Note: The official syllabus of the course resides electronically on the course website. For the most up-to-date information, including information about specific assignments, visit the course website.

Maps as Historical Sources
History 596, Sec 001
University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee
Spring 2019

Instructor: Prof. Aims McGuinness
Email: smia@uwm.edu
Classroom: American Geographical Society Library (Golda Meir Library Building, 3rd Floor, East Wing). The American Geographical Society Library is located on the third floor of the East Wing of the Golda Meir Library Building. Enter the library through the main entrance, ascend to the third floor of the West Wing, and cross over the enclosed pedestrian bridge to the East Wing. For more information, visit: http://uwm.edu/libraries/agsl.
Meeting Time: Wednesdays, 12:30 p.m. -3:10 p.m.
Office: 328 Holton Hall
Office Hours: Tuesdays, 10 a.m.-12 p.m., and by appointment.

I. Course Description and Goals

Q: “What is this course about?”

This course will familiarize students with maps both as historical artifacts and as instruments for analyzing the past. Students will explore maps and related forms of visual representation of space and time from different societies and eras ranging from ancient Mesopotamia to the present.

Q: “What are the goals of this course?”

By the end of the semester, students who succeed in this course will have developed the following:

- Knowledge of key concepts in the history of cartography.
- Knowledge of important developments in the history of maps from ancient Mesopotamia to the present.
- Ability to link transformations in cartography to other historical phenomena including trade, conquest, diplomacy, war, empire, nationalism, and exploration.
- Knowledge of methodologies in global, world, and transnational history, including strategies for making historical comparisons.
- Ability to analyze secondary and primary sources, with a focus on maps and globes.
- Ability to analyze, write, and tell historical narratives.
- Ability to learn, analyze, and communicate effectively about complex material.
II. Required Work

Q: “What are the required assignments for undergraduate students and how are the assignments weighted?”

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Percentage</th>
<th>Assignment Details</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>30%</td>
<td>Attendance and Participation (includes 4 Presentations)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>15%</td>
<td>Exam 1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>In-Class Quiz (Identifications/Short Essays)—50% of Exam Grade</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Essay 1 (750 words minimum)—50% of Exam Grade</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>25%</td>
<td>Exam 2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>In-Class Quiz (Identifications/Short Essays)—50% of Exam Grade</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Essay 2 (1,500 words minimum)—50% of Exam Grade</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>30%</td>
<td>Essay 3 (2,500 words minimum)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>100%</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Q: “What are the required assignments for graduate students and how are the assignments weighted?”

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Percentage</th>
<th>Assignment Details</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>30%</td>
<td>Attendance and Participation (includes 4 Presentations)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>15%</td>
<td>Exam 1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>In-Class Quiz (Identifications/Short Essays)—50% of Exam Grade</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Essay 1 (1,000 words minimum)—50% of Exam Grade</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>25%</td>
<td>Exam 2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>In-Class Quiz (Identifications/Short Essays)—50% of Exam Grade</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Essay 2 (2,000 words minimum)—50% of Exam Grade</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>30%</td>
<td>Essay 3 (3,000 words minimum)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>100%</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Q: “How do I learn about due dates and assignments?”

For a list of assignment due dates in the course, see “Due Dates and Special Events,” below.

Reading assignments for a given week can be found on the course website under the relevant week (Week 3, Week 4, etc.).

Detailed instructions for exams and essays will be distributed via the course website well in advance of the respective due dates.

Due dates for in-class presentations will be determined in class at the start of the semester.

The professor reserves the right to alter assignments. Students will be informed of any such changes well before the due date.

Q: “What is the format of this course?”
This course will be taught as a seminar. The professor will lead discussion and other activities in which all students are expected to participate.

Q: “How does the professor calculate the grade for ‘Attendance and Participation’?”

Attendance is mandatory. After a student's second unexcused absence, twenty-five (25) points will be subtracted from the student's overall grade for “Attendance and Participation” for every subsequent unexcused absence. The only valid excuse for an absence is a medical emergency such as an accident or the contraction of an illness that either prevents the student from participating in class or poses a health risk to others, such as influenza. For a given absence to be excused, the student must present a signed note or other official documentation from a doctor, a nurse, or a similar medical professional.

Students will face a reduction in their grade for “Attendance and Participation” for a given class of twenty (20) points for each instance in which a given student arrives more than ten minutes late or departs early. More points may be deducted for a given class if the lateness or earliness is more egregious.

The professor expects students to act in a respectful manner. Students are responsible for upholding and abiding by the community standards established by the University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee and the University of Wisconsin System. To review these standards and related policies, visit:
http://uwm.edu/deanofstudents/conduct/conduct_procedures/non-academic-misconduct/
http://uwm.edu/deanofstudents/conduct/policies/
http://uwm.edu/deanofstudents/conduct/disruptive-students/

The participation component of the grade for “Attendance and Participation” reflects the professor’s assessment of the quality (not the quantity) of a student’s contributions to discussions and participation in class activities, including any in-class writing assignments or pop quizzes. The professor uses different strategies to promote student learning in class, including nonfiction storytelling and games drawn from improvisational theater and other venues. Be prepared to participate and be called upon by the professor regardless of whether you have raised your hand or not.
As part of the grade for Attendance and Participation, students will be required to make four (4) presentations over the course of the semester as follows:

**Three (3) In-Class Presentations on Keywords—7 Minutes Each**

Over the course of the semester, students will be required to make 3 presentations of 7 minutes each about a keyword related to the course. A sign-up sheet with a list of possible keywords will be distributed in the second class of the semester. In that class, students will choose their three keywords and the dates of their presentations.

**Final Presentation—10 Minutes**

Student will make presentations of their final essays (Essay 3) during the final two class sessions. Each presentation will be 10 minutes in length.

Q: **“Is there potentially disturbing content in this course?”**

This course requires students to engage content that has been chosen because of its historical significance and relevance to the goals of the course. Some of the content describes, alludes to, or was integral to acts of violence including cannibalism, colonialism, conquest, genocide, sexual violence, slavery, and war. The professor strives to address all content in a manner that is true to the past, scholarly, and respectful. If you have any concerns about content assigned for this course, please communicate directly with the professor via e-mail or in person.

Q: **“Does the class ever go outside?”**

The class may take “mini field trip” to relevant parts of the campus and surrounding neighborhoods during class time. Please dress in clothing that will permit you to be comfortable and safe outdoors. If you have a disability or any medical or other issues that prevent you from moving around the campus or surrounding neighborhoods, please bring them to my attention at the start of the semester or as soon as possible so that I may make appropriate accommodations.

Q: **“How much reading is required for this course?”**

This course requires a substantial amount of reading. The typical weekly assignment for undergraduates requires 100-300 pages of reading as well as the viewing of required videos, films, and other online content. Graduate students must complete additional readings.

Q: **“Is it possible to earn extra credit in this course?”**

Extra credit is available for students who attend (show up at the beginning and stay through the question-and-answer period) the following events:

“Imagining the Moon: A History of Lunar Visualizations”
Lecture by Curator Marcy Bidney (AGSL)
1/30/19 (Wednesday), 7-8 p.m.
American Geographical Society Library
https://uwm.edu/libraries/event/imaging-the-moon/
Extra Credit Value: +10 Points on Exam 1

Maps & America Lecture
Arthur Holzheimer Lecture Series

4/25/19 (Thursday). Reception at 5:30 p.m., lecture 6-7 p.m.
American Geographical Society Library
https://uwm.edu/libraries/event/holzheimer-2019/
Extra Credit Value: +10 Points on Essay 3

III. Required Materials

Q: “What are the required materials for this course?”

Required materials consist of 1) required books, 2) required maps, and 2) media that may be accessed via the course website, including additional readings and videos.

Required Books:


Required Maps:

Students are required to purchase two museum-quality reproductions of two maps (total: $20):


Bring $20 in cash or submit a check in class in Week 2. The AGSL has kindly offered to loan students a tube for transportation of maps to and from class. This tube must be returned to the AGSL by the end of the semester.

Students will annotate these maps (write on the margins) and submit to the professor as part of the requirements for Exam 1 and Exam 2. The maps will be returned to students at the end of the course. The quality of the reproductions is suitable for framing, if students wish.
Q: "How do I gain access to the required books?"

There are three options for accessing the required books. Regardless of the option you choose, it is crucial that you secure regular access to the required book by the start of the course, as assignments will begin immediately. A lack of access to the readings is not a valid excuse for failing to complete an assignment on time.

Option 1: Check out at the UW-Milwaukee Libraries Reserve Desk.

The required book may be checked out for a 2-hour period from the UW-Milwaukee Libraries Reserve Desk. For more information, visit the website of the Reserve Desk: http://www4.uwm.edu/Libraries/reserve/.

Option 2: Purchase through UW-Milwaukee’s Virtual Bookstore.

You can find the website for the virtual bookstore here: http://uwm.ecampus.com/. Look for our term and course number and follow the instructions. In some cases, it may also be possible to rent the book.

Option 3: Purchase online from a non-university vendor.

You may find the required book for sale online by entering the ISBN number into an Internet search engine. This procedure will produce a list of businesses that sell the book. Make sure that the seller sends you the correct edition in time for you to complete required assignments.

Q: "Are electronic books permissible?"

Yes. Unfortunately, some e-books do not include page numbers. This course requires specific references to particular portions of books. If your e-book does not include page numbers, you may make specific references to the book using "excerpt references." For more information, visit: Q: “How do you assess 'documentation'?"

Q: “What happens if I buy the wrong edition of a book?”

Be careful that you do not purchase the wrong edition of a book. Only the edition of the book identified in the syllabus will enable you to pass this class. If you purchase the wrong book, you will have no choice but to secure access to the correct book.

IV. Grading Scale and Assessment

Q: “What is the grading scale? Are grades curved?”

A: 93-100   C: 73-76

A-: 90-92    C-: 70-72
B+: 87-89   D+: 67-69
B: 83-86    D: 63-66
B-: 80-82   D-: 60-62
C+: 77-79   F: 0-61

I do not curve the grades for the course. I retain the right, in cases of significant improvement over time, to weight a student’s later work more heavily than the student’s earlier work.

Q: "How do you assess and grade students' written work?"

For an overview, consult “Writing for This Course: Assessment and Grading,” located on the course website under Course Materials.

V. Technology

Q: “What technology is required for this course?”

This course requires use of a web-based LMS (Learning Management System) named “Canvas,” which is available to all enrolled students at UW-Milwaukee and fully supported by the UW System.

For more about Canvas, including help and information about other technical requirements, visit: https://uwm.edu/canvas/home/

Regular, daily access to a computer with a high-speed Internet connection is vital for use of Canvas and this course. Do not try to take this course using only a smartphone or a tablet.

In addition, students must have access to the following:

- Word (This word processing program is available at no additional charge to all enrolled UW-Milwaukee students via Office 365.)
- Adobe Acrobat Reader. (Reader can be downloaded for free at the Adobe website.)
- Computer with an audio speaker (for watching required videos)

It is imperative that students have regular access to adequate, reliable, technology throughout the term. A computer glitch, lost file, interrupted wireless connection, or any other technical problem cannot serve as an excuse for failure to complete an assignment on time.

Q: “What will I find on the course website?”
The specific tools in Canvas that I use vary from course to course and may include the following: Home, Syllabus, Announcements, Assignments, and Grades.

Home

“Home” is the page that welcomes you after you have logged into Canvas and selected our course. This home page offers an overview of the entire course and access to each of the areas described below. “Home” is the by far the most useful of all the pages/tools in Canvas. When in doubt, go to “Home”!

On “Home,” you will find most of the content you need for the course organized by kind or “module,” including links to instructions for required readings and assignments.

Syllabus

“Syllabus” is the place where you will find the course syllabus and links to specific assignments.

Announcements

“Announcements” is where I put course announcements and reminders.

Assignments

“Assignments” is where you will find a list of graded assignments for the course.

“Home” offers a much better overview of the work required for this course than Assignments.

Grades

“Grades” is where I will post your grades for the course. You will be able to access this section to see your grades throughout the term.

Q: “When is Canvas not available to me?”

Canvas may occasionally be taken down for scheduled maintenance. You can find information about any upcoming "outages" at the welcome screen that greets you after you log on.

Q: “How often do I need to log in to Canvas?”

You should expect to check the course website at least 3-5 times per week to stay informed about any announcements, additions to the course website, and the like.

Q: “How should I contact the professor if I have a question? What e-mail account should I use?”
All course-related e-mail communication should be conducted using UW-Milwaukee email addresses. Your UW-Milwaukee e-mail address is your ePanther ID + @uwm.edu. Example: smia@uwm.edu.

Students who are new to UW-Milwaukee will receive an ePanther ID and a corresponding UW-Milwaukee e-mail address upon their enrollment.

I understand that it can feel like a nuisance to have to switch to a UW-Milwaukee e-mail account if you are not accustomed to using that account, especially if you are using the account only for the purposes of this course. Nevertheless, for technical reasons, I am only able to send messages to your UW-Milwaukee e-mail account. The good news is that you can easily forward e-mail received by your UW-Milwaukee account to your regular e-mail account if you wish. Consult the UW-Milwaukee Campus IT Support (Help Desk) for assistance: http://www4.uwm.edu/technology/help/campus/.

*Important:* Please put our course number (132, 293, 600, etc.) in the subject line of all your e-mail messages to me. I receive many messages every day. By placing the course number in the subject line, you make it easier for me to locate and respond to your message.

**Q:** “Where do I go for help with other technology questions?”


Resources for help with Canvas can be found at the Canvas login page.

**VI. Course and University Policies**

**Q:** “What is the course policy on attendance and participation?”

See above: **Q:** “How does the professor calculate the grade for ‘Attendance and Participation’?”

**Q:** "What happens if a student fails to complete the two required exams or Essay 3?"

Failure to complete the two exams and Essay 3 will result in failure of the course as a whole.

**Q:** “Where can I learn about UW-Milwaukee’s policies regarding students with disabilities and religious observances as well as other policies relevant to this course?”

Please consult the following link for a list of official, university-wide policies:
Q: “What are the university and course policies regarding plagiarism and other forms of academic misconduct?”

The University of Wisconsin System defines academic misconduct as follows:

"Academic misconduct is an act in which a student seeks to claim credit for the work or efforts of another without authorization or citation [plagiarism], uses unauthorized materials or fabricated data in any academic exercise, forges or falsifies academic documents or records, intentionally impedes or damages the academic work of others, engages in conduct aimed at making false representation of a student's academic performance, or assists other students in any of these acts."

Plagiarism is an instance of Academic Misconduct. According to the official policy of the University of Wisconsin System Board of Regents, plagiarism includes:

1. Directly quoting the words of others without using quotation marks or indented format to identify them; or,
2. Using sources of information (published or unpublished) without identifying them; or,
3. Paraphrasing materials or ideas of others without identifying the sources.

The UWM policy concerning plagiarism and other forms of academic misconduct is available here: http://www4.uwm.edu/dos/conduct/academic-misconduct.cfm

It is the policy of this course that academic misconduct, including plagiarism, cheating, and unauthorized sharing of answers to quizzes, will result in the failure not just of the assignment in which the misconduct occurs but of the entire course.

Q. "How much time do I need to devote to this course?"

This is a 3-credit course. In conformance with a mandate from the U.S. Department of Education, students may expect to devote as many as 135 hours to this class during the term in order to achieve the learning goals of this course. Work in this context includes completing the required readings, preparing for and taking exams, and researching and writing essays.

Q: “What is the course policy on late assignments?”

To ensure equity and to discourage students from falling behind, the course places severe limits on the submission of late assignments.

An assignment that is turned in anywhere from 1 second to 23 hours and 59 seconds late will be subject to a grade reduction of 10%.

An assignment that is turned in 2-7 (two to seven) days late will be subject to a grade reduction of 20%.
Any assignment that is not turned in within seven days of the original due date will automatically receive a "0."

Q: “What is the policy regarding auditors?”

Auditors are not permitted due to the small size of the class and seminar style of pedagogy.

Q: “May I use an electronic device (smartphone, tablet, laptop computer, voice recorder or similar) in class?”

Use of electronic devices (smartphones, tablets, computers, voice recorders or similar) during regular class discussion is forbidden. Use of such devices during certain class activities may be permitted by the professor but will not be required.

Q: “May I use electronic cigarettes, vape, or chew tobacco in class?”

Use of electronic cigarettes, “vaping,” and the chewing of tobacco in class is distracting to other students therefore forbidden.

Q: “May I drink or eat in class?”

Students may consume nonalcoholic beverages in class. Please keep in mind that we sometimes work with rare and unique historical artifacts. In such instances, students will be required to not place their drinks in close proximity to the historical artifacts.

Students are not permitted to eat in class. Experience has taught me that the consumption of snacks or meals can distract fellow students in ways that impede their learning. If you have a health condition that requires you to consume food periodically, please consult me and I will make an accommodation.

VII. Due Dates and Special Events

Note: The information below is subject to change. Always refer to the course website for up-to-date information regarding assignments and due dates.

1/30/19 Marcy Bidney, 7-8 p.m. “Imagining the Moon: A History of Lunar Visualizations.” (Extra Credit Opportunity)
2/13/19 Due: Exam 1 (In-Class Quiz + Essay 1)
3/13/19 Due: Exam 2 (In-Class Quiz + Essay 2)
4/25/19 Maps & America Lecture. Reception at 5:30 p.m. Lecture: 6-7 p.m. (Extra Credit Opportunity)
5/1/19 Final Presentations
5/8/19 Final Presentations
5/10/19 Due: Essay 3