

CATALOG YEAR 2010-2011
(Please use separate form for each add/change)

COLLEGE/SCHOOL : Arts & Sciences

Current Catalog Page(s) Affected : add to Arts & Sciences/History

Course: Add: _X_ Delete: _____

(check all that apply) Change: Number Title _____ SCH _____

Description Prerequisite

If new, provide Course Prefix, Number, Title, SCH Value, Description, prerequisite, and lecture/lab hours if applicable. If in current catalog, copy and paste the text and indicate changes in red.

- New Number: **HIST 3303**
- SCH: **3**

-Course Description: **This required course is designed to give history majors and minors a grounding in the methodologies that professional historians utilize in their scholarship. Designed to be taken at the beginning of work on the major, the class will consider a number of important topics in the research and writing of history. Emphasis will be given to issues such as how historians find and examine evidence, how they pose questions, and how they reach answers to those questions.**

-Prerequisite: **HIST 1301/1302.**

-Justification: **The new course is intended to give history majors and minors a better grounding in historical methodologies and writing in order to prepare them for advanced studies in history. This course will be designated as writing-intensive (WIN). The course will address many of the deficiencies we see in our students' writing, and will also provide a basis for pretesting history majors at the beginning of their upper-division coursework.**

Program: Add: _____ Change: _____ Attach new/changed Program of Study description and 4-year plan. If in current catalog, copy and paste the text and indicate changes in red.

Minor: Add: _____ Delete: _____ Change: _____ Attach new/changed minor.

If in current catalog, copy and paste the text and indicate changes in red.

Faculty: Add: _____ Delete: _____ Change: _____ Attach new/changed faculty entry.

If in current catalog, copy and paste the text from the and indicate changes in red.

College Introductory Pages: Add information: _____ Change information: _____

Attach new/changed information. If in current catalog, copy and paste the text from the and indicate changes in red.

Approvals: Signature Date

Chair _____

Department Curriculum Committee

Chair _____

Department

Chair _____

College Curriculum Committee

Dean _____

**History 3303: Historical Methods (WIN designated)
Proposed for Fall 2010**

COURSE DESCRIPTION AND OBJECTIVES: This course is designed to give history majors and minors a grounding in the methodologies that professional historians utilize in their scholarship. Intended to be one of the first courses taken in upper-division history, the class will consider a number of important topics in the research and writing of history. Emphasis will be given to issues such as how historians find and examine evidence, how they pose questions, and how they reach answers to those questions. As a writing-intensive course (WIN), the class will emphasize the practical application of students' interpretive skills utilizing a variety of sources and in a variety of contexts. Readings and classroom debate will further prepare students for their upper-division history courses and for critiquing various historiographical debates. Students will also write a major research paper to broaden their own knowledge and that of the class.

LEARNING OUTCOMES: Upon completion of this course, the student will be able to:

1. Identify some of the most important types of historical sources and demonstrate competence in their use and analysis.
2. Discuss and explain the how the availability and analysis of sources shapes historians' perspectives on the past.
3. Critique contemporary debates about various issues in historiography, the scholarship of historical research.
4. Develop written arguments in a variety of formats (e.g., primary source analyses, chapter summaries, book reviews, research paper).

REQUIRED TEXTS: The following are available at the TAMIU Bookstore.

- James West Davidson and Mark Hamilton Lytle, *After the Fact: The Art of Historical Detection*, 6th edition (McGraw-Hill, 2010)
- Mary Lynn Rampolla, *A Pocket Guide to Writing in History*, 6th edition (Bedford-St. Martin's, 2010)
- Copies of articles available on Angel and in databases are REQUIRED reading.

GRADE DISTRIBUTION:

Midterm examination	15%
Comprehensive final examination	20%
Research paper	25%
Chapter summaries/primary source analyses	15%
Book reviews	15%
Attendance and Participation	<u>10%</u>
TOTAL	100%