

SPAN 341 Cultural history

Students will work together to develop a shared idea of cultural history, develop criteria for the selection of works for inclusion on the syllabus (choosing from a bank of online, open-access resources), build a timeline to organize the course material, develop the structure and content of course exams, develop a methodology for identifying and analyzing themes of interest to the class, identify and record an interview with a content expert, and complete a project of their own design focused on a topic of their choice.

Activity-based practice of cultural history

- Develop a shared idea of cultural history
 - Working definition of cultural history
 - Purpose and value of cultural history
 - Shapes of cultural history
 - What does a cultural historian do?
- Develop criteria for inclusion on syllabus
- Students review materials; produce abstract list
- Advocate for their candidate (public speaking)
- Vote for inclusion on syllabus
- Develop methodology for identifying themes
- Identify and demonstrate themes
- Link themes
- Build course timeline (wiki)
- Identify text for project
- Identify faculty expert on text
- Record and transcribe interview with faculty expert (can be via email or zoom)
- Record and transcribe interview with student expert (zoom)

Assignment: Throughline

- What is interesting about this text?
- How does it relate to today's world?
- Find a local news article focusing on a related theme
- Explain how the text informs our understanding of today's world

Assignment component: Reflexión

- What did you find most challenging about this assignment?
- What was unexpected about this assignment?
- What did you learn from this assignment?
- What would you change about this assignment?

Program

Week	Topic	Reading	Assignment	Activity
------	-------	---------	------------	----------

01	Doing cultural history for today's world	Syllabus	Annotate syllabus	Community building exercises
		What is cultural history?	What values should guide the practice of cultural history?	Develop selection criteria, including relevance.
02	Selection of texts	Review texts	Prepare slide deck to argue for inclusion of a text based on selection criteria.	Selection of texts by vote
	Generate themes	Review texts	Identify 1 theme per text	
03		Text 1		Context Theme Throughline
04		Text 2		Context Theme Throughline
05		Text 3		Context Theme Throughline
06		Text 4		Context Theme Throughline
07		Text 5		Context Theme Throughline
08		Text 6		Context Theme

				Throughline
09		Text 7		Context Theme Throughline
10	Synthesis			Prep for final project
11				