

**BOWIE STATE UNIVERSITY**  
**DEPARTMENT OF HISTORY & GOVERNMENT**  
**HIST 498.101 SENIOR SEMINAR IN HISTORY II [3 credits]**  
**SPRING 2021 ON-LINE**

**Instructor:** Dr. David L. Reed  
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**Office phone:** 202.670.8607  
**Office Hours:** Virtual Mon-Fri 2pm-5pm

**COURSE DESCRIPTION:**

The primary purpose of this course is for the student to research, write and present a thesis paper that is based on primary and secondary sources. A second objective is for the student to understand the nature of historical study and the philosophy of history. University Calendar is attached.

**Required Text:**

Turabian, Kate L. **A Manual for Writers of Research Papers, Theses, And Dissertations.** Revised by Wayne C. Booth, Gregory G. Colomb, Joseph Williams, and the University of Chicago Press Editorial Staff. Chicago: University of Chicago Press, 8<sup>th</sup> Edition, 2013.

**COURSE OBJECTIVE:**

The Operational goals in this course have a dual purpose: theory and field practicum. In the first half of the semester, the student will be exposed to various historiographical writings that will enable the student to examine the state of the art. The field practicum will acquaint the student with the methodology of history (the historian's craft). The following are examples of practicum sites: the Library of Congress, The Collection of Afro-Americana at the Moorland-Spingarn Research Center at Howard University, The National Archives, the Smithsonian Institution, The Municipal and County Halls of Records along with the public and university libraries in the surrounding area.

**COURSE REQUIREMENTS:**

1. Research Fact Sheet for thesis proposal and abstract format (February 1, 2021)
2. Senior Thesis and Oral Defense: Term Paper due Monday May 3 2021 oral defense is on Monday May 10, 2021
  - a. since all senior thesis upon completion will become a part of the department's archives, they must be bond paper, bound in book form and conform to the University of Chicago style (Turabian) in terms of title page, table of contents, citation for footnotes, annotated bibliography and bibliography.

b. all papers must have an advisor from the Department of History and Government who is willing to make recommendations and critical commentary on the topic. In special cases, this person may be outside of the department but must be approved by the instructor of record.

c. The **final draft of this paper is due** on Monday May 3<sup>rd</sup>. The **oral defense is the following Monday May 10<sup>th</sup> on BLACK BOARD.**

d. Since the field practicum does represent time in the classroom, the student will be expected to make scheduled conferences with the instructor and the thesis advisor regarding the progress of the paper each week.

3. Weekly check points for various sections of the thesis paper will receive a letter grade! **The thesis topic must be approved by the thesis instructor, Dr. Reed, and the thesis advisor**, another professor in the Department of History & Government, who has agreed in writing to advise your thesis topic and supervise your research. A signed copy of the thesis sheet by your advisory is due on **Monday February 1st 2021 (Feb 8<sup>th</sup> at the latest)**

### STUDENT OUTCOMES

Student will:

1. be acquainted with the historian's craft in terms of primary and secondary source research
2. be exposed to various historiographical writings in the field of History
3. write a 25-page term paper (no less than 20 pages of text) based on the Turabian citation format.
4. orally present their research paper including thesis, literature review, methodology, and primary source materials.

### SPECIFIC LEARNING OBJECTIVES

1. to assist the student's understanding of the methodology and techniques of the historian's craft
2. to develop the student's skills in research & library skills through the use of documents & bibliographic reference tools
3. to strengthen the student's ability in the areas of critical thinking and abstract reasoning through the examination of historical problems
4. to aid in the student's understanding of the larger plight of humanity
5. completion of the Senior Thesis, Oral Presentation and Comprehensive Exam

TEACHING MODES:

Teaching modes include attending class each Monday (unless specified in the course syllabus). Failure to attend class or turn in assigned work will result in a zero for the given assignment without valid documentation of an official nature. Students are encouraged to choose a historical topic that has ample primary source documents and secondary literature to support the thesis investigation.

There are a plethora of “online” primary resources at the Library of Congress, The National Archives, the Moorland Spingarn Research Center, the Maryland State Archives and other local repositories in the greater Baltimore-Washington area and national wide.

**COURSE GRADE**

All assignments are of equal value and **MUST BE SIGNED BY YOUR ADVISOR** (or an email from your advisor with your work attached confirming adequate completing of the weekly task. **FAILURE TO OBTAIN YOUR ADVISOR’S SIGNATURE** or an equivalent email confirmation **WILL RESULT IN A ZERO FOR THE ASSIGNMENT. Any missing or late assignments are subject to the grade of zero.** Any excused absence will require legal or medical verification on proper stationary for consideration of the passing of an immediate relative only.

1. CONTENT ANYALYSIS = 40%
2. GRAMMAR AND SENTENCE STRUCTURE = 40%
3. STYLE, ORIGINALITY AND TIMELY SUBMISSION =20%

**ORAL PRESENTATIONS**

1. CONTENT AND ANALYSIS = 40%
2. CLARITY OF PRESENTATION & DELIVERY = 30%
3. AN UNEXCUSED ABSENCE WILL RESULT IN TOTAL LOSS OF CREDIT FOR PRESENTATION.

A

**CLASS ATTENDANCE**

1. CLASS ATTENDANCE IS MANDATORY.
2. UNEXCUSED ABSENCE WILL RESULT IN TOTAL LOSS OF CREDIT FOR ALL ASSIGNMENTS DUE. NO LATE WORK WILL BE ACCEPTED.

Numerical grades each week will determine the final course grade.

All assignments are of equal value 100 points. 90-100 =A, 80-89=B, 70-79=C, 60-69=D, 59 and below is an F. Ex. If all assignments add up to 1000 points and the student earns 900 points. The grade is 90% A. The thesis paper is a double grade (200 points) which is averaged between the professor of record (100 points) (Dr. Reed) and the Advisor of the thesis paper (100 points) for 200 possible points. The combined score determines the grade for the thesis paper out of 200. This format is the same for the oral presentation. The combined score for the oral presentation is a double grade of 100 points (Dr. Reed) and 100 points (Thesis Advisory). If the thesis advisor is not present at the oral defense then the total grade for the oral presentation will be determined by Dr. Reed. (200 points)

### SELECTED TOPICS

**\* There will be periodic readings assigned and due the following class. All assignments are due on time when collected by the instructor with your advisor's signature or equivalent email confirmation with work attached from the advisor or the assignment is an automatic zero.**

1. **[Jan 25]** Senior Seminar/Thesis Explained. Thesis Proposal Sheet. Important dates for completion of successful thesis paper [check points in this syllabus] mandatory weekly signatures for each component of this thesis paper or the grade will be a zero!

**A. The standard for this thesis paper in terms of citation, style and format is based completely on Kate L. Turabian's, *A Manual for Writers of Research Papers, Theses, and Dissertations*. 8<sup>th</sup> ed., University of Chicago Press, 2013. Every component part of this paper is based on the Turabian Manual. You must use the latest edition of the Turabian Manual which is the 9<sup>th</sup> edition.**

**B. What are the component parts of a thesis paper: \*Follow Turabian Style Format**

Title Page  
Thesis Proposal  
Table of Contents  
Introduction/Literature Review  
Chapters and subheadings  
Primary & Secondary Sources;  
Annotated Bibliography  
Bibliography

**C. History as a discipline & Historiography. Examples of Master Historians.**

**DUE NEXT WEEK: Find and advisor that will guide your thesis paper. Thesis Proposal and draft Method of Investigation sheet signed by the advisor and your oral presentation due next week February 1st.**

2. **[Feb 1]** Check point on Thesis proposal due, brief oral presentation. [For a GRADE]

**DUE NEXT WEEK [Feb 8]: Second** revision of Thesis proposal and Method of Investigation. Also, update relevant archives, repositories, libraries and special collections that will be used to investigate and support your thesis proposal. Draft of a one to three page bibliographic essay of secondary sources on the topic (Literature Review of the most important work done on the subject---not exhaustive but thorough---concluding with how your work is original or will take issue with or expand upon the literature) **signed by advisor or zero!**

3. **[Feb 15]** Presentation of Thesis Proposal and Method of Investigation including updated relevant archives, repositories, libraries, and/or special collections. Also, oral presentation of bibliographic essay & sources including how your work contributes to the literature on the subject. I would like to see at least some brief commentary from the advisor of what he or she thinks needs to be improved for the paper to be a success.

**DUE NEXT WEEK: Be prepared to discuss and show specifically how you have improved your paper based on your advisor's constructive criticisms.**

4. **[February 22.]** Check Point. Annotated Bibliography due of both major Primary and Secondary Sources [ten to twenty sources including materials from archival repositories correctly identified/labeled using Turabian, books, scholarly magazines, articles from scholarly journals, newspapers, you will use to support your thesis ] **due March 1**

5. **[March 1]** Presentation of revision and expansion of Annotated Bibliography [Primary and Secondary Sources]

**DUE NEXT WEEK [March 8]:** Two-to-three-page literature review of the subject is due and oral presentation of lit review.

6. **Spring Break week of March 15<sup>th</sup>. Come back on March 22<sup>nd</sup>.**
7. **[March 22]** Table of Contents Due. Revised literature review due. Updated Annotated bibliography and bibliography due. **Oral Presentation of Lit Review** today.
8. **[March 29] First Five pages due today**
9. **[April 5<sup>th</sup>]** Discussion of your first five pages. First ten pages are due on April 2nd.
10. **[April 12] Writing day...[NO CLASS] continue to write and revise. See your advisor and Dr. Reed during office hours this week to discuss progress and problems.**
11. **[April 19] Writing Day. No class. Call or email Dr. Reed if necessary for conference**
12. **[April 26]** Fifteen pages due with annotated bibliography, bibliography and **advisor's signature** due next week.
13. **[May 3rd] Final Draft due; Twenty-five pages of text and component parts...Final paper due with advisor's final approval signature.**
14. **[May 10] Oral Defense.**
15. **[May 17] Final bound copy due at BSU History Dept with mask on (drop off)**

### **SELECTED BIBLIOGRAPHY**

- Aptheker, A Documentary History of the Negro People. 2 vols.  
Austin, the Greek and Roman Historians.  
Bailey, Readings in Ancient History.  
Baker, The Practical Stylist.  
Barnes, History of Historical Writings.  
Becker, The Heavenly City of Eighteenth-Century Philosophers.  
Bloch, The Historian's Craft.  
Brown & Tyrell, How to Use Local History (NCSS Report).  
Carr, What is History.  
Elton, The Practice of History.  
Feuer, ed., Sources for Historical Analysis.  
Gray, The Historians Handbook.  
Hofstadter, The Progressive Historians.  
Josephson, Local History (Social Science Research Council Report)  
Kraus, A History of American History.  
Miller, The Negro in America: A Bibliography.  
Niebuhr, The Irony of American History.  
Okoye, "Africanization of South African History," Negro History Bulletin, April, 1973, 89-91.  
Porter, Negro Bibliography: A Study for the Library of Congress.  
Powers, Readings in European Civilization.  
Saveth, Understanding the American Past.  
Smith, The Historian and History  
Snowden, Blacks in Antiquity.  
Social Science Research Council. Theory and Practice in Historical Study: A Report of the Committee on Historiography.  
Thorpe, Black Historians  
Encyclopedia of Social Science, "History."  
Turabian, A Manual for Writers.  
Woodward, The Burden of Southern History

### **CLASSICAL ANTIQUITY**

- Herodotus. The Histories.  
George James. The Stolen Legacy.  
Sir Godfrey Higgins. The Anacalypsis.  
Count Volney. Ruins of Empire.  
C.H. Vail. Ancient Mysteries.

Sir Wallis Budge. Egyptian Book of the Dead.  
Yosef Ben-Jochanan. Africa: Mother of Civilization.  
J.A. Rogers. World's Great Men of Color. 2 vols.  
Sex and Race. 3 vols.  
Lost Books of the Bible and The Forgotten Books of Eden.  
Levi. The Aquarian Gospel of Jesus, The Christ.  
The Holy Koran.  
The Authorized King James Version and the St. Joseph's Version (Roman Catholic) Version of The Holy Bible.  
Marija Gimbutas. The Goddesses and Gods of Old Europe.  
John G. Jackson. Introduction to African Civilizations.  
Gerald Massey. Ancient Egypt: The Light of the World.  
Heinz Mode. Fabulous Beast and Demons.  
Erich Neuman. The Great Mother: An Analysis of An Archetype.  
Gilles Quispel. The Secret Book of Revelation: The Last Book of the Bible.  
Sigmund Freud. Moses and Monotheism.

**Provide a brief description of the following reference sources used by social studies educators:**

EX. Dictionary of American Negro Biography- This reference book includes a brief biography of the nation's history through records of outstanding men and women. The founder of this tool is George Smith.

*Dictionary of American Biography*  
*Who's Who in America*  
*Who's Who Among Black Americans*  
*Dictionary of American History*  
*Dictionary of American Negro Biography*  
*Men of Mark*  
*The Crisis Magazine*  
*Opportunity*  
*Commanger's Documents*  
*U.S. Census Report*  
*History of the Negro People in the United States, vol. 1-7 [Herbert Aptheker]*  
*William & Mary Quarterly*  
*Black Scholar*  
*Daedalus*

*The Atlantic Monthly*  
*American Historical Review*  
*Journal of American History*  
*Journal of Southern History*  
*Journal of Negro History*  
*American Historical Review*  
*Notable Black American Women*  
*Notable Black American Men*  
*Phylon*  
*Journal of Negro Education*  
*The Final Call*  
*Facts on File*  
*The Pittsburgh Courier*  
*The Chicago Defender*  
*The Baltimore Afro-American*

**Locate and/or identify the following individuals, organizations, and research centers for historians and history teachers:**

Schomburg Research Center  
Moorland Spingarn Research Center  
Amistad Research Center  
Bethune Cookman Archives  
National Archives  
Library of Congress  
AHA [and publication]  
OAH [and publication]  
ASALH [and publication]  
SHA [and publication]  
Carter G. Woodson  
W.E.B. Du Bois  
Herber Aptheker  
John Hope Franklin  
Rayford W. Logan  
Charles Wesley  
Lorenzo Green  
Arthur Schomburg  
Chancellor Williams  
Eric E. Williams  
A.A. Taylor  
C.L.R. James

J.A. Rogers  
Benjamin Quarles  
Elcie Lewis  
Merze Tate  
Gerda Lerner  
William A. Dunning [Dunning School]  
Eric Foner  
James Mc Pherson  
Eugene Genovese  
Kenneth Stampp  
Dorothy Porter Wesley  
John Blassingame  
Joseph Ben-Jochannan  
Cheikh Anta Diop  
Mary Francis Berry  
Darlene Clarke Hine  
Rosalyn Terborg-Penn  
Robin D. G. Kelly  
Wilma King  
Brenda Stevenson  
Barbara Bush [not former first lady!]  
Elizabeth Clarke Lewis



**HISTORY SEMINAR 498**

THESIS TITLE:

PROPOSED METHOD OF INVESTIGATION & SCOPE OF PROJECT

BIBLIOGRAPHIC ESSAY & SOURCES  
REPOSITORY LOCATION

INVESTIGATOR  
Student Name

ADVISOR APPROVAL

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Date

THESIS DIRECTOR

Date