Course Title: SENIOR HISTORY DIRECTED RESEARCH PROJECT

Course Code: HST301

No. of Credits: 6

Mode of Tuition: Sectional and Individual Supervision

Class Contact Hours: 6 (and Directed Research Supervision)

Category in Major Prog.: Elective

Prerequisite(s): Only for year 3 History Majors

Co-requisite(s): None

Exclusion(s): None

Exemption Requirement(s): None

Brief Course Description: A capstone course which will integrate advanced research methodology, current issues in historical scholarship, and research and writing of an in-depth directed research project.

Aims: To provide students with a learning experience in which they integrate what they have learned about history, historical research, and the methodological skills that are common to a good degree in history. This will be accomplished through Directed Research Project.

Learning Outcomes: 1) To draw together in a final-year course the historical knowledge and skills which students have acquired. The purpose of the course is to integrate the professional and practical skills from the preceding two years with specific application to a topic to produce a written report.

2) To further develop students’ knowledge and use of research methodology.

3) To enable students to be engaged in discussion and investigation of the latest issues in historical scholarship.

4) To instill confidence in students in their abilities to research, organize, synthesize and communicate.

Indicative Content: Throughout the course of the two semesters, the content of the course will be tailor-made for the specific needs of the individual student, determined in large part by their topic and the type
of research methodologies those topics require. Some of the possible areas to be covered will be:

- Computer-assisted research
- In-depth analysis of historical websites and their proper use
- Documentary editing
- Applications of various areas of public history
- Elementary statistical analysis for historians
- Introduction to some of the sub-disciplines of history: Cliometrices, Social History, Cultural History, Economic History, Psychohistory, Oral History etc.
- Skills for survival in the job “marketplace”

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<tr>
<th>Teaching Method</th>
<th>Students must submit drafts at various stages and undertake individual research, meeting their academic supervisors at regular intervals.</th>
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<td>Measurement of Learning Outcomes</td>
<td>1) Primarily evaluated through a careful examination of the final DR Project.</td>
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<td>2) A portion of the grade for the course (and DR Project) will come from the DR Project Chief Advisor’s evaluation of the student’s process in the course of researching, organizing and writing the DR Project.</td>
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<td>Assessment</td>
<td>Final Directed Research Project 100%</td>
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Required Readings:
Varies according to topics chosen by the students.

Directed Research Project Guidelines

The Directed Research Project is a significant part of the degree for students who elect to take it as it is a culminating event that integrates much of what students have learned as history majors.

- The topic of the DR Project will be within the general area of the student’s chosen area of study. Topic selection will take place in the late stages of Year II for all students in order to allow for adequate preparation of the course for the following year. An important part of any research project in arts is the definition and formulation of the topic. While the final approval of the Supervisor is required, and while advice may be sought by the student and given by the Supervisor, the main responsibility for topic selection remains with the student.

The length of the completed DR Project will generally be 12,000-15,000 words in English.

The normally scheduled interaction between each student and his or her Supervisor is expected to vary according to the student and the nature of the topic selected. This interaction is in the form of an individual or small group tutorial. In addition, supervisors
monitor the progress of all project work as it is being performed on a regular basis. The assessment scheme is given below:

1. Each DR Project will be assessed by the Supervisor and a second reader.

2. The component parts involved in assessment of the DR Project in history are as follows:
   
   i) Continuous Assessment
   ii) Bibliographic Thoroughness
   iii) Approach and Argument
   iv) Communication Skills

3. Both Supervisor and the second reader will independently assess the final DR Project and will have an equal say on this part of the project. The final mark will be determined by consultation between the two examiners.

4. During Year II each student will be given a DR Project Handbook which will provide more detailed guidance for his/her project.