This course is a seminar and your active participation in class discussion is expected. For every session, you will write a response (max. 3 pages) to the week’s readings. You will also write a research paper (max. 15 pages) on a subject selected among the course topics and approved by the instructors. Your paper topic, with preliminary bibliography, should be notified to the instructors on our last meeting before the Spring Vacation, on March 8. You’re encouraged to come and consult us about your choice of topic. We’ll gladly provide help with your bibliographical research. The research paper will be due two weeks after the last day of class, April 28, during reading period, by noon May 12.

POSSIBLE PROJECTS:

1) Writing a historiographic essay.
   a) Select a topic among those examined in the course, on a subject of special interest to you, or related to your dissertation project. Research and discuss how historians have studied (or not studied) this topic in a specific time period and context. The essay can also be on a historiographic gap, if you see one, or on a shift in historiographic perspective that has changed earlier consensus among historians.
   b) Select a historical journal in a specific time period and examine a debate within it, on a topic that is relevant to your own research interest, in the light of contemporary historiographic trends.

2) Writing a historiographic profile.
Select a historian you’ve already read (at least in part) and try to place her or him in historiographic perspective and context. The autobiographical essays “A Life in Learning”, for instance, by several distinguished historians (to be found online on the website of the Americal Council of Learned Societies) provide a suggestive and useful primary source. It may be helpful to think of this option as a means to acquire better understanding of a historian whose publications relate to your own research area, or whose style of historical argument you find interesting and stimulating.
REQUIRED BOOKS:

SCHEDULE OF READINGS

**Week 1. January 27.** Introductory.  
**A Global Perspective on the History of Historiography.**

(Please not that this book will be discussed during the first class)

**Week 2. February 1.**
**Roots of Historical Scholarship: from antiquarianism to history.**

1: Persian Historiography, Greek Historiography and Jewish Historiography;  
2: The Herodotean and the Thucydidean Tradition;  
3: The Rise of Antiquarian Research.

Further reading:

Week 3. February 8.
**Competing Models in European Historiography: From “Ranke vs Burckhardt” to Les Annales.**


* Georg Iggers, *Historiography in the Twentieth Century: From Scientific Objectivity to the Postmodern Challenge* (Wesleyan University Press, 1997), chapters 3-4, pp. 36-50:
  Ch. 3: Economic and Social History in Germany: The Beginnings of Historical Sociology.
  Ch. 4: American Traditions of Social History.

Further readings:


Week 4. February 15.
**Social History and Cultural History: the 1970s and ‘80s.**


**Further reading:**

**Week 5. February 22**
*Intellectual History and the History of Ideas: Three Classics.*


**Week 6 March 1:**
*Intellectual History and the History of Science: from Bachelard (via Canguilhem) to Foucault.*


Further Reading:

Week 7, March 8:
The Linguistic Turn, Postmodernism, and the Crisis of Objectivity.
[N. B.: March 8 is the research projects deadline. Please submit an outline of your project with title, preliminary bibliography and 2-page description]


Further Reading:

Week 8 March 15: Spring Vacation
**Week 9 March 22:**
The New Cultural History and Microhistory.


Further Readings:


**Week 10, March 29:**
Constructivism, Science Studies, and the History of Science.


**Week 11, April 5:**
A New History of Science: Historicizing Truth and Objectivity.

[Read also the review by Anita Guerrini, “The Truth about Truth” in Early Science and Medicine, 3, 1 (1998), pp. 66-74]


**Further Readings:**


**Week 12, April 12:**
**The Intellectual History of Medicine: Comparing Classic and New Approaches.**


Week 13, April 19:
The Social and Cultural History of Medicine: Comparing Classic and New Approaches.


Week 14 April 28:
Final Discussion: Telling the Truth about History.