

SPRING 2024

READINGS IN MIDWEST, ILLINOIS, AND LOCAL HISTORY

HIS 44441
Dr. Camden Burd



INDEPENDENT STUDY REPORT

TERM: ____Spring 2024 ____

Student:

E#:

Course number and CRN: _____

Hours of credit: _____

Instructor: Camden Burd

E#:

Work required:

Readings Midwest, Illinois, and Local History Spring 2024

Assignments & Grading

Secondary Source Historiographical Essay (35%)

You will write an 8-12 page essay that traces the historical fields/contexts for this work (slavery/antislavery/anti-abolition, religion, travel lit in South, other ideas?). This will become part of your thesis introduction.

Thesis Prospectus (35%)

Your final exam will be a thesis proposal (and accompanying bibliography) where you explain your vision for your thesis. For help on a prospectus, see

<https://www.brown.edu/academics/history/prospectus-writing-tips>.

Discussion/Participation (30%)

Grading Scale. Grades will be calculated as follows: 100-90%/A; 89.99%-80%/B; 79.99%-70%/C; 69.99%-60%/D; and below 60%/F.

Policies & Other Helpful Information

Academic Integrity. Cheating on essays, plagiarism on any course assignment, and other instances of academic dishonesty diminish our community of learners. It is your responsibility to educate yourself so that you avoid plagiarism (definition: passing off the ideas or words of another's as your own; using another's work without crediting the source; and stealing by presenting as your own an idea, phrase, or concept that was taken from an existing source). For more help on understanding plagiarism, see <http://www.eiu.edu/judicial/studentconductcode.php> and <http://plagiarism.org/>. Any instance of plagiarism will result in failure on the assignment and/or the course and an automatic referral to the Office of Student Standards.

Attendance & Absences. We will meet at a prearranged time. All absences, postponements, and rescheduling should be worked out in advance. Emergencies of course occur, and you are responsible for notifying me when reasonably possible. Repeated absences, postponements, and rescheduling requests will result in a grade of C, D, or F (depending on the severity) for the participation portion of the class.

Changes to the Schedule. As your honors project develops, we may make changes to the readings and schedule. The final assignment, however, will remain the same.

Week 1 – Introductions, Expectations, and Establishing a Plan

Week 2 – Week of January 15 – On Local History

Read: Jill Lepore, "Historians Who Love Too Much: Reflections on Microhistory and Biography," *The Journal of American History* 88, no. 1 (2001): 129-144.

Read: John Brinckerhoff Jackson, "A Sense of Place, A Sense of Time," in *A Sense of Place, A Sense of Time* (New Haven: Yale University Press, 1994), 151-163.

Read: Dan Flores, "Place: An Argument for Bioregional History," *Environmental History Review* 18, np. 4 (1994): 1-18.

Week 3 – Week of January 22 – Thinking about Midwest History

Read: Michael C. Steiner, "The Birth of the Midwest and the Rise of Regional Theory," in *Finding a New Midwestern History*, eds. Jon K. Lauck, Gleaves Whitney, and Joseph Hogan (Lincoln: University of Nebraska Press, 2018), 3-24.

Read: Mary Neth, "Seeing the Midwest with Peripheral Vision: Identities, Narratives, and Region," in *The American Midwest: Essays on Regional History*, eds. Andrew R.L. Clayton and Susan E. Gray (Bloomington: Indiana University Press, 2001), 27-47.

Read: Phil Christman, *Midwest Futures* (Cleveland: Belt Publishing, 2020), 9-50.

Week 4 – Week of January 29 – Indigenous History

Read: Robert Michael Morrissey, *People of the Ecotone: Environment and Indigenous Power at the Center of Early America* (Seattle: University of Washington Press, 2022), 1-63.

Read: Roger Biles, *Illinois: A History of the Land and Its People* (DeKalb: Northern Illinois University Press, 2005), Chapter 1.

Week 5 – Week of February 5 – Indigenous History

Read: Robert Michael Morrissey, *People of the Ecotone: Environment and Indigenous Power at the Center of Early America* (Seattle: University of Washington Press, 2022), 64-116.

Read: Roger Biles, *Illinois: A History of the Land and Its People* (DeKalb: Northern Illinois University Press, 2005), Chapter 2.

Week 6 – Week of February 12 – Indigenous History

Read: Robert Michael Morrissey, *People of the Ecotone: Environment and Indigenous Power at the Center of Early America* (Seattle: University of Washington Press, 2022), 117-213.

Read: Read: Roger Biles, *Illinois: A History of the Land and Its People* (DeKalb: Northern Illinois University Press, 2005), Chapter 2.

Week 7 – Week of February 19 – Euro-American Midwest

Read: Kristin L. Hoganson, *The Heartland: An American History* (New York: Penguin Press, 2019), xii-78.

Read: Roger Biles, *Illinois: A History of the Land and Its People* (DeKalb: Northern Illinois University Press, 2005), Chapter 3.

Week 8 – Week of February 26 – Euro-American Midwest

Read: Read: Kristin L. Hoganson, *The Heartland: An American History* (New York: Penguin Press, 2019), 79-197.

Read: Roger Biles, *Illinois: A History of the Land and Its People* (DeKalb: Northern Illinois University Press, 2005), Chapter 4.

Week 9 – Week of March 4 – Euro-American Midwest

Read: Read: Kristin L. Hoganson, *The Heartland: An American History* (New York: Penguin Press, 2019), 198-305.

Read: Roger Biles, *Illinois: A History of the Land and Its People* (DeKalb: Northern Illinois University Press, 2005), Chapter 7.

Week 10 – Week of March 11 – Industry, Agriculture, and the Market in the Midwest

Read: William Cronon, *Nature's Metropolis: Chicago and the Great West* (New York: W.W. Norton & Company, 1991), Introduction and Chapter 1.

Week 11 – Week of March 18 – SPRING BREAK – NO READINGS

Week 12 – Week of April 1 – Industry, Agriculture, and the Market in the Midwest

Read: William Cronon, *Nature's Metropolis: Chicago and the Great West* (New York: W.W. Norton & Company, 1991), Chapters 2-3, 5-6.

Week 13 – Week of April 8 – Industry, Agriculture, and the Market in the Midwest

Read: William Cronon, *Nature's Metropolis: Chicago and the Great West* (New York: W.W. Norton & Company, 1991), Chapter 7, Chapter 8, Epilogue.

Week 14 – Week of April 15 – Twentieth Century Illinois

Read: Daniel Nelson, *Farm and Factory: Workers in the Midwest 1880-1990* (Bloomington: Indiana University Press, 1995), 61-86.

Read: Roger Biles, *Illinois: A History of the Land and Its People* (DeKalb: Northern Illinois University Press, 2005), Chapter 11.

Week 15 – Week of April 22 – Post-War Midwest Communities

Read: Daniel Nelson, *Farm and Factory: Workers in the Midwest 1880-1990* (Bloomington: Indiana University Press, 1995), 115-162.

Read: Kendra Smith-Howard, "Ecology, Economy, Labor," in *The Rural Midwest Since World War II*, ed. J.L. Anderson (DeKalb: Northern Illinois University Press, 2014), 44-71.

Read: Roger Biles, *Illinois: A History of the Land and Its People* (DeKalb: Northern Illinois University Press, 2005), Chapter 13-14.

Week 16 – Week of April 22 – Modern Midwest

Read: Daniel Nelson, *Farm and Factory: Workers in the Midwest 1880-1990* (Bloomington: Indiana University Press, 1995), 163-206.

Read: Wilson J. Warren, "Beyond the Rust Belt: The Neglected History of the Rural Midwest's Industrialization after World War II," in *The Rural Midwest Since World War II*, ed. J.L. Anderson (DeKalb: Northern Illinois University Press, 2014), 72-102.

FINALS WEEK: Thesis Prospectus Due

PLEASE INITIAL

Approved by: Student:
Faculty Member: CRB
Graduate/Honors/Undergraduate Advisor:
Department Chairperson: