Course and Contact Information
Instructor: Jonathan P. Roth
Office Location: Dudley Moorhead Hall (DMH) 217
Telephone: (408) 924-5505
Email: Jonathan.roth@sjsu.edu
Office Hours: Thursdays, 10:00-12:00
Class Days/Time: Mondays and Wednesdays 1:30 to 2:45
Classroom: DMH 167

Course Description
This course deals primarily with the nature and theory of history. It familiarizes students with the general epistemological and methodological problems that concern all historians. Besides introducing students to the philosophy of history it presents them with a wide range of different historical practices, both in the past and in the present. The course offers an overview of historical writing from the ancient Near East, and includes the Western historical tradition deriving from the Greeks, but also follows historical traditions in the Middle East, South and East Asia, Africa and the Americas. We will follow modern historiography, which began in the 19th century and trace its development, including competing schools of historiography in the late 20th and early 21st centuries.

Course Format
This is an in-person course. All students are required to be vaccinated and to wear masks in class. Be aware that the course modality may change according to requirements issued by the university. NOTE: Per university policy, as a pandemic measure, this course will be held on-line from January 26th through February 9th. Zoom links will be found on the course Canvas page. These meetings are synchronous and will NOT be recorded. Unless otherwise advised, come to class on Monday, February 14th. The course will be given primarily in the form of lectures. The PowerPoint slides will be posted on the Canvas site after the lecture is given. During lectures you are encouraged to ask questions and make comments. Taking careful notes during lectures will improve your grade. If you miss a lecture, first attempt to get lecture notes from a classmate. If you are unable, then contact me.
Faculty Web Page and MYSJSU Messaging

Course materials such as the syllabus, handouts, PowerPoint slides of the lecture, assignment instructions, etc., as well as access to Zoom can be found on Canvas Learning Management System course login website at http://sjsu.instructure.com. You are responsible for regularly checking with the messaging system through MySJSU on Spartan App Portal http://one.sjsu.edu and the email you have on file with the university.

Course Learning Outcomes (CLO)

Upon successful completion of this course, students will be able to:

1. Discuss intelligently problems in determining historical truth, including issues of objectivity, perception, bias and narrative.
2. Understand the difficulty of using evidence, including problems specific to different periods and geographic regions.
3. Analyze the strengths and weaknesses of various historical traditions and schools.
4. Critically follow a theoretical historical argument and the evidence and reason used to support it.
5. Explain how historians use primary sources and other means to reconstruct ancient history.
6. Read, write, and think critically about historiography using proper historical technique.

Required Texts/Readings

Textbooks


Library Liaison

The History Department Library Liaison is Nyle Monday (Nyle.Monday@sjsu.edu). Contact him for help with your research paper and presentation and any library assignments in your History classes. His telephone number is (408) 808-2041.
Course Requirements and Assignments

Midterm examination worth 250 points. The exam will include both objective questions testing the students' knowledge of the people, places and events covered in the course and also require students to write essays through which they will be summarize the evidence for, and analyze the arguments regarding, historical questions. These examinations will demonstrate mastery of CLO 1, 2, 3, 4 and 6. The midterm will include both objective and subjective (essay) sections. Bring an answer book. The midterm is March 14th.

Research paper bibliography worth 50 points. Your bibliography must list at least five books or academic articles. Do not including websites or encyclopedia entries. The Bibliography is due on Mar. 23.

Research paper worth 250 points. The paper least 2500 words on double-spaced pages, written on one side of the page only. See further information under "Research Paper Requirements" below. The research paper will demonstrate mastery of CLO 1,2,3,4 and 6. The topic of your Research Paper is due Feb. 16. The paper is due on Apr. 18th.

Oral presentation worth 200 points. The talk should be at least 10 minutes and no more than 30 minutes. You should discuss your subject's life, as well as educational and historical influences, but focus on historical works and ideas about history. After the talk, you should be prepared to answer questions. Dates for the presentations will be assigned.

A final examination, worth 250 points. This examination will demonstrate mastery of CLO 1,2,3,4 and 6. The final will include both objective and subjective (essay) sections.. The final exam is May 20th.

Research Paper Requirements

You will write a research paper at least 2500 words on double-spaced pages, written on one side of the page only. Choose one of the assigned historians listed below; you may write on another historians with my permission. The paper should cover the historian's life, influences, contributions and legacy. You must use at least five books or academic articles (not including websites or encyclopedia entries such as Wikipedia). You must list all your sources in your bibliography. Use Chicago (Turabian) style. You must submit a research topic (not graded) and a research bibliography (graded). For due dates see the Course Schedule.

Research Paper: List of Historians
(You may choose another historian with my permission, but the subject must be deceased).

Herodotus of Halicarnassus (ca. 484-425 BC) Greek Historian
Thucydides (ca. 472 to after 404 BC) Classical Greek Historian
Xenophon (428-354 BC) Classical Greek Historian
Polybius (c. 200-118 BC) Hellenistic Greek Historian of Rome's Rise
Sima Qian (Ssu’ma Ch’ien) (ca. 145-135-86 BC) Chinese Historian
Livy (Titus Livius) (64 or 59 BC-AD 12 or 17) Roman Latin Annalistic Historian
Josephus (AD 37-ca. 100) Roman-Jewish Greek Historian
Tacitus (Publius or Gaius Cornelius Tacitus) (c. 56-c. 120) Roman Latin Historian
Eusebius of Caesarea (260 or 265-339/340) Christian Latin Historian
Ammianus Marcellinus (c. 330-after 391) Roman Latin Historian
Procopius (ca. 500-565) Byzantine Historian
Gregory of Tours (538-593) Christian Latin Historian
Venerable Bede (ca. 673-735) British Latin Historian
Muhammed ibn Jarir al-Tabari (839-923) Muslim Arabic Historian
Michael Psellus (1017/18-1078?) Byzantine Historian
Sima Guang (1019-1086) Chinese Historian
Anna Comnena (1083-1153) Female Byzantine Historian of the Crusades
Godfrey of Monmouth (c. 1100-1155) British Latin Historian
Saxo Grammaticus (c. 1150-after 1216) Danish Latin Historian
Gregory bar Hebraeus (1225-1286) Christian Assyrian Universal Historian
Rashid al-Din (1247-1318) Muslim Arabic Historian
Abd al-Rahman ibn Khaldun (1332-1406) Muslim Arabic Historian
Christine de Pisan (1364-1429) Female Italian French Historian
Nicolò Machiavelli (1469-1527) Italian Historian of Florence
Leo Africanus (al-Hasan ibn Muhammad)(c. 1494-c. 1554) Berber Spanish Historian
Bernardo de Sahagún (1499-1590) Spanish Historian
Matthias Vlacich (Flacius Illyricus) (1520-1575) Wallachian Protestant Historian
Raphael Holinshed (ca. 1525-1580) English Historian
El Inca Garcilaso de Vega (1539-1616) Incan Spanish Historian
Edward Gibbon (1737-1794) English Historian of Roman History
Lucy Hutchinson (1620-1681) Female English Historian
Gianbatista Vico (1668-1744) Italian Historiographer
Qian Daxin (1728-1804) Chinese Qing Dynasty Historian
Mercy Otis Warren (1728-1814) Female American Historian of the Early Republic
Catherine Macauley (1731-1791) Female English Historian
Johann Gottfried Herder (1744-1803) German Historiographer
Georg Wilhem Frederich Hegel (1770-1831) German Historiographer
Thomas Carlyle (1795-1881) English Historian of "Great Man" Theory
Leopold von Ranke (1795-1886) German Historian Developer of Modern Historiography
William Prescott (1796-1859) American Historian of New Spain
Jules Michelet (1798-1874) French Nationalist Historian
George Bancroft (1809-1891) American Historian
Francis Parkman (1823-1918) American Historian of the Western Frontier
Alfred Thayer Mahan (1840-1914) American Military Historian
George Washington Williams (1849-1891) African-American Historian
Houston Stewart Chamberlain (1855-1927) British-German Racist Historian
Frederick Jackson Turner (1861-1932) American Historian of the Western Frontier
Benedetto Croce (1866-1952) Italian Idealist Historian
Mikhail Pokrovsky (1868-1932) Russian Marxist Historian
Liang Qichao (1873-1929) Chinese Nationalist Historian
Carter G. Woodson (1875-1950) African-American Historian
Lucien Febvre (1878-1956) French Annaliste Historian
Oswald Spengler (1880-1936) German Historian of Civilization
Vinayak Damodar Savarkar (1883-1966) Indian Nationalist Historian
Marc Bloch (1886-1944) French Annaliste Historian
R.G. Collingwood (1889-1943) English Idealist Historian
Arnold Toynbee (1889-1975) British Historian of Civilization
Mehmet Fuat Köprülü (1890-1966) Turkish Nationalist Historian
C.L.R. James (1901-1989) Trinidadian Marxist and Postcolonial Historian
Fernand Braudel (1902-1985) French Annaliste Historian
Lucy Dawidowicz (1915-1990) American Historian of the Holocaust
Arthur Schlesinger (1917-2007) American Liberal Historian
Eric Hobsbawm (1917-2012) British Marxist Social Historian
Robert Conquest (1917-2015) British Conservative Historian of Communist Russia
William McNeill (1917-2016) American World Historian
Cheik Anta Diop (1923-1986) Senegalese Afrocentric Historian
Reinhart Koselleck (1923-2006) German Postmodernist Historian
E.P. Thompson (1924-1993) British Marxist Historian

“Success in this course is based on the expectation that students will spend, for each unit of credit, a minimum of 45 hours over the length of the course (normally three hours per unit per week) for instruction, preparation/studying, or course related activities, including but not limited to internships, labs, and clinical practica. Other course structures will have equivalent workload expectations as described in the syllabus.”

Final Examination
The final will include both objective and subjective (essay) sections. You must bring an unused answer book. No notes or outside materials are allowed for the final. See class schedule for the date and time of the final.

Grading Information
Up to 1,000 points can be earned during the course. See Course Requirements and Assignment above for points earned for each assignment. Grades are based on the following totals: A: 930-1000, A minus: 900-929, B plus: 870-899, B: 830-869, B minus: 800-829, C plus: 770-799, C: 730-769, C minus: 700-729, D plus: 670-699, D: 630-669, D minus: 600-629, F: 599 or below. A student with a total score of below 599 will fail the course. Extra credit may be available at the discretion of the instructor. Extra credit assignments, if available, will be for the entire class only. Penalties for late assignments may be applicable.

Classroom Protocol
If you are late to class, please come in quietly. If you must leave early, you need not ask permission, please do so quietly. Attendance is strongly encouraged but not mandatory, but you are responsible for all the material presented in the lectures and assigned in the required readings. My lectures secured by copyright. You may not record lectures without my permission but feel free to ask. Lectures may not be shared or posted on the internet under any circumstances. Doing so may result in civil or criminal penalties according to copyright law. You need not receive my permission if you absent. Bring at least one unused Answer Book to each examination. Answer Books may be purchased at Spartan Bookshop. Writing correct, clear and concise English is a criterion for grading on all written work. Pay close attention to the corrections and comments made on your written assignments. If you feel you need special assistance with your writing, come see me. Please turn off
or silence cell phones while in class. If you need to take a class, please leave the class quietly to do so. If you need course adaptations or accommodations because of a disability, or if you need to make special arrangements in case the building must be evacuated, please make an appointment with me as soon as possible, or see me during office hours. If you have any questions or difficulties, do not hesitate to see me after class, come to my office hours or arrange an appointment.

**University Policies**

Per [University Policy S16-9](http://www.sjsu.edu/senate/S07-2.htm), relevant university policy concerning all courses, such as student responsibilities, academic integrity, accommodations, dropping and adding, consent for recording of class, etc. and available student services (e.g. learning assistance, counseling, and other resources) are listed on [Syllabus Information web page](http://www.sjsu.edu/senate/S07-2.htm).

**Academic integrity**

Your commitment as a student to learning is evidenced by your enrollment at San Jose State University. The [University’s Academic Integrity policy](http://www.sjsu.edu/separate/Senate/S07-2.htm), located at http://www.sjsu.edu/senate/S07-2.htm, requires you to be honest in all your academic course work. Faculty members are required to report all infractions to the office of Student Conduct and Ethical Development. The [Student Conduct and Ethical Development website](http://www.sjsu.edu/studentconduct/) is available at http://www.sjsu.edu/studentconduct/.

Instances of academic dishonesty will not be tolerated. Cheating on exams or plagiarism (presenting the work of another as your own, or the use of another person’s ideas without giving proper credit) will result in a failing grade and sanctions by the University. For this class, all assignments are to be completed by the individual student unless otherwise specified. If you would like to include your assignment or any material you have submitted, or plan to submit for another class, please note that SJSU’s Academic Policy S07-2 requires approval of instructors. The **penalty for plagiarism and cheating may include expulsion from the university.**

**SJSU Counseling Services**

The SJSU Counseling Services is located on the corner of 7th Street and San Fernando Street, in Room 201, Administration Building. Professional psychologists, social workers, and counselors are available to provide consultations on issues of student mental health, campus climate or psychological and academic issues on an individual, couple, or group basis. To schedule an appointment or learn more information, visit [Counseling Services website](http://www.sjsu.edu/counseling) at http://www.sjsu.edu/counseling.

**Veteran Services**

For Student Veterans, Dependents and Spouses, Reservists and National Guard services are available. The SJSU Veterans Study Lounge is located in Clark 122. For more information contact Maggie Morales at (408) 924-6299 or [Maggie.morales@sjsu.edu](mailto:Maggie.morales@sjsu.edu).
**Course Schedule**

*This schedule is subject to change. Notice will be given by email through MySJSU*

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<th>Topics, Readings, Assignments, Deadlines</th>
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<td>Wed. Jan. 26</td>
<td>#1 Introduction (Read Breisach, Introduction)</td>
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<td>Mon. Jan. 31</td>
<td>#2 Near Eastern Historiography</td>
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<td>Wed. Feb. 2</td>
<td>#3 Greek Historiography (Read Breisach, Chapters 1-3)</td>
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<td>Mon. Feb. 7</td>
<td>#4 Roman Historiography (Read Breisach, Chapters 4-6)</td>
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<td>#5 Late Antique Historiography (Read Breisach, Chapters 7 and 8)</td>
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<td>Mon. Feb. 14</td>
<td>#6 Early Medieval Western Historiography (Read Breisach, Chapter 9)</td>
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<td>Wed. Feb. 16</td>
<td>#7 Eastern and Southern Asian Historiography</td>
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<td>Mon. Feb. 21</td>
<td>#8 Late Medieval Western Historiography (Read Breisach, Chapter 10)</td>
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<td>Wed. Feb. 23</td>
<td>#9 Renaissance and Reformation Historiography (Read Breisach, Chapter 11)</td>
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<td>Mon. Feb. 29</td>
<td>#10 Global History in the 17th and 18th Centuries (Read Breisach, Chapter 12; Cheng, Chapter 1; Iggers, Wang and Mukherjee, Chapter 1)</td>
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<td>Wed. Mar. 2</td>
<td>#11 Enlightenment Historiography (Read Breisach, Chapter 13; Cheng, Chapter 2)</td>
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<td>Mon. Mar. 7</td>
<td>#12 Romantic and Nationalist Historiography (Read Breisach, Chapter 14; Cheng, Chapter 3; Iggers, Wang and Mukherjee, Chapter 2)</td>
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<td>Wed. Mar. 9</td>
<td>#13 Liberal and Professional Historiography (Read Breisach, Chapters 16-17)</td>
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<td>#14 19th Century Science and History (Chapters 18-19; Cheng, Chapter 4)</td>
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<td>Mon. Mar. 21</td>
<td>#15 Global Spread of Nationalist History (Read Breisach, Chapter 21; Iggers, Wang and Mukherjee, Chapter 3 and 5)</td>
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<td>Wed. Mar. 23</td>
<td>#16 19th and early 20th Century U.S. Historiography (Read Breisach, Chapter 20)</td>
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<td>Wed. Apr. 1</td>
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<td>Mon. Apr. 4</td>
<td>#17 Rise of Modernism 1900-1945 (Read Breisach, Chapters 22-23; Cheng, Chapter 5; Iggers, Wang and Mukherjee, Chapter 4)</td>
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<td>Wed. Apr. 6</td>
<td>#18 Totalitarian Historiography (Read Breisach, Chapters 24, 28)</td>
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<td>Mon. Apr. 11</td>
<td>#19 Cold War Liberal Historiography (Read Breisach, Chapters 25-27, 29)</td>
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<td>Wed. Apr. 13</td>
<td>#20 Postmodern and Post-Colonial Historiography (Read Breisach, Chapters 30-31; Cheng, Chapter 6; Iggers, Wang and Mukherjee, Chapter 6)</td>
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<td>Mon. Apr. 18</td>
<td>#21 New Methods and Approaches in Historiography.</td>
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<td>Mon. May 2</td>
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<td>Mon. May 16</td>
<td>Summary and Discussion</td>
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<td><strong>Fri. May 20</strong></td>
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