

Oberlin College
Department of History

History 398: Archiving Sex
Fall 2013
Thursday 1:00-2:50 King 325
Pablo Mitchell

Office: King 141G, x8191
E-Mail: pablo.mitchell@oberlin.edu
Office Hours: By appointment (please email me at
above address to schedule a meeting)

The main goal of this course is to produce a 20-25 page research paper on some aspect of the history of American sexualities. Students will identify a paper topic, survey relevant secondary material, and conduct basic primary research. The course will emphasize research methods, effective writing strategies for long papers, peer critique and support, and oral presentations skills.

Note: This course counts toward the GSFS major.

Grading:

Class Participation/Attendance	20
Secondary Source Review	15
Final In-Class Presentation	15
Final Paper	50

Final Grade will be out of 100 points

Class Participation:

Regular attendance and thoughtful, prepared, courteous participation in classroom discussion are required features of the course. Due to the small size of the class and because it meets only once a week, attendance and preparation are very important, as is the careful reading of classmates' writings. Attendance (and absences) will be considered in determining your final grade.

Written Assignments:

As an upper-level History seminar, this course seeks to provide students with an introduction of sorts to graduate work. Book reviews, original research, and peer evaluation are basic aspects of many academic disciplines, including History, and will play a central role in this course. The papers, including drafts of the final paper, should be legibly typed or word-processed, with reasonable fonts, double-spacing, and 1 inch margins (double-sided printing is encouraged). Please attempt to stay within the assigned page limits.

Note: With very few exceptions, late papers will not be accepted.

In-Class Presentations:

Students will be required to make in-class presentations covering the status of their research and writing during the semester. There will also be a required final, 15-20 minute presentation, including slides, drawn from the final research paper at the end of the semester.

Honor Code

All work in this class is governed by the Honor Code of Oberlin College. The honor code is available at: <http://new.oberlin.edu/students/policies/2011-2012/11-Policies-Honor.pdf>. If you have questions about how the code applies to any assignment or work done for the class, please feel free to consult the instructor.

Schedule and Reading Assignments:

September 5	Class introduction Introduction to Research: Jennifer Starkey, Mudd Library
September 12	Museum Visit (Please meet at 12:55pm at main office of museum) Paragraph (250-300) on topic circulated to class by beginning of class period
September 19	5-page review of two books that plan to use in paper due in class 5 minute presentation on two books. Please also bring list of additional four books that plan to use in paper to class
September 26	Bring list of 6 primary sources that plan to use in paper to class 5 minute presentation on primary sources
October 3	Research update
October 10	NO CLASS
October 17	5 minute presentation on state of paper State of research questions: what is the topic, what else has been written on this topic, what is your argument, how much have you done on the paper so far, what else do you still have to do
October 24	Fall Break, no class.
October 31	15 page draft of paper due, exchange with partner in class
November 7	5 minute research update presentation, with 5 powerpoint slides
November 14	20 page rough draft of paper due in class
November 21	5 minute report on status of paper, what still needs to be done

Rough Draft of Final Paper Due by 5pm, November 27, 2013

November 28	No Class--Thanksgiving
December 5	Research Presentations
December 12	Research Presentations

Final Paper (20-25 pages) due Wednesday December 18, 2013 by 4pm.