

History 190
Applied Research/History Internship

Fall 2009 – U.C. Merced
Thursday 4:30-7:15 – Classroom Building 270

Instructor: Professor Sean Malloy (smalloy@ucmerced.edu)
Internship Coordinator: Leslie Lawson (llawson2@ucmerced.edu)
Malloy Office Hours: COB 311, Wednesday 3:00-4:30 and by appointment
Course Website: Available via UCMCROPS

Course Description and Goals

The purpose of this course is to enable UCM History majors to have a “hands-on,” practical experience of applying the academic skills and knowledge they have acquired on campus to a real-world, work environment. The internships offered are, by design, broad in nature, and, ideally, suited to the student’s individual talents and interests. Successful completion of the internship is a requirement of the History major and also a prerequisite for entry into History 191, the senior thesis.

In the recent past, History 190 internships have ranged from assisting UCM faculty in their own research, to helping curators at the Castle Air and Merced County Courthouse museums, to having students curate their own exhibits at UCM’s Kolligian Library, to working with professional staff at local businesses, charities, and non-profits. Depending upon the sponsoring client or agency, the internship may be an individual effort, or a group project. However, specific internships, whether an individual or a group effort, need to be approved in advance by the instructor and Career Services Center (CSC) coordinator to receive credit.

By the first class meeting, you will have been contacted by Leslie Lawson of the campus Career Services Center and should have completed a questionnaire indicating areas of interest and previous volunteer experience, if any. As a four-unit course, the internship requires that you dedicate *approximately 165 hours* to your project during the semester. This includes class time, time spent working on the internship itself, and time devoted to the required writing assignments.

Learning Objectives

Because of the individualized nature of your internships, there are no general objectives for this course. However, in general, this course is tied to two particular objectives of the History major:

- (1) Be able to use both narrative and analysis to communicate historical phenomena
- (2) Identify the various contexts that shape the construction and use of historical sources and knowledge.

As you develop your internship agreement, you may wish to consider the specific ways you might be meeting these goals.

Course Requirements

- (1) a brief (2-3 page) overview and description of the client or agency sponsoring your internship, with the specific tasks and goals assigned due **September 10**.
- (2) a weekly, continuing self-assessment journal detailing the hours worked, the nature of the work done, and your own reflections on the experience—insights, surprises, disappointments, and successes; this will be submitted to the instructor on **October 22** and **December 14**.
- (3) a final paper (5-7 pages) or project (e.g., website or PowerPoint) summing up your internship experience and its relevance to the study of history due on **December 14**.
- (4) a brief, in-class oral presentation on your internship experience presented in class on **December 10**.

Academic Integrity

Each student in this course is expected to abide by the University of California, Merced's Academic Honesty Policy. Any work submitted by a student in this course for academic credit will be the student's own work.

You are encouraged to study together and to discuss information and concepts covered in lecture and the sections with other students. You can give "consulting" help to or receive "consulting" help from such students. However, this permissible cooperation should never involve one student having possession of a copy of all or part of work done by someone else, in the form of an e mail, an e mail attachment file, a diskette, or a hard copy. Should copying occur, both the student who copied work from another student and the student who gave material to be copied will both automatically receive a zero for the assignment. Penalty for violation of this Policy can also be extended to include failure of the course and University disciplinary action.

Accommodations for Students with Disabilities

The University of California Merced is committed to ensuring equal academic opportunities and inclusion for students with disabilities based on the principles of independent living, accessible universal design and diversity. I am available to discuss appropriate academic accommodations that may be required for student with disabilities. Requests for academic accommodations are to be made during the first three weeks of the semester, except for unusual circumstances. Students are encouraged to register with Disability Services Center to verify their eligibility for appropriate accommodations.

Tentative Schedule

Note: You will be required to meet with the instructor weekly until your internship has been approved by the CSC coordinator and the instructor.

- Week 1 Discussion of internship options and goals.
- Week 2 Meeting with instructor and CSC coordinator to finalize internships.
- Week 3 Overview of client/sponsor and internship tasks/goals [September 10]
- Weeks 4-13 Meetings with instructor and/ or CSC coordinator to discuss progress/problems and review self-assessment journal, as needed.
- Week 9: Turn in self-assessment journal [October 22]
- Week 15 Oral presentations on internship experience [December 10]

Journal and final paper due December 14 by 5 PM