

## Brief Course Outline

**Course Title:** **The Historian's Craft**

**Course Number and Section:**

HISTORY

3801E 550

**Instructor Name(s):** Nina Reid-Maroney

**Instructor Email(s):** nreidmar@uwo.ca

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:

History 3801E is a seminar course that asks you to address two questions: what is History, and why does it matter? As one of the few required courses in your History module at Huron, The Historian's Craft works in part as a capstone in your career as History student, but it also asks you to question and evaluate the way you understand other aspects of your undergraduate work, and your experience outside the boundaries of academic study. Who creates knowledge? How is it used or misused? What is true, how do we know, and what do we do in the face of the limits of knowledge? Most History students go on to pursue careers outside the ranks of academic historians, so while the course is concerned with historical method, it is also much broader in its application. We will work in a practical way with the materials of History, and will consider the sea-changes of postmodernism, new studies in Public History, and cultural studies of historical memory.

### Learning Outcomes:

1. Understand a variety of approaches to historical writing, particularly as those approaches have shifted over the last 40 years of historical scholarship, and understand why this matters;
2. Understand the connections between History 3801E and work you have already done, and are doing, in other courses;
3. Articulate your own critical views, both in class discussion and in written work;
4. Think clearly about the creation and meaning of knowledge in political, social and intellectual context;
5. Create connections between your work as a student and the community beyond the classroom;
6. Understand the relevance of historical study to contemporary life.

### Textbooks and Course Materials:

John Arnold, History: A Very Short Introduction

Graham Broad, One in a Thousand: The Life and Death of Eddie McKay, Royal Flying Corps

For information about the books' availability and cost, see the UWO Bookstore list for our course, available [here](#). Total cost for print versions of the books is \$52.55; cost of e-versions

is \$35.  
Additional readings (or links to them) are posted on our OWL site.  
The field work component of the course is covered with no cost to students.

**Methods Of Evaluation:**

| Assignment                               | Due Date mm/dd/yy        | Weight - % |
|--|--------------------------|------------|
| Class participation                      | weekly                   | 20         |
| Research plan and annotated bibliography | 12/08/25                 | 10         |
| Transcription Exercise                   | 10/24/25                 | 10         |
| StoryMap entry and brief reflection      | 04/03/25                 | 25         |
| Research Update                          | to be scheduled in class | 5          |
| Final Exam                               | TBD                      | 30         |

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

Tuesday, August 5, 2025