

Course Title	VARIETIES OF HISTORY: GLOBAL HISTORY OF HISTORICAL WRITINGS
Course Code	HST3007
Recommended Study Year	3 or 4
No. of Credits/Term	3
Mode of Tuition	Sectional
Class Contact Hours	3
Category	History Major Elective Category 4
Discipline	History
Prerequisite(s)	NIL
Co-requisite(s)	NIL
Exclusion(s)	NIL
Exemption Requirement(s)	NIL

Brief Course Description

This course is an advanced-level introduction to the global history of history from antiquity to the present day. The first half will be devoted to a survey of pre-modern traditions of historical writings, including the East Asian tradition (China, Japan, and Korea), the classical tradition (Greece and Rome), and the major religious historiographical traditions (Christian, Islamic, and Buddhist). The second half of the course will cover the modern history of the historical discipline, from the Enlightenment period around the globe through the rise of nationalist historiography in the 19th century to the diverse types of history practiced in the twentieth century.

Aims

Designed for advanced students in history, especially those with intent to pursue postgraduate studies, this course aims to teach students the great variety of historical writings that had been produced in the global past from antiquity to the present day. Students will learn to historicize the idea and practice of history, and see how interests in the past were powerfully shaped by different social, political, and cultural factors. In addition, students will also learn about the professionalization of the historical discipline in the last two centuries, and how that directly affects the type of history we do today.

Learning Outcomes

Upon completion of the course, students will be able to:

1. Explain major traditions of historical writings in the pre-modern world.
2. Interpret and contextualize the modern history of historical writings, and how they were shaped by various political, social, and cultural factors.
3. Analyze the professionalization of the historical discipline in the modern period.

Indicative Content

1. Chinese, Japanese, and Korean historiographical traditions
2. Greek and Roman historiographical traditions
3. Christian, Islamic, and Buddhist historiographies
4. Enlightenment Historiographies across Eurasia (18th century)
5. Nationalism and the Professionalization of History (19th century)

6. Varieties of History in the Twentieth Century: Holocaust, Gender, and the World

Teaching Method

This course will have a sectional format, with lecture and discussion in each class meeting. Lectures will introduce students to the broad historical contexts, while the discussion will be focused on the weekly assigned readings of primary sources. There will also be weekly student presentations on the assigned primary sources, with guided questions by the instructors, that would help to initiate the class discussion each week.

Measurement of Learning Outcomes

1. Final paper: ~2000 words essay on the analysis of a historiographical work, aspects of a historiographical tradition, or comparison between two or more historiographical traditions. (LOs 1,2, 3)
2. Presentations: ~10 minute presentation on an assigned historiographical text, and lead the class discussion of the text afterwards. (LOs 1, 2, 3)
3. Class Participation: attendance and active, sustained engagement with class discussion (LOs 1, 2, 3)

Assessment

1. Final paper, 65%
2. Presentations, 20%
3. Class Participation, 15%

Required/Essential Readings

Woolf, D. R., *A Global History of History* (Cambridge, UK ; New York: Cambridge University Press, 2011)

Recommended/Supplementary Readings

Beasley, William G., and Edwin G. Pulleyblank, *Historians of China and Japan, Historical Writing on the Peoples of Asia* (London: Oxford University Press, 1961)

Breisach, Ernst, *Historiography: Ancient, Medieval, and Modern, Third Edition, 3 edition* (Chicago: University of Chicago Press, 2007)

Duara, Prasenjit, *Companion to Global Historical Thought* (Wiley-Blackwell, 2014)

Georg G. Iggers, *A Global History of Modern Historiography* (Harlow, England ; New York: Pearson Longman, 2008)

Jenkins, Keith, *The Postmodern History Reader* (London ; New York: Routledge, 1997)

Martin, Thomas R., *Herodotus and Sima Qian: The First Great Historians of Greece and China : A Brief History with Documents, Bedford Series in History and Culture* (Boston: Bedford/StMartins, 2010)

Munslow, Alun, *Narrative and History, Theory and History* (New York: Palgrave Macmillan, 2007)

———, *The Future of History* (New York: Palgrave Macmillan, 2010)

Popkin, Jeremy D., *From Herodotus to H-Net: The Story of Historiography, 1 edition* (New York ; Oxford: Oxford University Press, 2015)

Schmidt-Glintzer, Helwig, Achim Mittag, and Jörn Rüsen, eds., *Historical Truth, Historical Criticism, and Ideology: Chinese Historiography and Historical Culture from a New Comparative Perspective, Leiden Series in Comparative Historiography, v. 1* (Leiden ;

Boston: Brill, 2005)

Vogelsang, Kai, 'Some Notions of Historical Judgment in China and the West', in *Historical Truth, Historical Criticism, and Ideology: Chinese Historiography and Historical Culture from a New Comparative Perspective*, ed. by Helwig Schmidt-Glintzer, Achim Mittag, and Jörn Rüsen, *Leiden Series in Comparative Historiography*, v. 1 (Leiden ; Boston: Brill, 2005), pp. 143–75

Wang, Q. Edward, and Georg G. Iggers, *Turning Points in Historiography: A Cross-Cultural Perspective*, *Rochester Studies in Historiography*, v. 1 (Rochester, NY: University of Rochester Press, 2001)

White, Hayden V., *Metahistory: The Historical Imagination in Nineteenth-Century Europe* (Baltimore: Johns Hopkins University Press, 1973)

Woolf, D. R., Andrew Feldherr, and Grant Hardy, eds., *The Oxford History of Historical Writing* (Oxford ; New York: Oxford University Press, 2011)

Yu-shan Han, *Elements of Chinese Historiography* (Hollywood, Calif.: W.M. Hawley, 1955)

Important Notes:

- (1) Students are expected to spend a total of 9 hours (i.e. 3 hours of class contact and 6 hours of personal study) per week to achieve the course learning outcomes.
- (2) Students shall be aware of the University regulations about dishonest practice in course work, tests and examinations, and the possible consequences as stipulated in the Regulations Governing University Examinations. In particular, plagiarism, being a kind of dishonest practice, is “the presentation of another person’s work without proper acknowledgement of the source, including exact phrases, or summarised ideas, or even footnotes/citations, whether protected by copyright or not, as the student’s own work”. Students are required to strictly follow university regulations governing academic integrity and honesty.
- (3) Students are required to submit writing assignment(s) using Turnitin.
- (4) To enhance students’ understanding of plagiarism, a mini-course “Online Tutorial on Plagiarism Awareness” is available on <https://pla.ln.edu.hk/>.