**HIST 450: The History Capstone**  
**Draft Syllabus – for planning and informational purposes only**  
Winter 2020  
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**Description:** Students in History450 will complete a new major research paper (25 pages) on a topic of their choosing that they have not previously submitted to another course. The subject of the paper will be based on consultation with the seminar professor. While the seminar professor's interests are on Canadian, and international foreign relations students are encouraged to build upon their knowledge from previous fourth year seminars. The final research paper must demonstrate both the student's familiarity with the relevant secondary literature as well as their ability to locate, analyze, and use primary sources. During the first month of the seminar students will formulate a manageable research project; an identification of their research topic; the central question(s) they are pursuing; and an annotated bibliography consisting of relevant primary and secondary sources. For the remainder of the term, we will meet periodically as a group and in individual consultations as we discuss the progress of your projects. Near the end of the term, students will deliver oral presentations of their papers, as well as oral commentaries of work conducted by their peers. Given that these presentations will occur before the final due date of the project, this will necessitate that each student completes a rough draft for distribution to the class one week before their scheduled presentation date. A failure to do so will result in a 10% grade penalty. Students should make use of the critical feedback they receive during presentations when polishing their final draft.

**Evaluation:**

- Draft and final Essay Proposal/Annotated bibliography: 20%
- Oral presentation of research paper: 20%
- Oral commentary on peer’s papers/participation: 15%
- Research Paper: 45%