Course Description:

The seminar introduces students to the range of methodological, theoretical, and ideological frameworks that have guided historians today. It also provides a history of historical writing in the second half of the twentieth century with a focus on contemporary theoretical and epistemological issues. We will try to map major turning points in the field by examining social history, cultural and linguistic turn, postcolonial theory, postmodernity’s histories, and culturalism and globalism as political discourses. In the seminar we aim to explore major differences in assumptions about the meaning and purposes of history.

Requirements:

1. Performance in classroom discussions (50 %).
2. Final exam (50 %).

Course Schedule

Week 1: Introduction (19 September)

Week 2: The Annales School (26 September)


Week 3: Social History and British Marxist Historical Tradition (3 October)


**Week 4: Historical Sociology (10 October)**


**Week 5: Gender and Women’s History (17 October)**


**Week 6: Social History and the Revival of Narrative (24 October)**


**Week 7: Anthropological History: The Cultural Turn and History of Mentalites (31 October)**


**Week 8: The Habermas of Historians (7 November)**


Geoff Eley, “Politics, Culture and the Public Sphere,” *Positions*, 10 (1), 2002, pp. 219, 236.


**Week 9: The Foucault of Historians (14 November)**


**Week 10: Said, Orientalism and Writing Non-Western Histories (21 November)**


**Week 11: Subaltern Studies (28 November)**


**Week 12: Post-Modern Histories and the Crisis of Representation (5 December)**


**Week 13: Review and Conclusion (12 December)**