

## **HIS2070: Doing History Fall 2020**

**Instructor:** William Wood  
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**Hours:** By appointment

### **Course Objectives and Outcomes**

This course is an introduction to historical methods and the skills necessary for upper division work in history. While writing several short papers and one major research paper, students practice a wide range of research skills such as analyzing primary and secondary texts, working in archives and libraries, editing and revising, note taking, and documentation. In addition, class readings on contemporary historiography acquaint students with the wide range of approaches to history, with a special focus on exploring a Christian perspective of the discipline. (If possible given our pandemic) students also visit local libraries, archives, and museums, and are encouraged to investigate the opportunities available for internships and career development during their student years.

Traditionally, each year of HIS2070 has had a theme topic to help students focus their research early as well as to be able to assist one another in the process of producing a final research paper. This semester our theme will be “Christian Missions.” We will use the vast primary and secondary sources available on this topic here at PLNU to practice the various steps involved in historical research. The final outcome will be a polished research paper on an individual missionary or mission demonstrating your ability to utilize historical methods.

Our official learning outcomes are that students will...

- Complete a substantial historical project autonomously (Assessed with the research paper.)
- demonstrate the relationship between primary and secondary materials by assessing a historian’s work and recognizing the evidence used to construct that historical argument (Assessed with the research paper.)
- present and analyze, in written or oral presentation, different perspectives on an event from the past (Assessed with the oral presentation and the research paper.)
- find appropriate materials online, in a library, or in the community and know how to cite them. (Assessed with the research paper.)

### **Required Texts**

Fea, John. *Why Study History? Reflecting on the Importance of the Past*. Grand Rapids, MI: Baker Academic, 2013.

Dickson, John. *Is Jesus History?* N.p.: The Good Book Co., 2019.

Robert, Dana L. *Christian Mission: How Christianity Became a World Religion*. Malden, MA: Wiley-Blackwell, 2009.

Turabian, Kate L. *A Manual for Writers of Research Papers, Theses, and Dissertations*. 9<sup>th</sup> Edition. Chicago: University of Chicago Press, 2018.

Summary version available here: [Chicago Manual of Style](#)

## **Assignments and Expectations**

1. Regular attendance and participation at every class session is required.
2. Numerous short written assignments will be submitted throughout the semester, covering both assigned readings and practical exercises to enhance your research skills.
3. Research Topic Overview (Prospectus): a 3-5 page summary of your research topic including: working hypothesis/thesis, your methodology or approach, a preliminary bibliography (both primary and secondary sources), and a preliminary outline of the major sections of your research paper.
4. Journal article abstract: a short (1-2 pages) summary of an academic research article related to your topic.
5. Annotated Bibliography: you will submit an evaluation of at least five key secondary sources for your subject area. They may or may not be used in your final paper but you will demonstrate that you are aware of their contents.
6. During this semester we will use the “Discussion” feature on Canvas, both in class and between classes, to practice a number of elements of historical thinking and research.
7. Analytical Research Paper: approximately 10-15 pages in length, delivered in several stages:
  - a) first submitted draft of polished historical writing in progress (minimum 5 pages).
  - b) you will also summarize your research in an oral presentation to the class.
  - c) a near-final draft of the entire completed paper to be reviewed by one of your peers.
  - d) the final, stunning piece of historical research. Approximately 10-15 pages in length and due during exam week.

## **Grading**

Participation (includes short class assignments and your presentation)	20%
Research Assignments (prospectus, journal abstract, bibliography, and peer review)	30%
Final Research Paper	50%

## **ASSIGNMENTS AT-A-GLANCE**

*Note: Given the hybrid and online modalities being used in the 2020-2021 academic year, the content of the course schedule and assignments will be posted in Canvas.*

Now the Legal Stuff:

### **PLNU Mission**

**To Teach ~ To Shape ~ To Send**

Point Loma Nazarene University exists to provide higher education in a vital Christian community where minds are engaged and challenged, character is modeled and formed, and service is an expression of faith. Being of Wesleyan heritage, we strive to be a learning community where grace is foundational, truth is pursued, and holiness is a way of life.

### **Department of History and Political Science Mission:**

As followers of Christ, the Department of History and Political Science promotes wisdom and scholarship about historical contexts and political systems, so that graduates can become local and global leaders in the service of Christ and humanity.

## PLNU COPYRIGHT POLICY ★

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Point Loma Nazarene University, as a non-profit educational institution, is entitled by law to use materials protected by the US Copyright Act for classroom education. Any use of those materials outside the class may violate the law.

## PLNU ACADEMIC ACCOMMODATIONS POLICY ★

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While all students are expected to meet the minimum standards for completion of this course as established by the instructor, students with disabilities may require academic adjustments, modifications or auxiliary aids/services. At Point Loma Nazarene University (PLNU), these students are requested to register with the Disability Resource Center (DRC), located in the Bond Academic Center. ([DRC@pointloma.edu](mailto:DRC@pointloma.edu) or 619-849-2486). The DRC's policies and procedures for assisting such students in the development of an appropriate academic adjustment plan (AP) allows PLNU to comply with Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act and the Americans with Disabilities Act. Section 504 (a) prohibits discrimination against students with special needs and guarantees all qualified students equal access to and benefits of PLNU programs and activities. After the student files the required documentation, the DRC, in conjunction with the student, will develop an AP to meet that student's specific learning needs. The DRC will thereafter email the student's AP to all faculty who teach courses in which the student is enrolled each semester. The AP must be implemented in all such courses.

If students do not wish to avail themselves of some or all of the elements of their AP in a particular course, it is the responsibility of those students to notify their professor in that course. PLNU highly recommends that DRC students speak with their professors during the first two weeks of each semester about the applicability of their AP in that particular course and/or if they do not desire to take advantage of some or all of the elements of their AP in that course.

## PLNU ATTENDANCE AND PARTICIPATION POLICY ⊕

Regular and punctual attendance at all **synchronous** class sessions is considered essential to optimum academic achievement. If the student is absent for more than 10 percent of class sessions (virtual or face-to-face), the faculty member will issue a written warning of de-enrollment. If the absences exceed 20 percent, the student may be de-enrolled without notice until the university drop date or, after that date, receive the appropriate grade for their work and participation. In some courses, a portion of the credit hour content will be delivered **asynchronously** and attendance will be determined by submitting the assignments by the posted due dates. See [Academic Policies](#) in the Undergraduate Academic Catalog. If absences exceed these limits but are due to university excused health issues, an exception will be granted.

### **Asynchronous Attendance/Participation Definition**

A day of attendance in asynchronous content is determined as contributing a substantive note, assignment, discussion, or submission by the posted due date. Failure to meet these standards will result in an absence for that day. Instructors will determine how many asynchronous attendance days are required each week.

## **COURSE CREDIT HOUR INFORMATION** ⚡

In the interest of providing sufficient time to accomplish the stated Course Learning Outcomes, this class meets the PLNU credit hour policy for a 4 unit class delivered over 15 weeks. It is anticipated that students will spend a minimum of 37.5 participation hours per credit hour on their coursework. For this course, students will spend an estimated 150 total hours meeting the course learning outcomes. The time estimations are provided in the Canvas modules.

## **STATE AUTHORIZATION** ⚡

State authorization is a formal determination by a state that Point Loma Nazarene University is approved to conduct activities regulated by that state. In certain states outside California, Point Loma Nazarene University is not authorized to enroll online (distance education) students. If a student moves to another state after admission to the program and/or enrollment in an online course, continuation within the program and/or course will depend on whether Point Loma Nazarene University is authorized to offer distance education courses in that state. It is the student's responsibility to notify the institution of any change in his or her physical location. Refer to the map on [State Authorization](#) to view which states allow online (distance education) outside of California.

## **PLNU ACADEMIC HONESTY POLICY** ⚡

Students should demonstrate academic honesty by doing original work and by giving appropriate credit to the ideas of others. Academic dishonesty is the act of presenting information, ideas, and/or concepts as one's own when in reality they are the results of another person's creativity and effort. A faculty member who believes a situation involving academic dishonesty has been detected may assign a failing grade for that assignment or examination, or, depending on the seriousness of the offense, for the course. Faculty should follow and students may appeal using the procedure in the university Catalog. See [Academic Policies](#) for definitions of kinds of academic dishonesty and for further policy information.

## **USE OF TECHNOLOGY** ⚡

In order to be successful in the online environment, you'll need to meet the minimum technology and system requirements; please refer to the [Technology and System Requirements](#) information. Additionally, students are required to have headphone speakers compatible with their computer available to use. If a student is in need of technological resources please contact [student-tech-request@pointloma.edu](mailto:student-tech-request@pointloma.edu).

Problems with technology do not relieve you of the responsibility of participating, turning in your assignments, or completing your class work.