

HIS 3942

Practicum in History: Histories of Mental Illness, (Psychiatry & Madness)

Spring 2024

Prof. Nancy Rose Hunt

nrhunt@ufl.edu

Hunt office hours by arrangement (email me): though usually after our Thursday class

Grader/assistant: Ifeoma Aneke

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WHEN:

Tuesday, Period 5-6: 11:45 - 1:40

Thursday, Period 6: 12:50 - 1:40

WHERE: Keene-Flint 0111

Final Exam: 5/03/2024, 12:30-2:30

Syllabus tentative until Break, to be revised in relation to student interests and needs.

Required Texts, all on electronic Reserves

Please explore through Canvas our 4 books on Electronic Reserves.

- A general, recent text: a history of madness
- An Adam Phillips biography of Freud
- A critical book on visual sources, in this case lynching photography
- Styron's memoir of his depression
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- To these will be added up to 3 historiographic articles or sources, including James Baldwin reflections regarding his "mad" father.

Overview

This course is designed to help us learn to appreciate, practice, and write history. At the same time, we will be investigating historical aspects of mental health, psychiatry, and manifestations of madness in American, global, and Black Atlantic worlds.

You will become familiar with this theme in a wide variety of places (UK, USA, Europe, and the Caribbean) from the 17th century to the present, and through a series of primary source-based units, a memoir, a biography, and a partially global history of mental illness.

You will learn to find and work with original sources, thus research and interpretation.

The class embraces *patient*-centered and *subaltern* approaches to complex pasts with sources that tell about slavery, colonialism, racialized violence, lynching, turbulence, and religious meanings. We will be seeking innovative ways of problematizing and writing brief psychiatric or mental illness histories.

You will be exposed to many kinds of source examples – case files, memoirs, photographs, art works – which in turn will offer brief exercises drawing on analytical, interpretive, and writing techniques.

By the last week, students will have (1) formulated a research problem, (2) selected and provided justification for a small set of primary sources to interpret or analyze, and (3) written a short paper proposing a honor’s thesis in history addressing some angle on the history of mental illness. It might be conceptualized in relation to misfortune, suffering, dissent, a source, or other approved theme. Some papers may be tight *comparisons* of sources from different worlds.

Assessments

Students will be graded on (tentative, to be finalized by 15 February):

- 10, regular, complete attendance;
- 10, engaged participation, including a few brief writing logs, 1 point each;
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- 20, 4 reading diaries and/or précis texts per key readings: Styron, Phillips, Pietikainen, lynching photography book/sections (5 points X 4)
- 25, methodological primary source research or analysis (10 points X 2, plus 5 points X 1)
 - Napier, early modern English case files
 - lynching photographs | Black/colonial asylums (photographs?) | James Baldwin autobiographical essay
 - Fanon on late colonial Algerian case notes
- 25, a paper proposal (hypothesis/angle with frame, source set, brief bibliography with critical discussion of 4 sources) draft, with peer editing and critique; leading to final paper (1500 words)
- 10, brief exam with questions on our readings, methods, and core primary sources. Study guide distributed in advance.

Tuesdays, 5-6	Thursdays, 6
9 JANUARY Introduction	11 jan Pietikainen, 1-13 Styron, first half
16 jan Pietikainen, first section Introduction to Napier case files	18 jan Styron, complete.
23 Library with Jennifer Hoffer	25 jan
30 jan	1 FEBRUARY (?)

Brief visit from Errol C Nelson, former History Practicum student, and how curatorial assistant at the Harn	
6 Feb, Jan	8 Feb
13 Feb: Archives, with James J. Cusick	15 Feb
20 Feb	22Feb
27 Harn Museum , lecture/tour, meet at noon	29, Harn study session
5 of MARCH	7 March
BREAK	BREAK
19 March	21 March, Research Class
26 March	28 March
2 APRIL	4 April
9 April	11 April, Draft presentations
16 April Draft presentations	18 April Draft presentations
23 LAST CLASS In-class brief exam Conclusion	
FINAL EXAM DATE , Final Proposals due	

INFORMATION FOR STUDENTS: We welcome university students to the Harn Museum. The following information will be helpful in preparing for your visit.

In The Galleries:

- No gum, food or beverages in the galleries. You must check backpacks and larger bags (and food and bottled drinks) at the front desk.
- Please bring **pencils** for note taking (no ink; the Harn has loaner pencils)!!!!
- **Masks** are welcomed to be worn in all buildings at UF.
- **Feel free to take photographs** without a flash.
- Visitors with **backpacks** will be asked to deposit them securely at the front desk.

GETTING TO THE HARN

The Harn is located on Hull Road, near SW 34th Street, and across the street from the *Southwest Recreation Center*.

For a **map** of the location of the Harn at UF, [click here](#).

Vehicle parking requires a UF parking decal (green or better), or is \$4.00 (limited space). Parking is free after 3:30pm on weekdays and all day on weekends. Bike parking is always free.

Biking. From central campus, bike westward past Lake Alice until Museum Road terminates at Hull Road, turn right, pass the SW Recreation Center, take the next left and you are there—should take about 10 minutes from the Century Tower. Bike racks are available in the surface lot and in the covered parking structure.

RTS BUSES TO THE HARN & NEARBY: *Be sure to check for route changes caused by campus construction.

- The full schedule is here: <http://go-rts.com/#>
- The real-time bus tracker is here: <https://riderts.app/map>

Routes to/near the Harn, Mon-Fri (remember to use links above to check for changes especially due to campus construction):

- Campus - #118, #125, #126
- City - #20, #21, #28 [stops nearby], #33, #34 [stops nearby]

Look for this building (near the Natural History Museum and across the street from the Southwest Recreation Center) –



Eric J. Segal, Ph.D. (pronouns: he/him)

Director of Education and Curator of Academic Programs

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Harn Museum of Art - harn.ufl.edu

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