



Department of History

HTST 398.02
Death in Western Culture
Winter 2020

Instructor: Anne Moore

Office: SS 604

Phone Number: 403-220-3288

Email: amoore@ucalgary.ca

Office Hours: M 10:00 am – 3:00 pm TR 11:00 am – 1:30 pm

Class Time: TR 9:30 – 10:45 am

Location: SA 245

Course 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.

Course 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. Comprehend and analyze how various social factors and historical events impact concepts surrounding death.
4. Analyze, interpret and assess primary sources.
5. Research, organize and compose a thesis style essay.
6. Formulate, evaluate and verbally communicate different perspectives on varying subjects regarding historical views on death.

Required Text: The course material will be made available through D2L in the form of posted pdfs and links.

Recommended Text (optional):

Evaluation:		
Assessment Method	Description	Weight

Group Discussion	Thursday January 30, February 27 and March 26. Small groups discussions on specific readings will be held on the preceding dates. The groups will be provided questions for discussion based on a collection of readings. Attendance is necessary and the mark will be based on a one page submission (250 words) submitted by midnight of the same day from each group member that summarizes one of the basic points of the discussion that addressed the provided question The mark available for each discussion is 5%	15%
Précis	Various Deadlines. 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 one of the articles assigned for the course. There will be guidelines available on D2L The précis will be 4-5 pages double-spaced adhering to the most recent version of the Chicago Manual of Style.	15%
Mid-term Exam	Thursday February 13th. This will be combination of fill-in the blanks and multiple choice on lecture material and readings from the beginning of the course to Tuesday February 11 th .	10%
Research Question & Preliminary Bibliography	Tuesday February 25th Students will provide a research question that will frame their research essay. There will be guidelines available on D2L. Along with the question, students will provide a bibliography of six potential primary and secondary sources adhering to the most recent version of the Chicago Manual of Style.	10%
Outline & Bibliography	March 17th Students will submit an outline of their essay along with a bibliography of three primary and seven secondary sources adhering to the most recent version of the Chicago Manual of Style. There will be guidelines available on D2L.	15%
Research Essay	April 7th Students will submit a thesis-style essay of eight – ten pages (double-spaced) with footnotes and bibliography adhering to the most recent version of the Chicago Manual of Style.	25%
Final Quiz	April 14th This will be combination of fill-in the blanks and multiple choice on lecture material and readings from Tuesday February 25 th to Thursday April 7 th	10%

Late Work:

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

A penalty of 25% per day (including weekends) will be deducted for late assignments.

Class schedule:

For the specific readings for each week, please consult the List of Readings on D2L.

Date	Topic & Reading	Assignments/Due Dates
Jan 14-16	Historians, Death & Mortuary Studies	
Jan 21-23	Romans, Funerals & Corpses	
Jan 28-30	Christians and Martyrs	Group Discussion/Jan 30
Feb 4-6	Death & Materiality	
Feb 11-13	Heaven & Hell	Mid-term Quiz/February 13
Feb 18-20	No Classes – Reading Week	
Feb 25-27	Medieval Death	Research Question & Bib/Feb 25
Mar 3-5	The Return of the Dead	Group Discussion/Mar 5
Mar 10-12	Napoleonic & Civil War	
Mar 17-19	Graveyards to Cemeteries	Outline & Bibliography/Mar17
Mar 24-26	Mortal Remains	Group Discussion/Mar 26
Mar 31-Apr 2	Victorians & Domestic Mourning	
Apr 7-9	Gilded Age	Research Essay/April 7
Apr 14	World Wars & Memorials	Final Quiz/April 14

Classroom Policies:

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

<https://hist.ucalgary.ca/sites/hist.ucalgary.ca/files/history-students-handbook-2019.pdf>

<https://ucalgary.ca/live-uc-ucalgary-site/sites/default/files/teams/9/chicago-style-documenting-sources-final.pdf>

Guidelines for Submitting Assignments

Assignments are to be uploaded to D2L. They are to be submitted in Word Format. Note: It is the student's responsibility to keep a copy of each submitted assignment and to ensure the proper version is submitted.

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

Percentage	Letter Grade	Grade Point Value	Description
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) in SS 102, call 403-220-3580, email artsads@ucalgary.ca, or book an appointment with an ASC advisor at <https://arts.ucalgary.ca/current-students/undergraduate>.
- For further information on academic advising and degree planning for arts students, see <https://arts.ucalgary.ca/current-students/undergraduate/academic-advising>.
- For registration issues, paying fees, and assistance with MyUofC, contact Enrolment Services in MacKimmie Tower Room 116, call 403-210-ROCK (7625), or visit <http://www.ucalgary.ca/registrar/>.
- **Attention history majors:** History 300 is a required course for all history majors. You should normally take it in your second year.
- Registration Changes and Exemption Requests: <https://www.ucalgary.ca/registrar/registration/appeals>

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.

D2L: Throughout the course, important material such as lecture outlines and study guides will be

regularly posted on D2L. Students are advised to check this regularly.

Red Box Policy:

If your instructor requires paper copies of an essay and/or assignment, and the essay/assignment can be handed in outside of class, you can drop them in the red box located outside of the History Department office (Social Sciences, Room 656). Please include the following information on your assignment: 1) **course name and number**, 2) **instructor**, 3) **your name**, and 4) **your student number**. Assignments received after 4:00 p.m. are date stamped the next business day. We do not time stamp any papers. Please do not bring your paper into the office to be stamped. The box is emptied at 4:00 p.m. Monday to Friday.

Plagiarism:

Plagiarism occurs when one submits or presents one's work in a course, or ideas and/or passages in a written piece of work, as if it were one's own work done expressly for that particular course, when, in fact, it is not. Please see [*The History Student's Handbook*](#).

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](#).

Academic Accommodations:

The student accommodation policy can be found at: ucalgary.ca/access/accommodations/policy.

Students needing an accommodation because of a disability or medical condition should contact Student Accessibility Services (<https://www.ucalgary.ca/access/>) in accordance with the Procedure for Accommodations for Students with Disabilities ucalgary.ca/policies/files/policies/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. For more information on the University of Calgary's copyright policy, see <http://library.ucalgary.ca/copyright>.

Other Useful Information:

- Department Twitter @ucalgaryhist

Please see <https://www.ucalgary.ca/registrar/registration/course-outlines> 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

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