

# **Brief Course Outline**

Course Title: Histories of Violence

Course Number and Section: HISTORY 1816F 550

Instructor Name(s): Jun Fang

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Disclaimer: Information in the brief course outline is subject to change. The syllabus posted on OWL is the official and authoritative source of information for the course.

### **Course Description:**

What defines an action as violence? How have these definitions of violence in past societies changed over time? How do we interpret violent acts in the past without either condemning them or acting as passive observers? This course will explore these questions using the historiographical tools from broader political and social histories. Beginning with the broad debates in the histories of violence, we will then examples of violence from various historical periods, looking at everyday violence, duels, infanticide, paramilitary violence, warfare, assassination, and terrorism.

This first year course is designed to offer a foundation in the basics of historical analysis: how to read a scholarly article, how to recognize and analyze a primary source, how to compare historical events and themes across time and space, how to write a convincing argument, and how to recognize and appreciate the complexities, vulnerabilities and passions of people from the past.

#### **Learning Outcomes:**

Recognize and define major themes in recent scholarship on histories of violence and how they relate to other genre of history

Develop research skills using the library, archives, digital repositories and a variety of materials

Read and analyze primary resources in ways that recognize their value, and their limitations

Question and evaluate historiographical debates across a range of topics covered in the course

Articulate your own critical views, both in class discussion and in written work

Consider the contemporary relevance and importance of engaging with histories of the emotions

#### **Textbooks and Course Materials:**

Course readings are available at the course website

## **Methods Of Evaluation:**

Assignment	Due Date mm/dd/yy	Weight - %
Tutorial participation and lecture attendance	whole term	20%
800-word historiographical analysis	10/25/2024	20%
1,200-word term essay	08/11/2024	30%
In-class exam	22/11/2024	30%

In solidarity with the Anishinaabe, Haudenosaunee, Lūnaapéewak, and Chonnonton peoples on whose traditional treaty and unceded territories this course is shared.

Monday, August 26, 2024