

Department of History, University of Manitoba, Winter 2020
HIST 4000 T01 CRN:58968 / HIST 7772 T01 CRN: 58969 3 Credit Hours

Crime & the Criminal Body in Early Modern Europe

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OFFICE HOURS: by appointment

SEMINARS: MONDAY 11:30-2:15

LOCATION: TBA

COURSE DESCRIPTION:

This seminar will examine recent historical work that has explored the ways in which human experience in the past can be said to be 'embodied'. Historians have been working to better understand the lived, felt, emotive or sentient experiences of people in the past in different time periods and places. Since we all experience the world through our physical body, and the body inhabits physical space and time, there are records and bits of evidence of that experience which are ripe for historical analysis. The course will examine some of the historical research which has emerged around the marginal body/bodies of the past, the criminal body in particular. We will also examine a number of primary sources in some detail. This focus will allow us to consider the various ways in which the body has been gendered or sexed, and how it was invoked as a site for the exercise of state or class power in the early modern era. With reference in particular to the operation of the criminal justice system in Britain and continental Europe in the period roughly 1500-1900, we will consider the ways in which historians have looked at the role of physical pain, constraint, control and manipulation in trying to understand the techniques of power. Before the end of the eighteenth century, in an age before effective, alternate methods of control were developed for dealing with groups of people whom society had ostracized or 'othered' for various reasons, those convicted of criminal offences faced punishments very different from what we would see today. The resort to punishing the offender's physical body took precedence over their reformation and was enacted in multiple forms. Thus, for much of the time period we will consider in this class, it was possible to read the actions of the powerful against the actions of the oppressed via the uses of the human body.

Although some reading knowledge of French or other European languages would be beneficial, it is not necessary. Note that the readings will examine some difficult subjects, often in grisly detail. The point is not to sensationalize the violence of past societies, but rather to interrogate the sensationalism of the time and to ask questions about how past societies used the body and actions upon the body as way to project attitudes to power, gender, class and age.

The main project for the course will be a research essay, based on primary and secondary sources found in the Dafoe library or on scholarly, web-based databases.

PREREQUISITE (UNDERGRADUATE STUDENTS IN HIST 4000 ONLY): written consent of department head. (HIST 7772 students) n/a

NOTE ON COMBINED SEMINARS IN HISTORY:

This combined seminar brings together honours, advanced undergraduate, and graduate students for a weekly discussion and debate of the readings and issues they raise. Undergraduate and Pre-MA students

are enrolled in HIST 4000 and graduate students in HIST 7772. While the seminar is a shared experience for two separate courses, there are significant and distinct independent study elements to the course.

While the seminar is a shared experience, the workload and expectations for graduate students in the 7772 section will be pitched at a more advanced level. HIST 7772 students are required to cover extra material, produce an additional assignment, and will be assessed at a level that presumes undergraduate degree preparation and signals a more advanced engagement with the material, related historiography or analytical theory.

COURSE FORMAT:

We will meet weekly in seminar format. As a seminar, the course time is devoted primarily to discussion and debate. You will be expected to shoulder a good portion of the work for this course by preparing before class and by participating actively and frequently in the seminar meetings. Your time outside of class should be thought of as preparation for discussion of the next week's topic through close and careful reading of the assigned materials, and a more general 'skim' reading of a selection of the other suggested readings. You are advised to come up with (or continue to use) an effective note taking strategy for your reading so that your work preparing for the course is in many ways similar to researching for an essay. Use your time to prepare for a good discussion of the weekly topic by reading up on the subject matter.

Each student will be responsible for serving as the tutorial 'guest host' for one week along with a co-host. For that week, you will prepare a 500 word summary of the assigned readings for the class which you will circulate to us on the Monday prior to our meeting. You will also provide a separate page of 6-7 questions that you wish to discuss that emerge from your reactions to the readings. They will be addressed (though perhaps not completely answered) during the seminar. These should be circulated to the entire class by posting to UMLearn by 8:30 a.m. on Monday, but preferably before then. Students are expected to complete the readings and to have visited the relevant websites before coming to class. You are encouraged to work with your co-host(s) on drafting the questions.

REQUIRED READINGS:

- Kevin Sienna, *Rotten Bodies: Class and Contagion in Eighteenth-Century Britain* (New Haven: Yale University Press, 2019) –copies are available in the UM Bookstore
- Sarah Tarlow and Emma Battell Lowman, *Harnessing the Power of the Criminal Corpse* (London: PalgraveMacmillan, 2018) Free e-book
- Peter King, *Punishing the Criminal Corpse, 1700-1840* (London: PalgraveMacmillan, 2017) Free e-book
- Other required readings will be available via the UMLearn website for the course

RECOMMENDED READINGS:

Karen Harvey, *The Imposteress Rabbit Breeder* (Oxford: Oxford University Press, 2020) [Note this book will not be published by Oxford University Press until Feb.23rd 2020.](#)

Mary L. Rampolla, *A Pocket Guide to Writing in History* 5th ed. London: Bedford/St. Martin's, 2007. 8th ed. 2015)

Kate L. Turabian, *A Manual for Writers of Term Papers, Theses, and Dissertations* (Chicago, 1987)

UMLEARN:

Each course (4000/7000) has a UMLearn website that I shall use for distributing course material and for communicating with you. Also, I encourage you to use the UMLearn for messaging and for chat outside of class.

COURSE REQUIREMENTS:

To pass this course you will need to demonstrate that you have the ability to research and present evidence to sustain historical arguments in an original way. Facility with primary and secondary historical sources and a demonstrated ability to analyze and assess their utility in making your own arguments about the past will be required. You will need to demonstrate through essays and through regular participation in discussions, an understanding of historiography, critical themes, key events and issues raised in the readings. The specific course requirements will consist of the following:

1. Regular participation in class discussions.
2. A spell as the leader or co-leader of a seminar week.
3. An historiographical essay
4. A research essay.

ATTENDANCE , PARTICIPATION, MISSED CLASSES:

Regular, active, audible, constructive participation forms a significant portion of the final grade (20%). Attendance alone is presumed by the University and alone will not count for any portion of the final grade for this course. Expect to come to class prepared to either pose or respond to questions, to discuss ideas, or to challenge the opinions raised by the discussion leader. If you are unable to attend class, please let me know in advance as soon as possible. If your absence is unavoidable, please provide me with a two page (500 word) written summary of the week's required readings. This will be accepted as a partial sign of participation for a missed class.

All written assignments should be typed and should conform to a formal academic style, free of contractions, colloquialism, slang, and so on. Sentences should be clear and to the point. Please proofread your work carefully before submitting it for grading. Papers should be paginated and free of technical errors of citation. For the formal essays, citations should follow the 'Chicago style' found in Kate Turabian, *A Manual for Writers of Terms Papers, Theses, and Dissertations*, 6th ed. (Chicago, 1996) or the *Chicago Manual of Style* (14th edition or later). Further details regarding written assignments will be handed out in class.

Evaluative feedback will be provided prior to the voluntary withdrawal (**VW**) date of **March 18, 2020**.

Written work will be evaluated for both content and style, but mainly for the depth of critical engagement with the sources and the quality of the argument. Students at this stage of their academic careers should realize that style to a large extent determines the content, and should therefore pay careful attention to the quality and tone of their writing. We are looking for clear, logical, well-supported arguments in your papers and it is your job as the author to be as clear and cogent as possible. Plan on writing and revising at least two drafts of your papers before submitting them.

Participation will be graded on an assessment of the quality, utility and facility of the student's role in the class. Perfect attendance alone is presumed and forms no portion of the participation grade. Students will be expected to discuss, debate, challenge and defend the ideas and opinions raised both in the required and supplementary readings, and by their fellow classmates during the discussions. It is

impossible for your colleagues to engage with—and for me to evaluate—ideas that appear only in your mind. You must share them with the group.

LATE ASSIGNMENTS:

Extensions will be granted only in exceptional circumstances for compassionate reasons. Please come to see me so we can discuss any challenges you are facing in meeting the due date. Late assignments will be penalized at the rate of **two marks** (or percentage points) **per day** of tardiness, **including weekends**. Computer failure can happen, so back up your work often on your hard drive, and copy to flash drives or to a cloud service such as Sync, Google Drive, Dropbox, etc.

ACADEMIC INTEGRITY:

Your written work should present your own ideas in your own words. The University of Manitoba takes a very serious view of academic misconduct, which includes such activities as cheating on examinations, plagiarism, misrepresentation, submitting purchased, borrowed or 'downloaded' papers from internet websites, and submitting the same material in two different courses. If you paraphrase or quote from the work of others, do the honest, professional thing by placing the exact words of another author within quotation marks, and acknowledge their words or ideas as a source in proper footnotes.

Students are expected to be familiar with the University's policy on plagiarism, cheating and examination impersonation found in the section on "Academic Integrity" of the General Academic Regulations in the online Academic Calendar and Catalog and the Faculty of Arts regulation (online at http://umanitoba.ca/faculties/arts/student_resources/student_responsibilities_integrity.html) which reads:

The common penalty in undergraduate courses in Arts for plagiarism on a written assignment is a grade of F on the paper and a final grade of F (DISC) (for Disciplinary Action) for the course. For the most serious acts of plagiarism, such as purchase of an essay and repeat violations, this penalty can also include suspension for a period of up to five (5) years from registration in courses taught in a particular department/program in Arts or from all courses taught in this Faculty.

The Faculty also reserves the right to submit student work that is suspected of being plagiarized to Internet sites designed to detect plagiarism or to other experts for authentication.

The common penalty in Arts for academic dishonesty on a test or examination is F for the paper, F (DISC) for the course, and a one-year suspension from courses acceptable for credit in the Faculty. For more serious acts of academic dishonesty on a test or examination, such as repeat violations, this penalty can also include suspension for a period of up to five years from registration in courses taught in a particular department or program in Arts or from all courses taught in or accepted for credit by this Faculty.

In this course it is expected that all submitted work will be done independently.

Students enrolled in the Faculty of Graduate Studies are subject to the rules for plagiarism and cheating set out in the University of Manitoba Academic Calendar & Catalog.

EVALUATION:

This is a joint graduate/undergraduate course. Students will be evaluated relative to their experience and level of study.

	Undergraduate Students (HIST 4000)	Graduate Students (HIST 7772)	Due date
Assignments	%	%	
Regular Participation/Discussion	15	20	Ongoing
Lead and co-lead on subject -includes a 3 page reaction paper + questions	10	5	Variable
Historiographical Essay -HIST 4000 students, 10 pages; HIST 7772 students, 15 pages	25	25	Feb 24 2020
Research Proposal & Presentation -3 pages + bibliography of min. 10 items	10	10	March 2 2020
Research Essay -HIST 4000 students, 15-20 pages; HIST 7772 students, 18-25 pages	40	40	April 6 2020

All written work must be submitted before the last day of classes.

The numerical grade weighting for evaluating performance in this course is as follows. Note that official, final grades are always subject to final departmental review.

		Undergraduate	Graduate
A+	≥ 90%	Exceptional, original work	Outstanding, original, critically engaged, deeply researched
A	80 – 89 %	Excellent, error free work	Very good, original work
B+	76 – 79 %	Very good work	Strong work, some originality, well above average
B	70 – 75 %	Good	Satisfactory, competent work for postgraduate students
C+	67 – 69 %	Satisfactory	Below expectations of postgraduate students
C	60 – 66 %	Adequate	
D	50 – 59 %	Marginal	
F	0 - 49 %	Failure	

REGULATIONS:

Graduate students must maintain a B average to maintain enrollment in their graduate program.

Students who wish to appeal a grade given for term work must do so within 10 working days after the grade for the term work has been made available to them.

Uncollected term work will become the property of the Faculty of Arts and will be subject to confidential destruction.

You do not have my permission to audio or video record the seminars.

SEMINAR TOPICS:

Week	Date	Seminar Topic
1	Jan 6	General Overview; Crime and the Courts
2	Jan 13	Embodiment and the Body as Historical Subject
3	Jan 20	Poor Bodies
4	Jan 27	Diseased and Disabled Bodies
5	Feb 3	Deviant Female Bodies, 1: Witches, Criminals, Sex Workers
6	Feb 10	Corporal Punishment
7	Feb 17	READING WEEK
8	Feb 24	The Spectacle of Execution
9	Mar 2	Deviant Male Bodies: libel and sodomy
10	Mar 9	Body Snatching and Dissection
11	Mar 16	Incarceration
12	Mar 23	Deviant Female Bodies, 2: Fortune Tellers and Frauds
13	Mar 31	Student Presentations
14	Apr 4	Student Presentations

STUDENT RESOURCES:

ACADEMIC RESOURCES

You have access to several important resources to help you navigate your classes and university life more generally. There are writing tutors available to help you with your essays through the Academic Learning Centre (ALC): <http://umanitoba.ca/student/academiclearning/>. The History department will also make a writing tutor available exclusively to History students in the department on one day a week. More information about scheduling, etc., TBA.

The ALC page also has resources to help you with study skills, organization, as well as assistance for students using English as an Additional Language (EAL). Other issues, including accessibility services, workshops, and tips about academic integrity are addressed at the Student Advocacy Services webpage (http://umanitoba.ca/student/resource/student_advocacy/).

All of the above services can also be accessed under the heading of Student Resources on the Student Affairs website: <http://umanitoba.ca/student/studentlife/index.html>.

History students can also take advantage of the huge range of academic materials (including primary and secondary sources, as well as pages to help with writing and referencing) made available by the History subject librarian, tailored just for you! They are available on the Libraries page at this link:

<http://libguides.lib.umanitoba.ca/history>. Students who need research assistance can also schedule an appointment with a librarian through the website.

STUDENT COUNSELLING CENTRE

Contact SCC if you are concerned about any aspect of your mental health, including anxiety, stress, or depression, or for help with relationships or other life concerns. SCC offers crisis services as well as counselling. <http://umanitoba.ca/student/counselling/index.html>.

STUDENT SUPPORT CASE MANAGEMENT

Contact the Student Support Case Management team if you are concerned about yourself or another student and don't know where to turn. SSCM helps connect students with on and off campus resources, provides safety planning, and offers other supports, including consultation, educational workshops, and referral to the STATIS threat assessment team. <http://umanitoba.ca/student/case-manager/index.html>

UNIVERSITY HEALTH SERVICE

Contact UHS for any medical concerns, including mental health problems. UHS offers a full range of medical services to students, including mental health support. <http://umanitoba.ca/student/health/>

STUDENT ADVOCACY

Contact Student Advocacy if you want to know more about your rights and responsibilities as a student, have questions about policies and procedures, and/or want support in dealing with academic or discipline concerns. <http://umanitoba.ca/student/advocacy>

UM HISTORY STUDENT ASSOCIATION (UMHISA)

UMHiSA is a history undergraduate student run organization that seeks to establish a sense of community for students studying all facets of history, and provide support for them in their academic career. Students interested in fun times, spirited debate, new opportunities, a community of like-minded students, or all of the above, check out UMHiSA on our instagram account www.instagram.com/umhisa_undergrad/ or by emailing umhisau@gmail.com.