a need for an accommodation will have their request honored. Information regarding diagnostic criteria and policies for obtaining disability-based academic accommodations can be found at www.uta.edu/disability or by calling the Office for Students with Disabilities at (817) 272-3364.

Title IX: The University of Texas at Arlington does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, national origin, religion, age, gender, sexual orientation, disabilities, genetic information, and/or veteran status in its educational programs or activities it operates. For more information, visit uta.edu/eos. For information regarding Title IX, visit www.uta.edu/titleIX.

Academic Integrity: Students enrolled all UT Arlington courses are expected to adhere to the UT Arlington Honor Code:

I pledge, on my honor, to uphold UT Arlington's tradition of academic integrity, a tradition that values hard work and honest effort in the pursuit of academic excellence.

I promise that I will submit only work that I personally create or contribute to group collaborations, and I will appropriately reference any work from other sources. I will follow the highest standards of integrity and uphold the spirit of the Honor Code.

UT Arlington faculty members may employ the Honor Code as they see fit in their courses, including (but not limited to) having students acknowledge the honor code as part of an examination or requiring students to incorporate the honor code into any work submitted. Per UT System *Regents' Rule* 50101, §2.2, suspected violations of university's standards for academic integrity (including the Honor Code) will be referred to the Office of Student Conduct. Violators will be disciplined in accordance with University policy, which may result in the student's suspension or expulsion from the University. **Students using plagiarized material in assignments will automatically receive an F for this course.**

Electronic Communication: UT Arlington has adopted MavMail as its official means to communicate with students about important deadlines and events, as well as to transact university-related business regarding financial aid, tuition, grades, graduation, etc. All students are assigned a MavMail account and are responsible for checking the inbox regularly. There is no additional charge to students for using this account, which remains active even after graduation. Information about activating and using MavMail is available at <http://www.uta.edu/oit/cs/email/mavmail.php>.

Student Feedback Survey: At the end of each term, students enrolled in classes categorized as "lecture," "seminar," or "laboratory" shall be directed to complete an online Student Feedback Survey (SFS). Instructions on how to access the SFS for this course will be sent directly to each student through MavMail approximately 10 days before the end of the term. Each student's feedback enters the SFS database anonymously and is aggregated with that of other students enrolled in the course. UT Arlington's effort to solicit, gather,

tabulate, and publish student feedback is required by state law; students are strongly urged to participate. For more information, visit <http://www.uta.edu/sfs>.

Final Review Week: A period of five class days prior to the first day of final examinations in the long sessions shall be designated as Final Review Week. The purpose of this week is to allow students sufficient time to prepare for final examinations. During this week, there shall be no scheduled activities such as required field trips or performances; and no instructor shall assign any themes, research problems or exercises of similar scope that have a completion date during or following this week *unless specified in the class syllabus*. During Final Review Week, an instructor shall not give any examinations constituting 10% or more of the final grade, except makeup tests and laboratory examinations. In addition, no instructor shall give any portion of the final examination during Final Review Week. During this week, classes are held as scheduled. In addition, instructors are not required to limit content to topics that have been previously covered; they may introduce new concepts as appropriate.

Emergency Exit Procedures: Should we experience an emergency event that requires us to vacate the building, students should exit the room and move toward the nearest exit. When exiting the building during an emergency, one should never take an elevator but should use the stairwells. Faculty members and instructional staff will assist students in selecting the safest route for evacuation and will make arrangements to assist individuals with disabilities.

Student Support Services: UT Arlington provides a variety of resources and programs designed to help students develop academic skills, deal with personal situations, and better understand concepts and information related to their courses. Resources include tutoring, major-based learning centers, developmental education, advising and mentoring, personal counseling, and federally funded programs. For individualized referrals, students may visit the reception desk at University College (Ransom Hall), call the Maverick Resource Hotline at 817-272-6107, send a message to resources@uta.edu, or view the information at <http://www.uta.edu/universitycollege/resources/index.php>

<p>Emergency Phone Numbers: In case of an on-campus emergency, call the UT Arlington Police Department at 817-272-3003 (non-campus phone), 2-3003 (campus phone). You may also dial 911. Non-emergency number 817-272-3381</p>

Course Schedule

(The instructor for this course reserves the right to adjust this schedule in any way that serves the educational needs of the students enrolled.)

Week 1: Course Introduction

Tues., Jan 19:

- Introduction

Thurs., Jan 21:

- Read: Benjamin, *A Student's Guide*, 1-11, 15-23

Week 2: Working with Primary Sources, Part I

Tues., Jan 26:

- Benjamin, *A Student's Guide*, 25-50, 63-70
- "Autobiography of Albert R. Parsons" (<https://libcom.org/files/Albert%20Parsons.pdf>), "Autobiography of August Spies" (<https://libcom.org/files/August%20Spies.pdf>), "Autobiography of Adolph Fischer" (<https://libcom.org/files/Adolph%20Fischer.pdf>), and "Autobiography of Louis Lingg" (https://libcom.org/files/Louis%20Lingg_0.pdf), in Foner, ed., *Autobiographies of the Haymarket Anarchists*

Thurs., Jan 28:

- Benjamin, *A Student's Guide*, 109-118
- Kogan, ed., *Chicago Haymarket Riot*, 7-20, 94-97, 103-109 (online at <http://babel.hathitrust.org/cgi/pt?id=mdp.39015008728779>)

Week 3: Working with Primary Sources, Part II

Tues., Feb 2:

- Selected readings from Chicago Historical Society, *Haymarket Affair Digital Collection*, <http://www.chicagohistory.org/hadc/hadctoc.htm>
- **In-class Tour of UTA Library's Special Collections**

Thurs., Feb 4:

- Selected readings from Chicago Historical Society, *Haymarket Affair Digital Collection*, <http://www.chicagohistory.org/hadc/hadctoc.htm>

Week 4: Arguing Your Case

Tues., Feb 9:

- Selected readings from Chicago Historical Society, *Haymarket Affair Digital Collection*, <http://www.chicagohistory.org/hadc/hadctoc.htm>

Thurs., Feb 11:

- **In-class Trial Arguments**

Week 5: Writing a Paper

Tues., Feb 16:

- Benjamin, *A Student's Guide*, 51-62, 130

Thurs., Feb 18:

- **Short Research Essay due**

Week 6: Historiography

Tues., Feb 23:

- Benjamin, *A Student's Guide*, 70-76
- Roundtable on Timothy Messer-Kruse's *The Trial of the Haymarket Anarchists*, in *Labor: Studies in Working-Class History of the Americas* 9, no. 3 (2012), 25-51 (on [BlackBoard](#))

Thurs., Feb 25:

- **Historiographical Review due**

Week 7: Formulating a Research Project

Tues., March 1:

- Benjamin, *A Student's Guide*, 88-109, 118-127, browse 201-262

Thurs., March 3:

- Benjamin, *A Student's Guide*, 128-172
- **Project Proposal due**

Week 8: Project Proposal Feedback

Tues., Mar 8:

- No readings

Thurs., Mar 10:

- **No regular class; Walter Prescott Webb Memorial Lectures**

Week 9: Spring Break

Mar 14-Mar 18: **No class**

Week 10: Individual Meetings

Tues., Mar 22:

- **No regular class**
- **Annotated bibliography due** (email to kzimmer@uta.edu)

Thurs., Mar 24:

- **No regular class**

Week 11: Work on Research Paper

Tues., Mar 29: **No class**

Thurs., Mar 31: **No class**

Week 12: Work on Research Paper

Tues., Apr 5: **No class**

Thurs., Apr 7: **No class**

Week 13: Work on Research Paper

Tues., Apr 12: Citation workshop

- Benjamin, *A Student's Guide*, 173-200

Thurs., Apr 14: **No class**

Week 14: Research Paper Drafts

Tues., Apr 19:

- **First Draft of Research Paper due**

Thurs., Apr 21:

- Benjamin, *A Student's Guide*, 78-79

Week 15: Research Presentations

Tues., Apr 26:

- **In-class Research Presentations**

Thurs., Apr 28:

- **In-class Research Presentations**

Week 16: Final Research Papers

Tues., May 3:

- **No class**

Thurs., May 6:

- **Final Research Paper due**