

# Teaching History with New Media

SPRING 2024 • HIS 3630 •  
TTh 9:30-10:45 am • ABH 240  
<https://thnm.rwansibaja.com>



Prof. Rwany Sibaja

WELCOME TO THNM!

HIS 3630 explores what it means to teach history in the digital age.

The title might make the "tech" aspect a bit nerve wracking. It's OK! You do not need to be tech savvy to succeed. The tools and approaches we will explore are ones historians have used in their own work ... and you know how "old school" historians can be!

Have fun! Ask questions. Get help. I'm here to help every step of the way!



[sibajaro@appstate.edu](mailto:sibajaro@appstate.edu)



[appstate.zoom.us/j/4651190141](https://appstate.zoom.us/j/4651190141)



828.264.8476



Anne Belk 220

## DROP-IN HOURS

T & Th: 10:45am-12:15pm

(or via Zoom by appt.)

## LEARNING TARGETS

By the end of the semester, students should be able to ...

To explore the intersection of technology, history, and the public

### Secondary Objectives

✓ To evaluate the ways in which digital tools can re-imagine the teaching and learning of history

✓ To develop your own "digital" identity

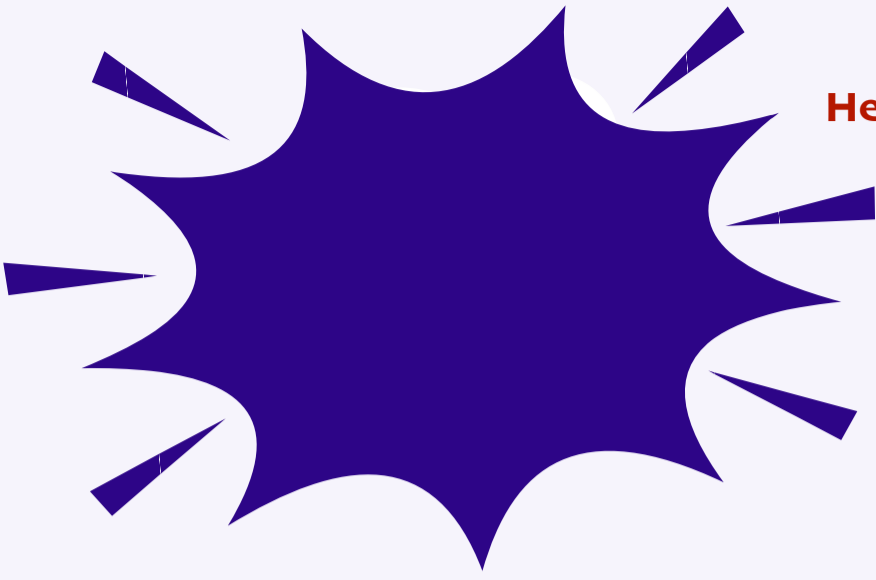
✓ To identify technology for best engaging audiences (students/web users/general public)

## TEXTBOOKS & RESOURCES

- HIS 3630 does not have required textbooks.
- All textbooks used in the course are free online, see [Textbooks page](#) on our course website
- For a weekly list of readings, access the [Readings page](#) of the course website
- For resources you will need for class projects, access the [Resources page](#) of the course website
- For a review and tutorial of digital tools & history content resources, access the [Digital Tools page](#) of the course website
- Templates & 9-12 Social Studies Resources at: [history.appstate.edu/historyeducation](https://history.appstate.edu/historyeducation)



AsU Learn will only serve as a place to record grades & attendance



Here, and on the next page, learn more about:

- ★ **YOUR GENERAL WORKLOAD**
- ★ **COURSE FORMAT**
- ★ **ASSIGNMENTS**
- ★ **GRADING SCALE**
- ★ **STRATEGIES FOR SUCCESS & FEEDBACK**
- ★ **COURSE POLICIES**

## General Workload

Most weeks you will read two or three short reading selections (blog posts, webpage, book excerpts, articles). The conversation about these readings begins **ONLINE** before we meet on Tuesday and Thursday. You will be able to choose which weeks to complete reading assignment, and which weeks to take off.

The grades are fairly even (with more emphasis on the archival project and readings analysis). The focus of your research should be grounded in either US or World History, and must be aligned to NC state standards for 9-12 Social Studies. However, the topic is yours to choose! All curriculum work must be well researched for both the content and the teaching strategies you will use via digital tools.

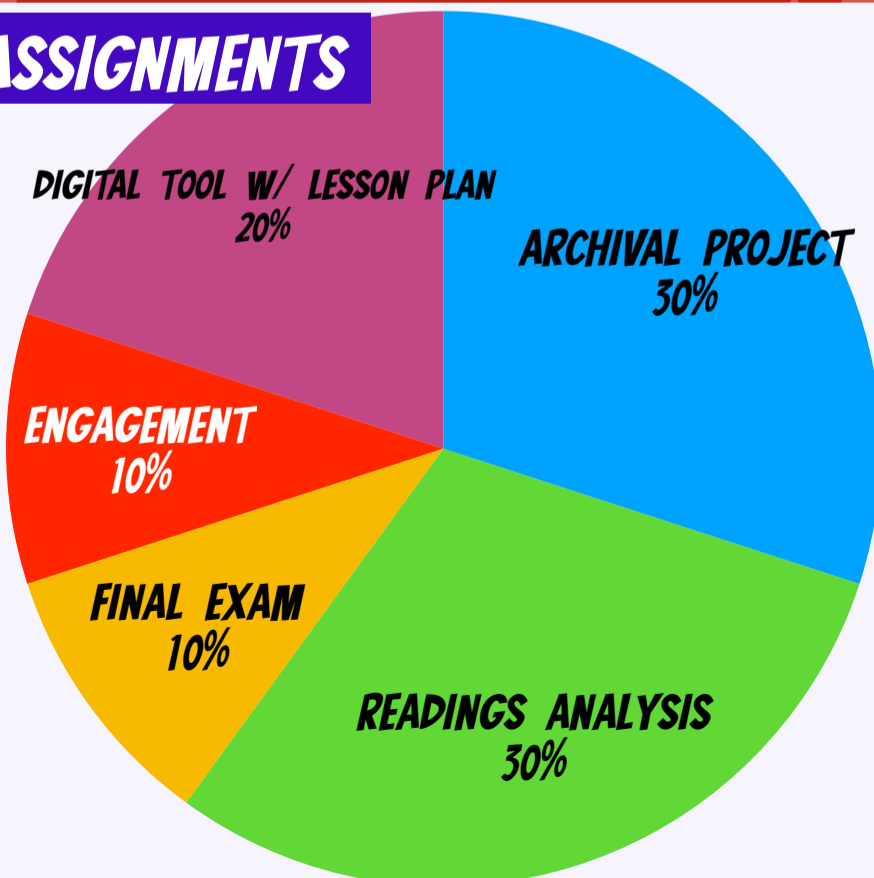


## Course Format

The first aspect of this course you should be aware of is that it is **not** lecture-based. Rather, it's based on regular discussions, collaborative work and research, and project-based learning. **EVERYTHING** in this course is designed to push you as a historian and educator.

HIS 3630 is divided into 3 units: Intro to Digital History and the Role of the History Educator, Engaging the Public with History through New Media, and Considerations for Teaching & Production.

## ASSIGNMENTS



-100  
-90  
-80  
-70  
-60

## GRADING SCALE

### NOTES

- ◆ Follows ASU scale (A=93+, A-=90-92, B+=87-89, B=83-86, B-=80-82, etc.)
- ◆ Both major projects include a first and second draft.
- ◆ Presentations are included in both projects
- ◆ Final Exam is an essay (with alternate digital formats possible)

# Strategies for Success

- ▶ Take care of your emotional, physical, and mental health. Reach out if you begin to feel overwhelmed.
- ▶ Set aside specific time for course readings and classwork. Consider that time as “in-class.”
- ▶ Type or write down notes as you go through the weekly readings.
  - ▶ [For a primer on reading like a historian, and not wasting too much time completing reading assignments, see “[How to Read a Book in One Hour](#)” by Larry Cebula]
- ▶ Use the various campus & online resources for writing, researching, and citing (and projects).
- ▶ Make use of drop-in hours to share ideas, get help, or get clarification. Schedule via zoom if needed.



## HOW WILL I RECEIVE FEEDBACK?

Typical response time for non-urgent emails will be within 24-48 hours. Return time for feedback and assessment is approx. 1 week after submission or due date.\*

## WHAT WILL EACH CLASS LOOK LIKE?

Intro to topic, project focus, digital tool practice, group work (lab), closure

## CAN I REALLY RESEARCH ANYTHING FOR MY PROJECTS?

Of course! Just run it by the instructor, and make sure it aligns to NCS for 9-12 Social Studies

## WHAT ARE THE COURSE POLICIES?

HIS 3630 follows policies at App State ([link](#)). **Specific course policies below**

## HOW DO I SUBMIT WORK?

Assignments will be posted to the course website or emailed to the instructor (shared Google Doc files). Final work will be on the course website under designated categories.

## COURSE POLICIES

### Attendance

HEP policy: Because we meet 2x week, students can miss up to 5 classes. You will receive a notification after the 3rd absence, a required meeting after the 4th, and an action plan after your 5th >> A 6th absence leads to automatic failure of the course.

### Late Work

Due dates are the final dates to submit work; you can submit early anytime. Life happens, though. If you need to submit an assignment late, you can use the [Late Work Notification ticket](#) up to **four** times (exceptions included).

### Participation - Positive Learning Environment

We learn best from speaking to each other. The goal is **not** to speak more (quantity); rather, you should strive to provide substantive (quality) comments online and in class. Please value each other's ideas and questions. Most of you are future social studies teacher. You will come to realize the importance of fostering a welcoming environment, one where students are free to share their thoughts on hard topics.

### Honesty

ASU's scholarly community in which everyone's academic work and behavior are held to the highest standards of honesty. You can read the full .pdf document on ASU's policy on plagiarism and cheating at: [academicintegrity.appstate.edu](http://academicintegrity.appstate.edu) (click on “Academic Integrity Code”).

JAN 16

FDOC

FEB 8

Research Topics Due

FEB 22

Secondary Sources Due

FEB 22

No Class Meeting

FEB 29

Primary Sources Due

MAR 8

Lesson Plan Due (w/tool)

MAR 11-15

\* Spring Break\*

MAR 19 & 21

Lesson Plan & Digital Tool

Presentations

MAR 29

Lesson Plan & DT due

## KEY DATES



APR 4

No Class Meeting

APR 16 & 18

Omeka Demos (v1)

APR 26

Final Omeka Site (v2)

APR 30

LDOC

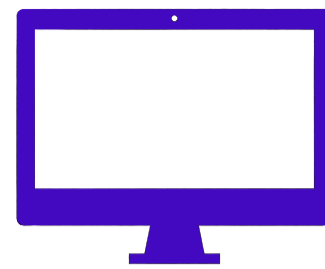
MAY 9

Last Day to Submit

FE (by 10:30 am)



# WEEKLY SCHEDULE



Full list of Readings located on the [HIS 3630 WordPress Course website](#)

## WEEK

1. [Jan 16 & 18]: FDOC: Introductions / Tech Support - WordPress & Zotero
2. [Jan 23 & 25]: Tech Support: Omeka / NC state standards for history/social studies
3. [Jan 30 & Feb 1]: The role of the history educator - working with new media
4. [Feb 6 & 8]: Digitized archives and collections, and the problem of abundance
5. [Feb 13 & 15]: Visualizations
6. [Feb 20\*]: Social media and writing online (blogging, microblogging, etc.) / Asynchronous Lab Time
  - No Class Meeting Feb 22 - will be at NCCSS (asynchronous work on revisions)
7. [Feb 27 & 29]: Rethinking presentations: storymapping & timelines
8. [Mar 5 & 7]: Rethinking presentations: digital storytelling & slideshare tools
  - Spring Break is from March 11 to 15
9. [Mar 19 & 21]: Presentations - digital tool with lesson plan [March 25: last day to drop, use a career drop]
10. [Mar 26 & 28]: Copyright, fair use, copyleft
11. [Apr 2\*]: Technology and the distracted student
  - No Class Meeting Apr 4 - instructor at conference (asynchronous work on revisions)
12. [Apr 9 & 11]: Omeka lab work
13. [Apr 16 & 18]: Omeka presentations - version 1.0
14. [Apr 23 & 25]: Choose your path: misinformation, gaming, authenticity, ethics
15. [Apr 30]: LDOC: Course Wrap Up

**FINAL EXAM:** Thurs, May 9, from 8 am – 10:30 am [Reading Day is May 2]

## USEFUL LINKS

Explore required and useful 9-12 Social Studies Resources at: <https://history.appstate.edu/historyeducation/9-12-resources>

### Also:

- The History Dept. [goals and practices for 3000-level courses](#)
- [Belk Library](#)
  - Research Support? [Contact Breanne Crumpton](#) (History Dept. Library Specialist) - helpful for research on history content and pedagogical research for history and social studies education
- Check out the [Chicago Manual of Style](#) for citing resources in your lesson plans and other work
  - See conventions for the [notes & bibliography system](#).
- Support from the [Office of Disability Resources](#)
- Appalachian State University [Writing Center](#)
- Appalachian State University [Career Development Center](#) (resume & cover letter)
- The Office of [Student Affairs](#)

