HISTORY 595.001
Independent Study: Research Lit and Techniques. Focus on 1848
COURSE SYLLABUS: Spring 2015

Instructor: Dr. Sharon Kowalsky
Office Location: Ferguson Social Sciences 105
Office Hours: Monday and Wednesday, 2:00-5:00, or by appointment
Office Phone: 903-886-5627
University Email Address: Sharon.Kowalsky@tamuc.edu

COURSE INFORMATION

Course Description:
Research Literature and Techniques. Three semester hours. Required of students in Option II. This course requires an extensive investigation into a topic agreed upon by the student and instructor. The student will produce an historiographic essay and annotated bibliography under the direction of the instructor. Students must pass the History Department Qualifying Examination prior to enrollment. Note: "The student is required to demonstrate competence in systematic research procedure.

Student will prepare and defend a historiographic paper on the German 1848 revolutions by the dates required by the graduate school to fulfill the requirements for the Master’s degree in history.

Course Materials:
- Eyck, Erich. Bismarck and the German Empire (London: Novello & Company, 1964)
- Hahn, H.J. The 1848 Revolutions in German speaking Europe (London: Routledge, 2001)
- Marx, Karl and Engels Fredrich. Revolution and Counter-revolution: Or, Germany in 1848 (Chicago: Charles H. Kerr & Company, 1907)
- Rapport, 1848: Year of Revolution (Basic Books, 2010)
- Jones, The 1848 Revolutions (Routledge, 1991)
- Hewitson, Nationalism in Germany, 1848-1866 (Palgrave, 2010)
Any additional materials will be distributed by the professor.

Note: I reserve the right to make changes to this syllabus as necessary over the course of the semester.

**Student Learning Outcomes:**
This course will teach students to evaluate and analyze materials, and to understand different historians’ interpretations of events. By the end of the semester, students should be able to: *discuss the historiographical interpretations of the experience of 1848 in Germany.*

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**COURSE REQUIREMENTS**

**Instructional / Methods / Activities Assessments**

*Attendance and Participation*
Student and teacher will meet approximately once per week to discuss the books under consideration. Attendance at such meetings is required.

*Written Assignments*
This semester’s major written work will be a historiographical essay on a topic of the student’s choice related to the readings and topics covered in the course.

**Grading**
Grades for the semester will be determined according to the following breakdown:

- **Historiography Essay**: 50%
- **Participation**: 50%

Your grades for written work will be determined based on the following rubric:

- **A**: Mastery of reading and class material; factual accuracy; thoughtful, historical argumentation demonstrating ability to synthesize and/or some originality of thought; technically clean
- **B**: Good to excellent command of most reading and class material; accuracy; good level of historical argumentation; reasonable thesis statement
- **C**: Good command of class material; accuracy; ability to articulate a historical point of view, even if it is not compelling or is poorly reasoned
- **D**: Poor command of required assignments; errors; ahistorical or narrow reasoning

The grading scale used for this course is as follows:

- **90-100** = A
- **80-89** = B
- **70-79** = C
- **60-69** = D
- **59 or less** = F

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**TECHNOLOGY REQUIREMENTS, ACCESS, AND NAVIGATION**

The following information has been provided to assist you in preparing to use technology successfully in this course:

*Word Processing:*
You will need access to a word processor and printer to prepare written exams and research projects. You should be able to insert footnotes in your papers.
**Turnitin:**
All written work must be submitted to Turnitin.com. Submissions to Turnitin are made through the dropbox on eCollege. All written work for this course will be turned in through the dropbox in eCollege. Please do not include personal information on eCollege submissions. Please let me know if you have any problems.

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**COMMUNICATION AND SUPPORT**

**Interaction with Instructor:**
Students are encouraged to contact the professor for any and all reasons whatsoever. The more you let me know what is going on with you, the better I can help you out when necessary. The best way to get in touch with the professor is through email. I am also available during my office hours. Please come to talk to me about any concerns you might have and about any problems or issues that arise during the semester. I can be very understanding but only if I know what is going on with you.

**Librarian:**
Our librarian for Humanities and Social Sciences is Sarah Northam. She is available to assist you in your research, whether it is using the library or identifying and locating sources. Please take advantage of this assistance as you need it. Her contact information is as follows:

Sarah Northam, Reference Librarian
Sarah.Northam@tamuc.edu
903-886-5714

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**COURSE AND UNIVERSITY PROCEDURES/POLICIES**

**Classroom Behavior**
All students are expected to observe basic tenets of common decency and acceptable behavior conducive to a positive learning environment (See Student’s Guide Handbook, Policies and Procedures, Conduct). I can be very understanding of problems that might arise over the course of the semester, but only if I know what is going on with you. I encourage you to come to my office hours, to get to know me, and to keep me informed of any issues you might have that would affect your performance in this class.

**Late Papers**
All written assignments are due as indicated in the Course Schedule below or on eCollege. Late assignments may be accepted only with the advance approval of the professor and may be assessed a penalty of one letter grade per week. If you have a problem with a due date because of a specific emergency, please notify the professor in advance or plan to turn the assignment in early. I can be very understanding and flexible with you, but only if you come to talk to me in advance. To pass this class, all assignments must be completed. Any missing assignments at the end of the course will result in an overall course grade of D or F.

**Academic Honesty**
In all courses, we expect that all work that you do and turn in is your own. It is the policy of the University, the History Department, and myself that no form of plagiarism, cheating, collusion, or any other form of academic dishonesty will be tolerated. Plagiarism is defined as deliberately taking the words or ideas of someone else and passing them off as your own. Cheating is obtaining unauthorized assistance on any assignment. Collusion is the selling of academic products with the intention that they be submitted to satisfy an academic requirement. Students are expected to uphold and support the highest academic standards at all times.
found guilty of academic dishonesty will automatically fail the assignment in question, will likely fail the entire course, and will be subject to disciplinary action by the University (See Texas A&M University-Commerce Code of Student Conduct 5.b[1,2,3]). Further information on the History Department plagiarism policy can be found on the History Department web page. If you are even unclear about what constitutes plagiarism or academic dishonesty, please ask.

**Writing Center**

Students are encouraged to take advantage of the resources of the Writing Center for assistance with drafting their papers. The Writing Center is a resource for you. They will not write your paper; they will help you improve your writing skills. If you use the Writing Center, please plan ahead. They can only help you if you see them in advance and have time to incorporate their suggestions into the final paper. More information can be found at [http://www.tamu-commerce.edu/litlang/CSC/](http://www.tamu-commerce.edu/litlang/CSC/).

**Nondiscrimination Statement**

A&M-Commerce will comply in the classroom, and in online courses, with all federal and state laws prohibiting discrimination and related retaliation on the basis of race, color, religion, sex, national origin, disability, age, genetic information or veteran status. Further, an environment free from discrimination on the basis of sexual orientation, gender identity, or gender expression will be maintained.

**Students with Disabilities**

The Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) is a federal anti-discrimination statute that provides comprehensive civil rights protection for persons with disabilities. Among other things, this legislation requires that all students with disabilities be guaranteed a learning environment that provides for reasonable accommodation of their disabilities. If you have a disability requiring an accommodation, please contact:

Office of Student Disability Resources and Services  
Texas A&M University-Commerce  
Gee Library 132  
Phone (903) 886-5150 or (903) 886-5835  
Fax (903) 468-8148  
[StudentDisabilityServices@tamu-commerce.edu](mailto:StudentDisabilityServices@tamu-commerce.edu)

**COURSE OUTLINE / CALENDAR**

This schedule will guide you through the semester and indicates when your assignments are due. It should be referred to often. I will do my best to adhere to this schedule, but I reserve the right to make adjustments to it during the course of the semester as such circumstances arise. The major readings are listed below, but each topic covered will have supplemental readings provided or indicated on eCollege.

- **Week 1:** Introduction
- **Week 2:** Eyck
- **Week 3:** Taylor
- **Week 4:** Hamerow
Week 5: Marx

Week 6: Whitfield

Week 7: Hahn

Week 8: Sperber

Week 9: Robertson

Week 10: Rapport

Week 11: Jones

Week 12: Siemann

Week 13: Hewitson

Week 14: Defense of Paper

Week 15: Final paper due