



Department of History

HTST 376
History of Death in Western Culture
Winter 2021

Instructor: Dr. Anne Moore.

Email: amoore@ucalgary.ca If I do not respond in 24 hours, please send again.

Office Hours and Method: MWF 2:00 – 4:00 p.m. or by appt. Please send an email, so a Zoom meeting may be arranged.

Course Delivery: Online: Zoom meeting room Password: Momento and Persuall.com.

Synchronous Class Times: MWF 12:00 – 12:50 p.m.

Originally Scheduled Class Times: MWF 12:00 – 12:50 p.m.

Description:

This course surveys attitudes, theologies, philosophies, practices and materiality associated with dying and death in Western culture. The focus is on the social, cultural and religious context of death. Due to the subject, the course reviews the various methods and interdisciplinary studies that are utilized in understanding the specific view of death associated with specific historical periods.

Learning Outcomes:

1. Identify, describe and explain the social, religious and cultural constructions surrounding death in various historical periods.
2. Describe and apply various disciplinary methods used in the analysis of different aspects associated with human mortality.
3. Analyze, interpret and assess primary sources.
4. Research, organize and compose a thesis style essay.
5. Formulate, evaluate and verbally communicate different perspectives on varying subjects regarding historical views on death.

Reading Material

Required reading material will be made available on D2L in the form of links or posted pdfs. The reading material will consist of primary and secondary sources and range from 20 to 40 pages per week.

Assessment

Method	Due Date	Weight	Learning Outcome
Précis	February 8, 2021	15%	1, 2
Quiz #1	February 11, 2021	10%	2

Research Question & Bibliography	February 26, 2021	15%	2, 4, 5
Quiz #2	March 31, 2021	15%	2
Research Essay	April 14, 2021	25%	2, 4, 5
Persuall Text Annotation	Weekly	20%	1, 2, 4, 6

Grading Policies

Each assignment will be ascribed a specific number of points that will be indicated in detail. The points will then be weighted in terms of the percentages that correspond with the letter grades found later in the outline.

Exams: Alternative dates for exams will be permitted only with PRIOR arrangement with the instructor. In the case of a deferred exam, the student MUST contact the instructor within 24 hours of a missed exam.

Written: All written assignments will be double-spaced, Times New Roman Font, 12 pt. and adhering to Chicago Manual of Style. Consult:

<https://arts.ucalgary.ca/history/current-students/undergraduate/student-handbook>

<https://library.ucalgary.ca/c.php?g=664585&p=4671794>

<https://guides.library.uq.edu.au/referencing/chicago17/introduction>

Assignments that do not adhere to Chicago will be returned unmarked to students for revision and must be resubmitted within 48 hours.

A penalty of 5% per day (including weekends) will be deducted for late assignments.

Extra credit work is not permitted in this course. This is to ensure the fairness, equity and respect of all students in the course.

Students should speak with the instructor regarding any issues in reference to quizzes and assignments.

Details on Methods of Assessment

Evaluation:		
Assessment Method	Description	Weight
Précis	<p>The purpose of a précis is to develop the necessary skills of comprehension and synthesis required in the incorporation of secondary source into research projects. The précis is a summary of the thesis and argumentation of specific articles assigned for the course. There will be specific guidelines available on D2L for this assignment. The précis will be 4 pages double-spaced adhering to the most recent version of the Chicago Manual of Style and will be submitted via dropbox on D2L.</p> <p>Due: Monday February 8, 2021 11:59 pm</p>	15%

Quiz # 1	<p>This exam will be based on the readings and lectures from the start of the course to Monday February 8, 2021. The exam will be on the D2L system. The exam will be available for a 24 hour (9:00 am – 9:00 am). The exam will be 30 minutes in length with an automatic 15-minute extension in case of technical difficulties. The exam will consist of 25 questions that will be randomly chosen from a question pool; so, the questions and answers will be different for each student. The question format will include a combination of multiple-choice, fill-in-the blank, matching and true or false. The exams are NOT open-book.</p> <p>Exam: Thursday February 11 (9:00 am.) to Friday February 12 (9:00 a.m.)</p>	10%
Research Question & Preliminary Bibliography	<p>Students will provide a research question that will frame their research essay along with a 250-word paragraph outlining the aspects of their research question. There will be guidelines available on D2L. Along with the question, students will provide a bibliography of one - two potential primary sources and 4 secondary sources adhering to the most recent version of the Chicago Manual of Style. This will be submitted via dropbox on D2L.</p> <p>Due: Friday February 26, 2021 11:59 pm.</p>	15%
Quiz #2	<p>This exam will be based on the readings and lectures from Monday February 22, 2021 to Monday March 29, 2021. The exam will be on the D2L system. These exams will be available for a 24 hour (9:00 am – 9:00 am). The exam will be 30 minutes in length with an automatic 15-minute extension in case of technical difficulties. The exam will consist of 25 questions that will be randomly chosen from a question pool; so, the questions and answers will be different for each student. The question format will include a combination of multiple-choice, fill-in-the blank, matching and true or false. The exams are NOT open-book.</p> <p>Exam: Wednesday March 31 (9:00 am.) to Thursday April 1 (9:00 a.m.)</p>	15%
Research Essay	<p>Students will submit a thesis-style essay of 6 – 8 (double-spaced) with footnotes and bibliography adhering to the most recent version of the Chicago Manual of Style. This essay will be based on the research question and preliminary bibliography developed earlier in the course. The essay will be submitted via dropbox on D2L.</p> <p>Due: Monday April 12, 2021 11:59 pm</p>	25%
Persuall Annotations.	<p>Almost every week (excluding Week 1: Jan 11-15; Week 6: Feb 15-19; Week 7: Feb 22-26 and final week of classes April 12-15), students will be required to log into our course on Persuall.com to annotate/explain specific primary source material. This will be indicated on D2L as part of the course schedule and there will be a set of questions to stimulate discussion. Students will receive 2% for 5-7 thoughtful posts or responses to other students' comment. Thoughtful posts or responses arise out of a close reading of the primary source with some augmented insights from the course readings.</p>	20%

Academic Integrity Statement

Collaboration in terms of clarifying one's comprehension of the primary and secondary sources and stimulating intellectual conversation is encouraged. The exams should reflect each student's own comprehension of the material. In terms of the précis, and research paper, students must submit their own written work.

Learning Technologies Requirements

For this course, students should be acquainted with D2L, Zoom and we all will become familiar with Persuall.

All of the required course readings, instructions for assignments, rubrics and access to Zoom will be through the D2L Course Home. The password is Momento. If you are unfamiliar with D2L: <https://elearn.ucalgary.ca/d2l-getting-started/>

In terms of Zoom, please access the Zoom meetings for the course through D2L. See, <https://elearn.ucalgary.ca/getting-started-with-zoom/>

In terms of Persuall, there is a link under the content tab in D2L. For more information: <https://support.perusall.com/hc/en-us/categories/360002173133-Students>

In order to successfully engage in their learning experiences at the University of Calgary, students in this course will need reliable access to the following technology: A computer with a supported operating system; a current and updated web browser; a webcam (built-in or external); a microphone and speaker (built-in or external or headset); current antivirus and/or firewall software enabled and one should have a broadband internet connection. Microsoft word is the preferred software for written assignments.

On-Line Instruction Statement

Students ideally should asynchronously read through the appropriate articles and primary sources. These will be available on D2L within the corresponding folder for the course schedule or they will be located as part of the assignments on Persuall. During the term, synchronous sessions on MWF will involve lectures and group chats facilitated through ZOOM and Persuall. The lectures will clarify and elaborate on material and the in-class group chats will provide opportunities to verify one's understanding of the material.

Guidelines for Synchronous Sessions

The video conferencing program Zoom will permit us to meet as a learning community. To help ensure Zoom sessions are private, do not share the Zoom link or password with others, or on any social media platforms. Zoom links and passwords are only intended for students registered in the course. Zoom recordings and materials presented in Zoom, including any teaching materials, must not be shared, distributed or published without the instructor's

permission.

The use of video conferencing programs relies on participants to act ethically, honestly and with integrity; and in accordance with the principles of fairness, good faith, and respect (as per the Code of Conduct). When entering Zoom or other video conferencing sessions, you play a role in helping create an effective, safe and respectful learning environment. Please be mindful of how your behaviour in these sessions may affect others.

Only students registered in this course are allowed to be involved in these activities. Students whose D2L and Zoom usernames do not reflect their preferred name or identity can contact the IT Support Centre to have a display name changed in the Active Directory. This will change the name that shows in all online systems, including Zoom and D2L. It will take about 24 hours for the Support Centre to complete the request.

It is required that students use their University of Calgary email accounts.

If you are unable to attend a Zoom session, there will be a recording posted. This recording is for the purposes of student learning only in this class. Recordings will not be made of group discussions.

Please be prepared, as best as you are able, to join class in a quiet space that will allow you to be fully present and engaged in Zoom sessions. For the group discussions, I do suggest you use your webcams to encourage conversation.

Inclusiveness, Accommodation, and Classroom Conduct

I am committed to creating an inclusive learning environment for all registered students. If you have conditions or circumstances that require accommodations, you are encouraged to contact Student Accessibility Services and to contact me by email or arrange a Zoom meeting to discuss reasonable measures that will ensure your success in this course. Such accommodation may include disability (physical or mental wellness, whether visible or not), the need to nurse or occasionally bring a child to class, the wish to be called a different name or pronoun, assistance with writing, or adjusting deadlines because of personal circumstances.

Part of creating an inclusive learning environment involves respecting your fellow classmates. In meeting any university's mandate of encouraging free and open inquiry, we will occasionally discuss topics about which you might be uncomfortable or have a set viewpoint. In such situations, it is essential that we understand that others share different experiences and perspectives, and that listening respectfully to and showing tolerance toward opposing viewpoints is part of the process of emerging as active, engaged citizens.

To protect the privacy of others, students may not record in any format any activity that occurs within the classroom or online. Permission to record lectures will only be given to students registered with Student Accessibility Services. All material in this course, including but not limited to lectures, quizzes, worksheets, handouts, and the textbook, are under the protection of

copyright and may not be distributed to third parties under any circumstances.

Schedule

Date	Topic & Reading	Important Dates
Jan 11 - 15	Cultural History and Mortuary Studies Reading: Marshall on D2L	Zoom Group Discussion on January 15
Jan 18 - 22	Roman Views of Death and Rituals Readings: Dolansky on D2L Ausonius <i>Paternalia</i> on Persuall	Persuall Discussion on January 22
Jan 25 - 29	Roman to Christian Readings: Cascone, Jensen, Yasin and Gonzales on D2L Catacomb Fresco on Persuall	Persuall Discussion on January 29
Feb 1 - 5	Early Christian Views Readings: Zadora-Rio Augustine "On the Care to be Had for the Dead" on Persuall.	Persuall Discussion on February 5
Feb 8 - 12	Early Medieval Views Rytting on Perusall.	Précis Due: February 8. Quiz #1 on February 11 Persuall Discussion on February 12
Feb 15 - 19	Term Break - No classes	
Feb 22 - 26	Death Personified, Danse Macabre Readings: Oosterwijk on D2L	Research Question & Preliminary Bibliography on February 26.
Mar 1 - 5	Ghosts Readings: Simpson on D2L Byland Abby Ghosts on Persuall	Persuall Discussion: March 5
Mar 8-12	Napoleonic and Civil Wars Readings: Germani and Taylor on D2L Civic War Letters and Report on Losses	Persuall Discussion: March 12
Mar 15 - 19	Graveyards to Cemeteries Readings: King and Brown on D2L Père Lachaise on Persuall	Persuall Discussion: March 19
Mar 22 - 26	Victorian Mourning Culture Readings: Lutz and Carol on D2L Vintage Victorian Mourning on Persuall	Persuall Discussion: March 26
Mar 29 - Apr 2	Spiritualism & Spirit Photography Readings: Cadwaller on D2L Kaplan Youtube on Persuall	Persuall Discussion: March 31 Quiz #2: March 31
Apr 5 - 9	World War I Readings: Scates on D2L Unknown Soldier on Youtube on Persuall.	Persuall Discussion: April 9
Apr 12 - 15	Funeral Homes Readings: Laderman on D2L	Research Paper: April 12

**THE FOLLOWING INFORMATION APPEARS ON ALL DEPARTMENT OF
HISTORY COURSE OUTLINES**

Departmental Grading System

The following percentage-to-letter grade conversion scheme is used in all Canadian Studies, History, and Latin American Studies courses, except for HTST 200.

Percentage	Letter Grade	Grade Point Value	Description
90-100	A+	4.00	Outstanding performance
85-89	A	4.00	Excellent performance
80-84	A-	3.70	Approaching excellent performance
77-79	B+	3.30	Exceeding good performance
73-76	B	3.00	Good performance
70-72	B-	2.70	Approaching good performance
67-69	C+	2.30	Exceeding satisfactory performance
63-66	C	2.00	Satisfactory performance
60-62	C-	1.70	Approaching satisfactory performance.
56-59	D+	1.30	Marginal pass. Insufficient preparation for subsequent courses in the same subject
50-55	D	1.00	Minimal Pass. Insufficient preparation for subsequent courses in the same subject.
0-49	F	0	Failure. Did not meet course requirements.

Program Advising and Student Information Resources

- For program advising in the Faculty of Arts, contact the [Arts Students Centre \(ASC\)](#).
- For questions about admissions, student awards, common registration issues, financial aid and student fees, contact [Enrolment Services](#)
- Sometimes unexpected circumstances may affect your time table. You can change your registration during the course change period. Please see [the Registration Changes and Exemption Requests](#) page.

Attention history majors: History 300 is a required course for all history majors. You should normally take it in your second year.

Writing

All written assignments and written exam responses are assessed partly on writing skills. Writing skills include surface correctness (grammar, punctuation, sentence structure, etc.) and general clarity and organization. Research papers must be properly documented according to the format described in [The History Student's Handbook](#).

Plagiarism

Plagiarism occurs when students submit or present the ideas and/or writing of others as if they were their own or when they submit their own work to two different classes. Please see [The History Student's Handbook](#) for more details, but to summarize, plagiarism may take several forms:

- Failing to cite sources properly
- Submitting borrowed, purchased, and/or ghostwritten papers
- Submitting one's own work for more than one course without the permission of the instructor(s) involved
- Extensive paraphrasing of one or a few sources, even when referenced properly, unless the essay is a critical analysis of those works

Plagiarism is a serious academic offence, and written work that appears to contain plagiarized passages will not be graded. All such work will be reported to the Faculty of Art's associate deans of students who will apply the penalties specified in the *University of Calgary Calendar*, [Section K: Integrity and Conduct](#).

Academic Accommodations

Students needing an accommodation because of a disability or medical condition should contact [Student Accessibility Services](#) in accordance with the Procedure for Accommodations for Students with Disabilities in the [Student Accommodation Policy](#).

Students needing an accommodation based on a protected ground other than disability should contact, preferably in writing, the course instructor.

Copyright

The University of Calgary has opted out of the Access Copyright Interim Tariff proposed by the Copyright Board. Therefore, instructors in all University of Calgary courses will strictly adhere to Copyright Act regulations and the educational exceptions permitted by the Act for both print and digital course material. No copyrighted material may be placed on course D2L or web sites without the prior permission of the copyright holders. In some cases, this may mean that instructors will require you to purchase a print course pack from the University of Calgary bookstore or consult books on reserve at the library. Please see the [University of Calgary copyright page](#).

Sexual Violence Policy

The University recognizes that all members of the University Community should be able to learn, work, teach and live in an environment where they are free from harassment, discrimination, and violence. The University of Calgary's sexual violence policy guides us in

how we respond to incidents of sexual violence, including supports available to those who have experienced or witnessed sexual violence, or those who are alleged to have committed sexual violence. It provides clear response procedures and timelines, defines complex concepts, and addresses incidents that occur off-campus in certain circumstances. Please see the [sexual violence policy](#).

Other Useful Information

Please see the Registrar's [Course Outline Student Support and Resources](#) page for information on:

- Wellness and Mental Health
- Student Success
- Student Ombuds Office
- Student Union (SU) Information
- Graduate Students' Association (GSA) Information
- Emergency Evacuation/Assembly Points
- Safewalk

Campus Security (220-5333)

Department of History Twitter [@ucalgaryhist](#)

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