

HS 330: Gender, Race, and Class in Modern Europe
Textbook Analysis Assignment
Prof. Andrew Ross
Spring 2020

Description: This assignment asks you to analyze and respond to a European history textbook. Each group will be assigned a textbook and each group member will choose a single chapter of that textbook in order to complete two tasks:

1. You will *analyze* your chapter in a short essay (c. 2-4 pages) with particular attention to the following questions: What is the goal of this chapter? What topics does it address in the service of those aims? Who and what gets the most attention? Does the author or authors portray any particular ideological perspective? What information would have strengthened the chapter?
2. Using secondary (or primary, if applicable) research, you will write a *contribution* to the textbook that adds some information related to your group topic. Choose a section of the textbook and write an additional 1-2 pages as if you were literally inserting text right into the book.

Goals: This assignment begins our semester-long project of reconceptualizing European history from the perspective of marginalized or nondominant groups. In order to accomplish that task, we first need to ensure that we have some foundation in European history, as well as the perspective from which European history is often told. This assignment thus seeks to develop greater knowledge of European history, as well as helping you develop the critical faculties necessary to question some of the underlying assumptions of that knowledge. More broadly, then, this assignment seeks to encourage you to recognize the absences within a given narrative or text and respond to them.

Requirements:

1. Every group member should complete their analysis on a different chapter of your assigned textbook. Ensure that you choose chapters that cover a range of time (1789 – Present).
2. Total Length: 4-6 pages (Analysis 2-4 pages; Contribution 1-2 pages)
3. Format: 12 pt, Times New Roman (or other standard font), double spaced
4. Header: Single spaced, with your name, the course title, my name, and the date
5. Title: Citation to the chapter of the textbook you are analyzing.
6. Sources: Your analysis may only refer to the textbook, but feel free to use other sources if applicable. You should use at least **three peer-reviewed journal articles** for your contribution.
7. Citations: Use footnotes and include a bibliography
8. Other: Include a picture or scan of the page that your text is contributing to and indicate where your text fits.

Assessment: This assignment will be graded on the basis of the rubric on the reverse of this handout (also available on Moodle).

Deadline: Analyses are due on Wednesday, February 19. Bring a paper copy with you to class and submit a file online via Moodle.

As per the syllabus, instances of plagiarism may result in automatically failing the course.