

HIST 382: Modern Classics of Historical Writing  
Grinnell College, Spring 2023  
Meeting times TBD according to student and instructor schedules

Syllabus subject to change  
Assistant Professor Catherine Chouh ([chouh@grinnell.edu](mailto:chouh@grinnell.edu))  
Office Hours: TTh 2:30-3:30 p.m. and by appointment [Sign up here](#)

### Course Description

This course will introduce students to some of the most important themes, debates, and scholars in the field of history from the late nineteenth through the twentieth centuries. We move chronologically and thematically through the evolution of historiographical trends and paradigms and through specific historical content. We start with French social history in the late medieval and early modern periods. Participation Policy (15% of total grade) A-0 0 (-0wA)Tj0.1 a.clw 1 c0wAis m á< áÑ†

---

As this is a tutorial-style class, attendance is critical. By signing up for the course, you are committing to attending class each session with your partner(s). If you must miss a day for illness, a school-approved trip, etc., we will work together to meet at another time in the week, subject to your partner's or partners' schedule. Online sessions are also an option due to the pandemic. [Please prepare for every class by checking the class Google Doc for announcements, reminders, and specific reading assignments.](#) So that we can stay nimble, I will post guiding questions on the Google Doc to help you through the reading.

### Required Readings

We will read 13 or 14 books over the course of the semester always in their entirety, but

historiography and are generally available in used copies; if it is feasible, I urge you to consider purchasing hard copies of all of them to keep on your bookshelves.

Cost is of course a factor, however. Thus:

2. Summarize and explain the main arguments of the book
3. Identify and explain how the author builds their arguments (What do their case studies prove? What is their evidence base and how are they interpreting this evidence, and why?)
4. Connect this week's reading to previous ones (this may be more or less appli



Week Twelve

[Daston and Galison, Objectivity](#) (online access also available)

Week Thirteen

[Richards, The Unending Frontier](#) (online access also available)

Week Fourteen

[Lewis and Wigen, Myth of Continents](#) (online access also available)