

University of Florida
Department of History

The First World War: History and Memory

Practicum

Michael Schüring

Monday, Wednesday, Friday: 12.50 – 1.40, Keene-Flint 101

Office hours: 230 Keene-Flint, Tuesday 2-4 pm, Friday 3-4.30 pm, phone: 352 273 3393,
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This class serves two functions. First, it will introduce students to the History of World War I in Europe and present various ways in which the conflict was documented and remembered in several European countries. Our goal is to develop a comparative perspective on cultures of memory, including conflicting interpretations and claims of validity concerning individual as well as collective experiences. Second, we will use this topic to discuss all matters practical in connection with the historian's craft. We will discuss theories and methods of history, practice critical source analysis, work to improve communication and writing skills, and learn about the rules and conventions of historical research. The topic provides a multiplicity of sources such as personal accounts, press coverage, literature, music, and art. All sources will be assessed critically as to how they shaped the views of several generations and how they were (and still are) used to produce an ever changing historical narrative.

Students are required to write a final research paper (10 pages, double spaced), due on April 9th, 9pm. This final paper should be outlined in a short abstract (1 page), containing an annotated bibliography (10 titles or more) due on March 12th, 9pm.

The paper should be a critical reflection on a topic we discussed in class, drawing on our reading and additional materials. I would like to see every student at least once during my office hours (or by appointment) to discuss the paper topic.

There will be a two-page source analysis assignment as a home written "Test"-paper with a "test"-grade due on February 1st, 9pm.

Students are required to give a 15 minute presentation in class. The presentation will offer a source analysis following the method introduced in the course. The student can chose from a number of sources collected by the instructor or suggest one they want to work with.

Three books used in the class will have to be purchased:

<http://www.bsd.ufl.edu/textadoption/studentview/displayadoption1sect.aspx?SECT=1245&YEAR=17&TERM=1>. When ordering the book, please check the ISBN Number, or you might end up with a different edition.

Course Policies

Grading:

Presentation 10%

Paper abstract and annotated bibliography 10%

Final Paper 20%

Final Exam 20%

Four weeks before the final exam the instructor will hand out a study guide with a number of exam questions and tasks out of which one half will be chosen for the exam.

Participation 40%

Participation requires regular reading responses via email consisting of at least two questions (which the instructor will specify in class) concerning the respective text assigned. The response should be e-mailed at 6pm the day before class.

Students who miss class more than three times unexcused will fail.

During class, phones, computers, and tablets have to be switched off and stored in bags/briefcases.

Plagiarism is not tolerated. Students who plagiarize in any of the writing assignments will fail the class. The instructor will inform the university about such behavior. The principles of academic honesty will be explained in class. Consult the university policies on rules of conduct here:

<http://www.dso.ufl.edu/sccr/process/student-conduct-honor-code/>

Requirements for class attendance and make-up exams, assignments, and other work in this course are consistent with university policies that can be found at:

<https://catalog.ufl.edu/ugrad/current/regulations/info/attendance.aspx>

Students with disabilities requesting accommodations should first register with the Disability Resource Center (352-392-8565, www.dso.ufl.edu/drc/) by providing appropriate documentation. Once registered, students will receive an accommodation letter which must be presented to the instructor when requesting accommodation. Students with disabilities should follow this procedure as early as possible in the semester.

Students are expected to provide feedback on the quality of instruction in this course by completing online evaluations at <https://evaluations.ufl.edu>. Evaluations are typically open during the last two or three weeks of the semester, but students will be given specific times when they are open. Summary results of these assessments are available to students at <https://evaluations.ufl.edu/results/>.

Course Schedule

Wednesday, January 4: Introduction

Friday, January 6: Parker and Spalding, *Historiography* [...], 1-31

Monday, January 9: Parker and Spalding, *Historiography* [...], 32-54

Wednesday, January 11: Parker and Spalding, *Historiography* [...], 55-77

Friday, January 13: Parker and Spalding, *Historiography* [...], 77-101

Monday, January 16: Parker and Spalding, *Historiography* [...], 102-124

Wednesday, January 18: Parker and Spalding, *Historiography* [...], 125-151

Friday, January 20: Lecture one an example of a source analysis

Monday, January 23: Howell and Prevenier, *From Reliable Sources* [...], 1-28

Wednesday, January 25: Howell and Prevenier, *From Reliable Sources* [...], 28-60

Friday, January 27: Howell and Prevenier, *From Reliable Sources* [...], 60-87

Monday, January 30: Howell and Prevenier, *From Reliable Sources* [...], 88-118

Wednesday, February 1: 118-150, Howell and Prevenier, *From Reliable Sources* [...], first source analysis due

Friday, February 3: Michael Howard, *The First World War* [...], 1-26

Monday, February 6: Michael Howard, *The First World War* [...], 27-51

Wednesday, February 8: Michael Howard, *The First World War* [...], 53-80

Friday, February 10: Michael Howard, *The First World War* [...], 81-119

Monday, February 13: Lecture on how to write a paper

Wednesday, February 15: Student presentation

Friday, February 17: Student presentation

Monday, February 20: Student presentation

Wednesday, February 22: Student presentation

Friday, February 24: Student presentation

Monday, February 27: Student presentation

Wednesday, March 1: Student presentation

Friday, March 3: Student presentation

Monday, March 13: Student presentation; paper prospectus and annotated bibliography due the night before

Wednesday, March 15: Student presentation

Friday, March 17: Student presentation

Monday, March 20: Student presentation

Wednesday, March 22: Student presentation

Friday, March 24: Student presentation

Monday, March 27: Student presentation

Wednesday, March 29: Student presentation

Friday, March 31: Student presentation

Monday, April 3: Student presentation

Wednesday, April 5: Student presentation

Friday, April 7: Student presentation

Monday, April 10: Student presentation

Wednesday, April 12: Student presentation

Friday, April 14: Student presentation

Monday, April 17: Student presentation

Wednesday, April 19; Conclusion