

HIS 3942
The Transnational Twentieth Century
Tuesdays 3:00-4:55, Thursdays, 4:05-4:55
Keene-Flint 111

The twentieth century was marked by an accelerating interconnectedness that changed the world. This class examines that interconnectedness by focusing on how history was shaped by the movement of people, ideas, money, and goods across borders. Focusing on North America, Latin America, and the Caribbean, the Transnational Twentieth Century asks how everything from food and art to social movements and capital transformed places along their worldwide journeys. However, the class also interrogates subjects that cannot neatly be contained to national histories such as religion, empire, and war.

HIS3942 also introduces you to the study of history, a rich and expansive discipline that consists of much more than the dreary memorization of facts and dates. You will think like historians, piecing together fragments of the past to interpret how and why things change over time. You will also see how historians debate the past as you stake out your own position on big questions. As the course title and subject matter suggest, you will practice the methods of transnational history in addition to receiving a general introduction to history. Activities and assignments will emphasize international flows. You will learn how to follow the money, map networks, and examine the power dynamics that arose from globalization.

Class consists of three components: lectures, discussion, and workshops. Lectures contextualize the assigned reading and deepen your understanding of the subject matter. Discussions consist of dynamic student-led conversation about the assigned reading facilitated by Professor Glotzer. Workshops focus on learning the historian's craft. They introduce historical methods through hands-on activities and field trips.

Contact Information

Professor Paige Glotzer
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Office Hours

The purpose of office hours is to provide a regular time where you can talk about any topic related to class. This may include questions about the reading or assignments, concerns about your grades, or chatting about a topic that sparked your interest. No appointment is necessary. Professor Glotzer can also help with techniques for better succeeding in class. For example, visit office hours to discuss study and note-taking strategies.

Date and time: Thursdays, 11:30-1:30

Location: Keene-Flint 204

Course objectives

- Identify and utilize the methods of historians

- Become familiar with important debates, methods, and themes of twentieth-century transnational history
- Demonstrate proficiency in library resources for research
- Develop speaking and listening skills
- Analyze and construct arguments

Readings

The following required texts are available for free through the library course reserves. They are also available for purchase. You do not have to pay money to take this class. If you have any difficulty accessing free copies of the readings, Professor Glotzer has extra copies to lend.

Jesse Hoffnung-Garskof. *A Tale of Two Cities: Santo Domingo and New York After 1950*. Princeton University Press, 2007.

Marixa Lasso. *Erased: The Untold Story of the Panama Canal*. Harvard University Press, 2019.

Jorell A. Meléndez-Badillo. *Puerto Rico: A National History*. Princeton University Press, 2024.

Amy Offner. *Sorting Out the Mixed Economy: The Rise and Fall of Welfare and Developmental States in the Americas*. Princeton University Press, 2019.

Other readings will also be available on Canvas. These may include book chapters or primary sources.

Grade Scale

94-100%—A

90-93—A-

87-89—B+

84-86—B

80-83—B-

77-79—C+

74-76—C

70-73—C-

67-69—D+

64-66—D

60-63—D-

59 or below—E

Grade Distribution

Attendance 5%

Participation 10%

Small Assignments 60%

Annotated Bibliography 10%

Final Exam 15%

Grade Explanation

Attendance

For each class meeting you will receive an attendance grade of 100 for present and on time, 75 for more than five minutes late, or 0 for absent. The semester attendance grade will be the average for the semester. Absences related to physical health, mental health, well-being, and emergencies are excused with no documentation needed, but Professor Glotzer must be notified (by you or an advocate) or she has no way of knowing whether an absence falls into this category. You do not have to share specifics. If you're sick or think you might be sick, stay home.

Note that this policy is flexible and can be modified in conversation with Professor Glotzer. We should work together to make the attendance policy suit your needs.

Participation

Participation can include class-wide contributions and small group participation as well as written and oral communication. The best way to ensure a high participation grade is to come to class having done the readings and to show a willingness and curiosity to engage with what is going on in class. Participation is *not* about always having the right answer or having the most answers. Think of it as a cumulative set of varied contributions to our classroom community. Professor Glotzer knows participation can be difficult for some students and would love to brainstorm what it can mean for you if you fall into this category. Contact her to begin that conversation.

Small Assignments

Throughout the semester there will be six short assignments based on thinking like a historian. All details, including rubrics, are on Canvas. All assignments are double-spaced. They are:

- Primary source analysis – 1 page
- Primary source comparison – 2 pages
- Book review – 3 pages
- Asking a historical research question – .5 page
- Process paper: using library resources to locate primary sources for your research question – 1-2 pages
- Process paper: Using library resources and mining notes to locate secondary sources for your research question – 1-2 pages

Annotated Bibliography

The small assignments culminate in the preparation of an annotated bibliography of the three primary and three secondary sources you would use were you to turn your historical question into a research project. While you are not completing the project in class, the annotated bibliography entails practicing key processes. Think of the annotated bibliography as the opportunity to demonstrate how much you have learned to think like a historian.

Final Exam

The exam will cover lectures and assigned secondary source readings. Think of it as assessing what you have learned about twentieth-century transnational history. The exam will be open book, untimed, and on Canvas. There is a designated window of days when the exam is available, during which you can pause it as needed. It will consist of a mix of different types of

questions such as multiple choice, fill in the blank, and matching. If you use the Testing Center, you can initiate scheduling through the Gator-Accommodated Test Request Portal.

Accommodations

Professor Glotzer is committed to creating a class where everyone can feel welcomed, included, and ready to learn. Disability will not be stigmatized in this class and should not be treated as something “bad” or “less than” in general. Accommodations are all about acknowledging that default university and workplace settings have been created with a narrow vision of who might use them; accommodations help alter those short-sighted decisions to be more reflective of human diversity. If you have or think you may have a disability (e.g. attentional, learning, chronic health, sensory, or physical) speak directly with Professor Glotzer and/or contact the UF Disability Resource Center to get started.

Disability Resource Center Link: <https://disability.ufl.edu/students/get-started/>

Disability Resource Center Phone Number: (352) 392-8565

Disability Resource Center Address: 001 Reid Hall

Resources for Personal and Academic Success

A list of resources related to health, wellness, and academic success is available on Canvas. It includes links for tutoring, writing help, counseling, and stress management.

Policies

Late Submission Policy

Beyond 12 hours after an assignment’s due date (a grace period,) you will lose 5 points per every 24 hours for an unsubmitted assignment.

Each assignment builds upon the previous one. Because of this, please make every effort to submit your assignments on time. Note that “on time” and “due date” are in accordance with individual arrangements students have due accommodations or unforeseen circumstances.

It’s usually better to submit something done than something perfect.

Plagiarism and Cheating

UF students are bound by The Honor Pledge which states, “We, the members of the University of Florida community, pledge to hold ourselves and our peers to the highest standards of honor and integrity by abiding by the Honor Code.” On all work submitted for credit by students at the University of Florida, the following pledge is either required or implied: “On my honor, I have neither given nor received unauthorized aid in doing this assignment.” The Conduct Code specifies a number of behaviors that are in violation of this code and the possible sanctions. You can read the Conduct Code at <https://sccr.dso.ufl.edu/process/student-conduct-code/>

Artificial Intelligence

The use of AI such as ChatGPT is an evolving and complex issue. As AI becomes a more widely used part of our lives, you might be considering using it to produce part or all of an assignment. Do not do this without discussing it with Professor Glotzer beforehand. Again, you are required to discuss any plans to use AI with Professor Glotzer *in advance* of assignment submission. This

includes, but is not limited to, using AI for translation, writing, research, presentations, outlining, analysis, locating resources, producing citations, or generating ideas.

Remember that this is a *process-based* class. If Professor Glotzer cannot trust that she's seeing *your* thought process playing out in an assignment, the assignment becomes irrelevant to both you and her.

Other University Policies and Procedures

You can read more about UF class attendance and make-up work policies at <https://catalog.ufl.edu/UGRD/academic-regulations/attendance-policies/>

You can read more about UF grades and grading policies at <https://catalog.ufl.edu/UGRD/academic-regulations/grades-grading-policies/>

Students are expected to provide professional and respectful feedback on the quality of instruction in this course by completing course evaluations online via GatorEvals. Guidance on how to give feedback in a professional and respectful manner is available at <https://gatorevals.aa.ufl.edu/students/>. Students will be notified when the evaluation period opens, and can complete evaluations through the email they receive from GatorEvals, in their Canvas course menu under GatorEvals, or via <https://ufl.bluera.com/ufl/>. Summaries of course evaluation results are available to students at <https://gatorevals.aa.ufl.edu/public-results/>.

List of Due Dates

- Wednesday, September 4th: Primary Source Evaluation
- Wednesday, September 18th: Asking a Historical Question
- Wednesday, October 2nd: Primary Source Comparison
- Wednesday, October 23rd: Library Resources Process Paper
- Wednesday, November 6th: Mining Notes for Leads Process Paper
- Wednesday, November 13th: Book Review
- Tuesday, December 3rd: Annotated Bibliography

December 7th-December 13th: Final Exam Window (See above for explanation)

List of Field Trips

- Thursday, September 5th: Meet at Library West
- Thursday, September 26th: Meet at the Map Library in Library East
- Tuesday, October 8th: Class will begin in Keene-Flint and move to Library West for second half
- Tuesday, October 15th: Meet in the Latin American and Caribbean Collection Reading Room
- November 5th or 7th (TBD): Meet in Pugh Hall at the Samuel Proctor Oral History Program
- Tuesday, November 19th: Meet at the Matheson History Museum at 3:30

Schedule

All reading should be completed before Tuesday of that week. All assignments are due on Wednesday night at 11:59 PM unless otherwise noted.

Introduction

Week 1

August 22 (Thursday only)

Assigned reading: Lasso, Introduction; Meléndez-Badillo, Prologue

US Empire in the Early Twentieth Century

Week 2

August 27, 29

Reading: Lasso, Chapters 2-3

Workshop Topic: Evaluating Primary Sources

Week 3

September 3, 5

Reading: Lasso, Chapters 4-5

Workshop Topic: Library Resources for Research

Note: On Thurs. Sept. 5 meet at Library West at 4:05

Due: Primary Source Evaluation

Week 4

September 10, 12

Reading: Lasso, Chapters 6-7; Hoffnung-Garskof, Forward

Workshop Topic: Diving into Scholarly Debates

Labor Organizing and State Violence

Week 5

September 17, 19

Reading: Chad Pearson, *Capital's Terrorists: Klansmen, Lawmen, and Employers in the Long Nineteenth Century*. University of North Carolina Press, 2022, Chapter 4 (Available through Course Reserves and on Canvas)

Workshop Topic: Following People

Due: Asking a Historical Question

Developmentalist Politics, Migration, and Grassroots Movements

Week 6

September 24, 26

Reading: Hoffnung-Garskof, Chapter 2; Offner, Chapter 3

Workshop Topic: Visit to the Map Library

Note: On Thurs. Sept. 26th meet at the entrance to the Map Library in Library East at 4:05

Week 7

October 1, 3

Reading: Meléndez-Badillo, Chapter 9; Hoffnung-Garskof, Chapter 4

Workshop Topic: Following Money, Ideas, and Things

Due: Primary Source Comparison

Week 8

October 8, 10

Reading: Offner, Chapter 6

Workshop Topic: Historical Newspapers

Note: The second half of class on Tuesday, Oct. 8th will be held in Library West.

Week 9

October 15, 17

Reading: Meléndez-Badillo, Chapter 10; Hoffnung-Garskof, Chapter 5

Workshop Topic: Visit to the Latin American and Caribbean Collection

Note: On Tues. Oct. 15th meet in the Latin American and Caribbean Collection Reading Room in Library East at 3:00.

Week 10

October 22, 24

Reading: Hoffnung-Garskof, Chapter 8

Workshop Topic: Reading Space

Due: Library Resources for Primary Sources Process Paper

Week 11

October 29, 31 (You're welcome to come in costume.)

Reading: Offner, Epilogue

Workshop Topic: Mining Notes for Useful Research Leads

Neoliberalism

Week 12

November 5, 7

Reading: Meléndez-Badillo, Chapters 11-12

Workshop Topic: Visit to the Samuel Proctor Oral History Program

Note: On [] meet at the Samuel Proctor Oral History Program in Pugh Hall at []

Due: Library Resources and Mining Notes for Secondary Sources Process Paper

Week 13

November 12, 14
Reading: Meléndez-Badillo, Chapters 13-14
Workshop Topic: Final Exam Review

Due: Book Review

Food and Family

Week 14
November 19, 21
Reading: [Maanvi Singh, “Boston Chinese: A Fusion Food Cooked Up In A Melting Pot City”](#); [Dalia Colon, “How Florida Became ‘The Birthplace Of Fusion Cuisine’”](#); [Oral History Interview of Ghassan Shihab](#) (pdf available through the Samuel Proctor Oral History Center website and on Canvas)

Workshop Topic: Food as History at the Matheson History Museum

Note: Class will begin at 3:30 on November 19th at the Matheson History Museum.

Week 15 - No Class

Conclusion

Week 16
December 3 (Tuesday only)
Reading: Meléndez-Badillo, Chapter 15
Workshop Topic: Putting Everything Together

Due Tuesday, December 3rd at 11:59 PM: Annotated Bibliography

Final Exam Window: December 7th-December 13th