



**UNSW**  
SYDNEY

Australia's  
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University



## **ARTS3270**

Reflecting on Histories and Historians: Capstone

Term Two // 2019

## Course Overview

### Staff Contact Details

#### Convenors

Name	Email	Availability	Location	Phone
Gregory Evon	<a href="mailto:g.evon@unsw.edu.au">g.evon@unsw.edu.au</a>	By appointment	MB 233	9385 2492

### School Contact Information

School of Humanities and Languages

Location: School Office, Morven Brown Building, Level 2, 258

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## Course Details

### Credit Points 6

### Summary of the Course

Subject Area: History

In this capstone course you will join all the other students majoring in History in a weekly seminar designed to perfect and reflect on the skills you have learned in your history degree. In particular, you will conduct your own major research project: framing a question about the past that can be addressed by reconstructing past events from primary sources, while engaging with recent scholarship in your interpretation of these events. Here you will reflect on the fundamental principles of the discipline, together with the social and ethical implications of particular approaches to the practice of History. Readings, discussion and fieldwork are focused on developing appreciation of the role of historical knowledge in understanding and influencing our contemporary world. You will explore the origins, agendas, and methodologies behind a number of key contemporary historical approaches, and the controversies they have sparked within the discipline. You will consider the ways historians adapt their professional practices to public engagement through museums, the entertainment industry, and the courts. You will also experience the fundamental task of the historian through your own research project: framing a question about the past that can be addressed by reconstructing past events from primary sources, while engaging with recent scholarship in your interpretation of these events.

### Course Learning Outcomes

1. employ and evaluate major principles and methodologies within the discipline of history
2. demonstrate a critical understanding of the social and ethical implications of particular professional practices among historians
3. identify multiple forms of history in the public domain, and evaluate them in light of professional standards of scholarship and ethical behaviour
4. design and conduct an independent research project
5. reflect upon and integrate your own experiences as students of history at UNSW

### Teaching Strategies

Rationale: There are no lectures in ARTS3270. The role of the instructor is to synthesise a large body of diverse material for students, leading discussions of historical methodology and its political and social implications, and assist students in discerning linkages between the course materials and their previous studies in historical subject matter. The seminar format obliges ALL students to take on an active intellectual role in analysing and critiquing the course readings, which are mainly historiographic, collaboratively in small groups. ARTS3270 has two components: (1) An on-campus meeting in a two-hour seminar each week across the teaching session; (2) The equivalent of about 7 hours of individual or collaborative work each week. This includes a museum visit and preparation of an essay about it, and independent research in preparation to write a research essay on a question or problem of the student's own design.

Teaching and Learning Strategies: As this is a seminar course, our core teaching strategy is to work with you individually and in small groups to discuss approaches to history, to reflect on what you have

learned in the history major, and to plan and execute your research project. This course is designed to make History majors aware of a range of important approaches to writing history, and also to their role both in shaping our understanding the past and in motivating present action. In each week you will discuss a particular, current style of history or activity of historians, together with its social implications. In the seminar sessions, questions about the readings will be discussed in small groups, and then your answers shared among the whole class; at the end a few of these same questions will be given as a P/F quiz in order to motivate reading and engagement in the discussion. To impart insight into history's social role, there will be an exercise requiring you to attend one of a few designated museum exhibits and to analyse its representation of the past both in terms of the historical scholarship on which it is based, and of the demands placed on history by its publics and institutions. This museum essay assignment may be completed in collaboration with another student, enabling you to share insights and to employ teamwork in exploring and documenting museum space. Finally, in a research essay project, you will experience the basic task of the historical craft, creating a question and constructing an account of past events based on evidence you must discover for yourself – including the use of primary source documents -- thus learning first hand the processes and constraints shaping our pictures of the past.

## Assessment

### Assessment Tasks

Assessment task	Weight	Due Date	Student Learning Outcomes Assessed
In class group work	20%	Not Applicable	1,2,5
Museum visit and essay	30%	05/07/2019 05:00 PM	1,2,3,5
Research Essay	50%	09/08/2019 05:00 PM	1,2,4,5

### Assessment Details

#### Assessment 1: In class group work

**Start date:** Not Applicable

**Details:** Small group discussion each week of about 10 questions related to assigned readings, followed by a quiz requiring brief answers to two of them. Marked P/F of each question (2 points possible for week, best 10 weeks counted). Marks available on Moodle.

#### Additional details:

Due to the structure of the course in relation to the new system, this Assessment 1 (In class group work @ 20%) will be adjusted in relation to the scheduled weeks.

This will be discussed in the first face-to-face seminar in Week 1.

**Turnitin setting:** This is not a Turnitin assignment

#### Assessment 2: Museum visit and essay

**Start date:** Not Applicable

**Length:** 1000 words

**Details:** Field trip to historical exhibit at a local museum and analysis thereof, with marks and comments on resulting essay of 1000 words min. Can be carried out collaboratively in pairs (with co-authored essay, mark shared).

#### Additional details:

Details on the this Assessment will be discussed in the first face-to-face seminar (i.e., in Week 1).

It is recommended that students use the following Museums and Exhibitions.

#### Sydney Jewish Museum:

- Jukebox Jewkbox! A Jewish Century on Shellac and Vinyl
- Serving Australia: The Jewish Involvement in Australian Military History

**Justice and Police Museum (weekends only):**

- City of Shadows: Inner City Crime & Mayhem 1912-1948

**National Maritime Museum:**

- Passengers: The Long Sea Voyage to a New Land
- The Daring Ship: The story of HMAS Voyager.

**Australian Museum:**

Garrigarrang: Sea Country (NB: this exhibit is partly historical and partly 'anthropological,' so focus on the historical elements)

**Turnitin setting:** This assignment is submitted through Turnitin and students do not see Turnitin similarity reports.

**Assessment 3: Research Essay**

**Start date:** Not Applicable

**Length:** 2500 words

**Details:** 2500 words min, must employ primary sources. Numerical mark and comments as feedback on their essays. 50% includes 5 points for a preliminary Outline/Proposal worth 5%. This is the final assessment for attendance purposes.

**Additional details:**

Requirements for the Research Essay will be discussed in the Week 1 Seminar, with additional information posted on Moodle.

**Turnitin setting:** This assignment is submitted through Turnitin and students do not see Turnitin similarity reports.

## Attendance Requirements

Students are strongly encouraged to attend all classes and review lecture recordings.

## Course Schedule

[View class timetable](#)

### Timetable

Date	Type	Content
Week 1: 3 June - 7 June	Seminar	Introduction: Being a Historian
Week 2: 10 June - 14 June	Seminar	Professional History and Public 'Remembering'
Week 3: 17 June - 21 June	Seminar	Historical Scholarship and Advocacy
Week 4: 24 June - 28 June	Reading	No seminar meeting this week.
Week 5: 1 July - 5 July	Seminar	Fiction and the Historian's Limits
	Assessment	Museum Visit Essay Due
Week 6: 8 July - 12 July	Seminar	Gender and 'Herstory'
Week 7: 15 July - 19 July	Seminar	Scales of History
Week 8: 22 July - 26 July	Reading	No seminar meeting this week.
Week 9: 29 July - 2 August	Seminar	Environmental History
Week 10: 5 August - 9 August	Seminar	Counterfactual History, Prophesying, and What to Do with a History Major
	Assessment	Research Essay Due

## **Resources**

### **Prescribed Resources**

- ARTS3270 Course Reader to be compiled by students; required readings will be listed on Moodle and students can access them through UNSW Library databases.

### **Recommended Resources**

Database/s (esp. for Research Essay) will be introduced and discussed in Seminar.

### **Course Evaluation and Development**

Courses are periodically reviewed, and students' feedback is used to improve them. Feedback is gathered from students using myExperience. It is encouraged students complete their surveys by accessing the personalized web link via the Moodle course site.

## **Submission of Assessment Tasks**

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### **Turnitin Submission**

If you encounter a problem when attempting to submit your assignment through Turnitin, please telephone External Support on 9385 3331 or email them on [externalteltsupport@unsw.edu.au](mailto:externalteltsupport@unsw.edu.au) . Support hours are 8:00am – 10:00pm on weekdays and 9:00am – 5:00pm on weekends (365 days a year). If you are unable to submit your assignment due to a fault with Turnitin you may apply for an extension, but you must retain your ticket number from External Support (along with any other relevant documents) to include as evidence to support your extension application. If you email External Support you will automatically receive a ticket number, but if you telephone you will need to specifically ask for one. Turnitin also provides updates on their system status on Twitter.

Generally, assessment tasks must be submitted electronically via either Turnitin or a Moodle assignment. In instances where this is not possible, it will be stated on your course's Moodle site with alternative submission details.

For information on how to submit assignments online via Moodle: <https://student.unsw.edu.au/how-submit-assignment-moodle>

## Academic Honesty and Plagiarism

Plagiarism is using the words or ideas of others and presenting them as your own. It can take many forms, from deliberate cheating to accidentally copying from a source without acknowledgement.

UNSW groups plagiarism into the following categories:

**Copying:** using the same or very similar words to the original text or idea without acknowledging the source or using quotation marks. This also applies to images, art and design projects, as well as presentations where someone presents another's ideas or words without credit.

**Inappropriate paraphrasing:** Changing a few words and phrases while mostly retaining the original structure and/or progression of ideas of the original, and information without acknowledgement. This also applies in presentations where someone paraphrases another's ideas or words without credit and to piecing together quotes and paraphrases into a new whole, without appropriate referencing.

**Collusion:** working with others but passing off the work as a person's individual work. Collusion also includes providing your work to another student before the due date, or for the purpose of them plagiarising at any time, paying another person to perform an academic task, stealing or acquiring another person's academic work and copying it, offering to complete another person's work or seeking payment for completing academic work.

**Inappropriate citation:** Citing sources which have not been read, without acknowledging the "secondary" source from which knowledge of them has been obtained.

**Duplication ("self-plagiarism"):** submitting your own work, in whole or in part, where it has previously been prepared or submitted for another assessment or course at UNSW or another university.

Correct referencing practices:

- Paraphrasing, summarising, essay writing and time management
- Appropriate use of and attribution for a range of materials including text, images, formulae and concepts.

Individual assistance is available on request from The Learning Centre (<http://www.lc.unsw.edu.au/>). Students are also reminded that careful time management is an important part of study and one of the identified causes of plagiarism is poor time management. Students should allow sufficient time for research, drafting and proper referencing of sources in preparing all assessment items.

UNSW Library also has the ELISE tool available to assist you with your study at UNSW. ELISE is designed to introduce new students to studying at UNSW but it can also be a great refresher during your study.

Completing the ELISE tutorial and quiz will enable you to:

- analyse topics, plan responses and organise research for academic writing and other assessment tasks
- effectively and efficiently find appropriate information sources and evaluate relevance to your needs
- use and manage information effectively to accomplish a specific purpose
- better manage your time

- understand your rights and responsibilities as a student at UNSW
- be aware of plagiarism, copyright, UNSW Student Code of Conduct and Acceptable Use of UNSW ICT Resources Policy
- be aware of the standards of behaviour expected of everyone in the UNSW community
- locate services and information about UNSW and UNSW Library

Some of these areas will be familiar to you, others will be new. Gaining a solid understanding of all the related aspects of ELISE will help you make the most of your studies at UNSW.

<http://subjectguides.library.unsw.edu.au/elise/aboutelise>

## **Academic Information**

For essential student information relating to:

- requests for extension;
- late submissions guidelines;
- review of marks;
- UNSW Health and Safety policies;
- examination procedures;
- special consideration in the event of illness or misadventure;
- student equity and disability;
- and other essential academic information, see

<https://www.arts.unsw.edu.au/current-students/academic-information/protocols-guidelines/>

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