Senior Seminar  
HIS 4370-001  

Dr. Aaron Coy Moulton  
moultonac@sfasu.edu  
Office: Liberal Arts North (LAN) 314  
Office Hours: MoWeFr, 1:00p.m. – 5:00p.m., and by appointments  

- You are welcome to use moultonac@sfasu.edu to contact me with any questions or problems. Generally, I should respond within 24 hours to e-mails. Use appropriate spelling, grammar, and other such considerations when writing e-mails. Do not try to contact me at any other electronic address other than moultonac@sfasu.edu.  
- DO NOT CONTACT ME THROUGH D2L!!!!!!  
- Electronic communications must be formal. If I receive a message that does not address me directly in its first line, does not identify the sender, or does not include an e-mail address from the sender, I will assume it is a ‘spam’ message and not reply.  
- Again, upon your sending an electronic communication during the working week, expect up to 24 hours to receive a response. Expect longer response times for weekend communications.  

Class Meeting Time and Place  
HIST 4370, Section 001, Fall 2021  
MoWeFr 11:00a.m. – 11:50a.m., Liberal Arts North (LAN) 475  

Course Description and Student Learning Outcomes  
- This course is the senior seminar course.  
- Students in HIST 4370 will produce an original historical analysis related to an important component of history.  
- This piece of unique scholarship must demonstrate a mastery of the selected topic’s historiography, a comprehensive analysis of historical materials, and a strong writing ability.  

Texts and Materials  
- I will provide all readings on our section on “Desire2Learn” or D2L.  
- Due to the variety of topics, most students will have to utilize the library or InterLibrary Loan in order to acquire materials related to their research topic.  

Program Learning Outcomes:  
The SFA History Department has identified the following Program Learning Outcomes (PLOs) for all SFA students earning a B.A. degree in History:  
- Interpret the past in context.  
- Understand the complex nature of the historical record.  
- Engage in historical inquiry, research, and analysis.  
- Craft historical narrative and argument.  
- Practice historical thinking as central to engaged citizenship.  
- This seminar will focus on all five PLOs above.  

Course Requirements
This course includes two components:
• The first component is the research paper that counts for 50% of the semester grade.
• The second component of is the “Participation” section that counts for 50% of the semester grade.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Grading Policy</th>
<th>Grade Calculation</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Research Paper:</td>
<td>50% [\text{___ x 0.50 = ___}] Add the 2 calculations together.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Participation:</td>
<td>50% [\text{___ x 0.50 = ___}]</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Attendance Policy**
• This is a seminar course. Attendance is required.
• After the first unexcused absence, every unexcused absence reduces your semester grade by 5 points.
• Students must provide sufficient documentation regarding absences within a timely manner. Documentation should be turned in before due dates and absences whenever possible unless an emergency occurs. Documentation regarding absences incurred due to long-standing and/or preexisting medical issues must be provided at the beginning of the semester.
• Class will not be held if the University closes.
• I do not accept unexcused late work.

**Academic Honesty**
• Stephen F. Austin State University expects all students to abide by University policies related to academic honesty. Students’ academic development cannot be furthered without students upholding the highest level of integrity related to their studies.
• Each Stephen F. Austin State University student is required to be familiar with and abide by the University’s standard of academic integrity, akin to the Student Code of Conduct. The University’s policy can be found at [sfasu.edu/policies/4.1-student-academic-dishonesty.pdf](sfasu.edu/policies/4.1-student-academic-dishonesty.pdf). Students with questions about how this policy applies to a particular course or assignment should immediately contact their instructor.
• While most students follow these well-recognized standards regarding academic integrity, instances of academic dishonesty do occur and must be addressed immediately. Academic dishonesty includes both cheating and plagiarism. As outlined in the University’s policy above, cheating generally involves an attempt to use unauthorized materials or falsify information, and plagiarism is utilizing someone else’s writings, ideas, or works without providing due credit or proper citation. Quotation marks and footnote/endnote citations are utilized in order to note the source of the work or idea, but students can consult their instructors, writing centers (such as the Academic Assistance and Resource Center or AARC Tutoring Center at [library.sfasu.edu/aarc#/?_k=m57j8y](library.sfasu.edu/aarc#/?_k=m57j8y)), or other resources to clarify any questions or concerns related to such citations and attributions. The University’s 4.1 policy on Student Academic Dishonesty is provided in the earlier and following links, and students can also consult the Student Code of Conduct.
• In accordance with University policy, any instance of academic dishonesty, including plagiarism and cheating, are referred to the office of the dean of the student’s major which becomes a part of the student’s record. It is the student’s responsibility to understand the University’s ideals as outlined at [sfasu.edu/policies/4.1-student-academic-dishonesty.pdf](sfasu.edu/policies/4.1-student-academic-dishonesty.pdf).
**Withheld Grades (Semester Grades Policy, A-54)**

Ordinarily, at the discretion of the instructor of record and with the approval of the academic chair/director, a grade of WH will be assigned only if the student cannot complete the course work because of unavoidable circumstances. Students must complete the work within one calendar year from the end of the semester in which they receive a WH, or the grade automatically becomes an F. If students register for the same course in future terms the WH will automatically become an F and will be counted as a repeated course for the purpose of computing the grade point average.

**Students with Disabilities and/or Requiring Accommodations**

To obtain disability related accommodations, alternate formats, and/or auxiliary aids, students must contact the Office of Disability Services (ODS), Human Services Building, and Room 325, 468-3004 / 468-1004 (TDD) as early as possible in the semester. Once verified, ODS will notify the course instructor and outline the accommodation and/or auxiliary aids to be provided. Failure to request services in a timely manner may delay your accommodations. For additional information, go to [http://www.sfasu.edu/disabilityservices/](http://www.sfasu.edu/disabilityservices/).

**Mental Health Statement**

SFASU values students’ mental health and the role it plays in academic and overall student success. SFA provides a variety of resources to support students’ mental health and wellness. Many of these resources are free, and all of them are confidential.

On-campus Resources:
SFASU Counseling Services
[www.sfasu.edu/counselingservices](http://www.sfasu.edu/counselingservices)
3rd Floor Rusk Building
936-468-2401

SFASU Human Services Counseling Clinic
[www.sfasu.edu/humanservices/139.asp](http://www.sfasu.edu/humanservices/139.asp)
Human Services Room 202
936-468-1041

Crisis Resources:
Burke 24-hour crisis line 1(800) 392-8343
Suicide Prevention Lifeline 1(800) 273-TALK (8255)
Crisis Text Line: Text HELLO to 741-741

**Cell Phones, Laptops, Media, Newspapers, Food**

- If your cell phone rings in class, you may be asked to leave, and you may receive an absence.
- If you ‘text’ in class, you may be asked to leave, and you may receive an absence.
During examinations, quizzes, and any assignments, cell phones must be put away and silent. If I see your cell phone out, you may be asked to leave, and you may receive a 0 for the item’s grade.

Laptops may be utilized only for the purposes of taking notes. If you utilize your laptop in a manner not relevant to the class, you may be asked to put the laptop away. I reserve the right to prohibit laptops from class if I deem it necessary.

The only recordings allowed in class are my own recordings. You may not record or photograph me. If I discover myself or my class in photographs or on the internet, I reserve the right to fail the responsible student.

If you read newspapers or books not relevant to the class in class, you may be asked to leave, and you may receive an absence.

Food is not permitted in class. Drinks are allowed.

---

**Explanation of Credit Hours Awarded for Course**

HIST 4370 (Senior Seminar) is the capstone course required for all undergraduate history majors. It is designed to refine research and writing skills, giving students the opportunity to put the knowledge and skills they developed in HIST 3300 (Craft of History) into practice by completing a research project, or projects, based upon the use of primary and secondary sources. The course meets for 2,250 minutes (37.5 hours), including exam times, per semester. In addition to performing their out-of-class research, students typically have reading assignments from books and articles on historiographical theory and practice and complete out-of-class writing assignments that engage with those readings. They typically give in-class presentations on the progress of their research projects as well. Course instructors are required to hold regular scheduled office hours to make themselves available to consult with students as needed. Combined, doing the required reading, completing the out-of-class writing exercises, preparing for the in-class presentations, and consulting with course instructors averages two hours of work outside the classroom for every hour spent in the classroom.

I reserve the right to change the syllabus. Any changes will be announced in class. Students should be prepared to discuss **Materials in Bold** on the respective days.

---

**Course Calendar**

**Week 01**

*Mo, August 23: Introduction to Course*

- Class Syllabus

*We, August 25: Topics and Historiography*

*Fr, August 27: Topics and Historiography*

**Week 02**

*Mo, August 30: Beginning Research*

*We, September 01: Beginning Research*
Fr, September 03: Beginning Research

Week 03

Mo, September 06: Discussion of Research

We, September 08: Discussion of Research

Fr, September 10: Discussion of Research

Week 04

Mo, September 13: Research

We, September 15: Research

Fr, September 17: Research

Week 05

Mo, September 20: Research

We, September 22: Research

Fr, September 24: Research

Week 06

Mo, September 27: Research

We, September 29: Research

Fr, October 01: Research

Week 07

Mo, October 04: Organization of Papers

We, October 06: Organization of Papers

Fr, October 08: Organization of Papers

Week 08

Mo, October 11: Writing
Week 09

Mo, October 18: Writing
We, October 20: Writing
Fr, October 22: Writing

Week 10

Mo, October 25: Writing with Five (5) Pages Done
We, October 27: Writing with Five (5) Pages Done
Fr, October 29: Writing with Five (5) Pages Done

Week 11

Mo, November 01: Writing with Ten (10) Pages Done
We, November 03: Writing with Ten (10) Pages Done
Fr, November 05: Writing with Ten (10) Pages Done

Week 12

Mo, November 08: Writing with Fifteen (15) Pages Done
We, November 10: Writing with Fifteen (15) Pages Done
Fr, November 12: Writing with Fifteen (15) Pages Done

Week 13

Mo, November 15: Peer Discussion of Drafts
We, November 17: Peer Discussion of Drafts
Fr, November 19: Peer Discussion of Drafts

Week 14 – Thanksgiving Break – NO CLASS
Week 15

Mo, November 29: Final Drafts

We, December 01: Final Drafts

Fr, December 03: Final Drafts

Week 16

FINAL DRAFT DUE