COURSE DESCRIPTION: The purpose of this course is to teach students how to conduct historical research. Students will pursue primary research on approved topics and create research papers worthy of publication. Research topics will be the choice of the student, but somehow must relate to one of more themes: gender, race, class, sexuality, power and/or foreign relations. After successfully completing this course students will have the necessary knowledge and experience to conduct independent historical research. Throughout this course you MUST check your email every day during the week in order to make sure we stay in contact.

Specific Course Objectives:

1. Locate, collect, and analyze available primary sources.
2. Take notes on primary (and some secondary) materials using note cards.
3. Develop several draft prospectuses and outlines for your paper.
4. Construct a sophisticated argument and narrative based on primary-source research.
5. Submit multiple drafts, correcting each one before resubmission.
6. Participate in peer editing.
7. Reduce careless errors to absolute minimum by the final draft.

How to be successful in this class

1) Stay current with the required readings.
2) Use the course themes in order to get a better understanding of the material presented in the lectures and discussions.
3) Be prepared to participate in class discussions.
4) Do not use class time to catch up on missed sleep or to do work for another class.
5) Do not procrastinate.
6) Respect your fellow classmates and the instructor. Disrespectful behavior will not be tolerated and will result in negative participation points.
7) Take notes on class lectures and your readings.
8) Turn your cell phone off.

SPECIAL ACCOMMODATIONS: Special Accommodations: The University of Central Oklahoma complies with Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973 and the American with Disabilities Act of 1990. Students with disabilities who need special accommodations must make their requests by contacting Disability Support Services, at (405) 974-2516. The DSS Office is located in the Nigh University Center, Room 309. Students should also notify the instructor of special accommodation needs by the end of the first week of class.

REQUIRED BOOKS AND MATERIALS:
REQUIRED ASSIGNMENTS AND PROJECTS:

You must attend class and participate in discussions. During the semester there will be times when we will not meet as a class, but you will meet with me one on one in my office to discuss your research project. Failure to meet with me at designated times will result in a grade reduction.

Class Participation and group work (15% of grade) (this also includes meetings). If you have scheduled a meeting with me and do not show up I have the option to lower your participation grade. 10% of your grade will be an in class quiz on September 12th.

Research project on an approved topic (85% of grade) Please follow instructions given in class for the best possible grade. The following assignments are part of the research project and should be submitted on or before the indicated dates:

1) September 17. Submit a topic description and tentative bibliography (5%). Select a broad topic of interest. Submit a typed, 75-100 word description of your topic by 5:45 PM, September 17. Be sure to attach a preliminary bibliography that includes at least six sources. Format your bibliography according to Turabian, chapters 15-17. I will deduct 10 points each day late (this includes Saturdays and Sundays).

2) October 8th Submit research proposal and bibliography (5%). Submit by Tuesday 5:45 PM, October 8 th IN CLASS a typed, 2-3 page research proposal that indicates your research question and your methodology to answer it. Be sure to move from your broad topic to a narrow research topic. Determine a question that will drive your research. In time you will formulate a “thesis” that answers this question. Indicate why your research is significant and attach a bibliography that includes at least ten secondary sources and five primary sources. Format your bibliography according to Turabian, chapters 15-17. I will deduct 10 points each day late (this includes Saturdays and Sundays). MUST SCHEDULE A MEETING WITH ME BEFORE THE 22 ND OF OCTOBER.

3) October 22 nd. Submit a tentative introductory paragraph and outline (5%). Italicize or underline your thesis statement. Attach an expanded bibliography (7 more primary and 5 more secondary-TWELVE PRIMARY TOTAL AND FIFTEEN SECONDARY TOTAL) and submit by 5:45 PM, October 22 nd. I will deduct 10 points each day late (this includes Saturdays and Sundays).

4) November 5 th. Submit your 50 index cards for inspection (5%). It is your responsibility to schedule an office appointment with me on or before November 5 th, 5:45 PM. YOU MUST SCHEDULE A MEETING WITH ME BEFORE THE 5 TH OF NOVEMBER. Be prepared to demonstrate your system of organization and how your cards relate to your outline and bibliography. I will deduct 10 points each day late (this includes Saturdays and Sundays).
5) **November 19th. Submit a 12-15 pg. term paper by 5:45 PM** (50%). I will deduct 50 points each day late (this includes Saturdays and Sundays). Pick up your papers and evaluations on (or after December 5th)

6) **Submit a corrected 12-15 pg. paper by 5:45 pm on Wednesday December 11th. Staple rough draft below final draft. Papers will not be accepted after 5:45.** (15%)  

I will evaluate and grade research papers according to the following criteria:

1) Introduction (thesis paragraph)  
2) Organization  
3) Development of thesis/Significant Findings  
4) Composition (grammar, spelling, clarity)  
5) Use of Sources (primary and secondary)  
6) Conclusion

**PLAGIARISM**

Plagiarism is the act of passing the ideas or words of another as your own. It is normal to quote, paraphrase, and use information from a variety of sources; however, failure to cite such sources and use quotation marks where required is a very serious ethical offence. I will **punish plagiarism** according to the rules outlined by the University of Central Oklahoma. Prosecution for plagiarism yields an **automatic grade of F** for the course.

**CLASS OUTLINE AND ASSIGNMENTS:**

**Week 1**  
**Aug. 19th** General Introduction to the Course and What is History?

**Week 2**  
**Aug. 27th** Tuesday Class-**NOTE: Class meets in Chambers Library, room 226.**  
Attendance is mandatory  
Thursday-Historical Approaches and Philosophies, Choosing a topic (Benjamin v-50)

**Week 3**  
**Sept 2nd** Tuesday September 3rd Class-**NOTE: Class meets in Chambers Library, room 226.**  
Attendance is mandatory  
Thursday-Historiography, Gilderhus, 1-69.

**Week 4**  
**Sept. 9th** Tuesday bring your Turabian Book for class activity  
Historiography and Philosophy of History /Thesis/Bibliography.  
**Thursday important in class assignment (10% of grade) bring your Gilderhaus book and class notes.** As long as there is class participation you can use your book.  
Finish Gilderhus, 70-124 and Benjamin 51-61

**Week 5**  
**Sept. 16th**  
*Topic description and general bibliography due in class Tuesday September 17th (5%), must present to class 3-5 minutes. In order to get full credit each student must receive 3 questions about their research and engage with their peers*
Week 6
September 23rd  Tuesday- Conducting research, “engaging sources” explanation of index cards/outline
Thursday- Bring a few index cards to class of your work
Benjamin, 88-127
Turabian, 36-47

Week 7
Sept. 30th  **No class work on Research Proposal** (MUST schedule meeting with me during this week)
Benjamin, 128-172

Week 8
October 7th  Tuesday- **October 8th, Research proposal and bibliography due, present to class, Thursday no class Fall Break**

Week 9
October 14th  Research Paper, Individual Consults
Consult Strunk and White, Turabian, and Benjamin.

Week 10
October 21st  **Introductory paragraph and outline due in my office by Tuesday October 22nd by 5:45**.

Week 11
October 28th  Individual consultation.
Consult Strunk and White, Turabian, and Benjamin.

Week 12
November 4th  Individual consultation.
Consult Strunk and White, Turabian, and Benjamin.
**Make an appointment to submit your index cards for inspection by 5:45, Nov. 5th.**

Week 13
November 11th  Writing the Research Paper, Individual Consults
Consult Strunk and White, Turabian, and Benjamin.

Week 14
November 18th  **Research Paper due on Tuesday November 19th in class by 5:45 pm, present research to class briefly**

Week 15
November 25th  Individual Consults/Thanksgiving Break

Week 16
December 2nd  Pick up your corrected draft by 5:45 on Thursday December 5th

Exam Week
Dec. 9th  **Final draft due by 5:45 pm on Thursday December 11th, Staple rough draft below final draft Papers will not be accepted after 5:45.**
INTERNET RESOURCES:
Uconnect
Chambers Library: http://library.uco.edu/

SUGGESTED GENERAL TOPICS*
(These are very broad topics. You will need to narrow your research topic a great deal.)

U.S.-Latin American/European/African/Asian Foreign relations
Women’s Suffrage Movement
Civil Rights Movement
The Poor/Labor
Gender/Power
Native Americans
African Americans
U.S. Government Policy
CIA
FBI
Civil War
Mexican-U.S. War
World War I
World War II
Cold War
Advertising/Consumer Culture
Role of the Church
Immigration
Terrorist groups (KKK, etc.)
Reform Movements (Temperance, etc.)
Alcohol and Drugs
Prostitution
Fashion