

HIST 301.02

Being a Historian in Time: Pasts, Futures and the History of Writing History

Tues/Thurs. 11:00am-12:20pm

Satisfies: ESI

Prof. Susannah Glickman

What makes a text history and what does it mean to write it? Once written, how are histories used and how have they been used historically? What does all of this have to do with historical conceptions of time, history and the future? How does science and technology factor into these notions? This course will examine books about time and history and history through time—all mediated by and through various sciences and technologies. Texts about time include: Koselleck's *Future's Past*, E.P. Thompson's "Time, Work-Discipline, and Industrial Capitalism," Kern's *The Culture of Time and Space 1880-1918*. Along with these classics we will read books about science, tech, pasts and futures like McCray's *The Visioneers*, Aronova's *Scientific History* and Zakariya's *A Final Story: Science Myth and Beginings*. All of these texts will offer students a range of perspectives on what history writing is, what it means to be a historian and how these intersect with technologically and scientifically mediated conceptions of history and the future. Students in the course will read and interrogate primary and sources, and conceive, develop, write, and revise an original historical research paper.

This is a 301 Workshop in the craft of history, with an emphasis on source analysis, writing & argumentation, and historical research methods. As the gateway course for the capstone seminar (401), 301 teaches students how to interpret and critique primary and secondary sources, become proficient in the standards of writing in History, and develop competency in library research.