

**Department:** HIST

**Course No.:** 200W

**Title:** Senior Thesis in History

**Credits:** 3

**Contact:** Nancy Shoemaker

**WQ:** W

**Catalog Copy:** Hist 200W. Senior Thesis in History. Either semester. Three credits. Hours by arrangement. Open only with consent of instructor and Department Head. Independent Study authorization form required. Prerequisite: three credits of independent study or an advanced seminar; ENGL 105 or 110 or 111 or 250. (PLEASE SEE ADDENDUM AT BOTTOM)

**W Criteria:** This course centers on the research, writing, and revising of a major (minimum 20 pp.) history research paper, based on extensive analysis of both primary and secondary sources, working with any of the faculty of the history department. This course is for history majors working towards university honors and is usually taken by them instead of the senior seminar, Hist 297W. History 200W usually builds on a previous independent study course, in which the student has done independent research with a particular faculty member, who then supervises the writing up of the research results into a polished paper in HIST 200W.

Writing instruction occurs both in individual conferences with the instructor and in written comments. Students are required to submit written examples of their progress throughout the semester, culminating in a rough draft of the full paper. At least one revision of the paper is required for final submission. The W component is central to the course grade, and students cannot pass the course without writing a satisfactory thesis.

**Supplementary Information:** This course is used primarily by Honors history majors as part of the requirement for an Honors degree in history. It substitutes for the regular History Senior Seminar, History 297W. All faculty are eligible to supervise senior theses, and topics vary according to field specializations.

ADDENDUM: 11/11/05

On 10/18/05, CLAS C&C approved the following changes in the catalog copy of HIST 200W (note the changes are minor and were made to correct oversights in the catalog: the description now makes clear that only honors students may take this course and adds HIST 211 as a prerequisite, which is stated in the description of our major but should also appear here in the course catalog copy).