

# Contract Grading in HIST1P50

## Definitions

In this course, you will decide whether you receive an A, B or C. You and Professor Rose will agree to a contract that stipulates the work you will, to a defined level of quality, in order to receive that grade. Professor Rose will offer feedback on individual assignments along the way, but no numerical or letter grades on each. We will meet one-on-one twice in the semester (Week 5, Week 9) to determine whether you are fulfilling the terms of your contract or whether we wish to revise your contract (to either a higher grade or a lower grade). Prof. Rose can assign lower grades if the terms of your contract are unfulfilled at the end of the course.

Because this course is centred around a shared group project, your grading contract will be based substantially on how much responsibility for that project you wish to take on. For the highest grades that means leadership in one or more areas of the project, or peer support for your classmates (eg reviewing their work and helping to edit prose), or taking technical lead on a particular area of project development.

Below is the timetable of project tasks found in the syllabus. Project design will be done by brainstorm. That leaves five major task (MT) areas, beyond the Project Review in Week 8. Each of these sections will need a “team lead”, for a minimum of five (5) A grades in the course (there can be more than one team lead per section, but beware of too many cooks in the kitchen). You may contract for an A grade even if you do not wish to be a team lead but the requirements are different.

Task	Timeline
Project Design	Weeks 1-2
Initial Research (MT)	Weeks 3-5
Primary Source Research (MT)	Weeks 6-7
Mid-Course Project Review	Week 8
Content Creation / Website Framing (MT)	Weeks 9-10
Website Construction (MT)	Week 11
Website Publication (MT)	Week 12

## Grade Requirements

An **A** Grade:

- Team lead of one section OR extra contribution of ideas and materials to 3 or more sections
- Team Leads must
  - Establish parameters of Major Task and define
  - Create and deploy shared infrastructure (eg a bibliography in Zotero, shared Excel spreadsheets, wordpress instance, Omeka
  - Track task progress and determine when objectives have been met
  - Compile final task report and results
  - Manage integration of section with rest of course
- Extra contribution: satisfy requirements for a B grade for all sections, plus two more source annotations during both Initial Research and Primary Source Research sections as well as

technical lead on one section of Website Framing (eg a GIS map, a photo slideshow, a primary source digitization, overall visual site identity)

- Contribute with generosity and good faith in all aspects of the course project.

#### A **B** Grade:

- Section 1 (Initial Research): Find 4 books or journal articles through Brock library resources on your assigned sub-topic. For each, write ½ page single spaced annotations. Store source citations in group Zotero Library with annotations in the Notes metadata. Annotations are free of major grammatical errors and are clearly and concisely written.
- Section 2 (Primary Source Research): Find 3 primary sources (letters, pictures, newspaper articles) for your assigned sub-topic. For each, write ½ page single spaced analysis. Store source citations in groups Zotero library with annotations in the Notes metadata.
- Section 3 (Content Creation / Website Framing): EITHER Write 3 blocks of website content (blurbs for pages, etc) OR develop technical infrastructure of website, taking responsibility for 3 wireframe pages.
- Section 4 (Website Construction): EITHER Fill in content to 3 wireframe pages OR copy edit 3 completed sections of the website.
- Section 5 (Website Publication): Create 3+ social media posts advertising site launch over the course of launch week OR complete final copy edit of entire website.
- Contribute with generosity and good faith in all aspects of the course project.

#### A **C** Grade:

- Section 1 (Initial Research): Find 2 books or journal articles through Brock library resources on your assigned sub-topic. For each, write ½ page single spaced annotations. Store source citations in group Zotero Library with annotations in the Notes metadata. Annotations have minor and major grammatical issues and are not clearly and concisely written.
- Section 2 (Primary Source Research): Find 1-2 primary sources (letters, pictures, newspaper articles) for your assigned sub-topic. For each, write ½ page single spaced analysis. Store source citations in groups Zotero library with annotations in the Notes metadata.
- Section 3 (Content Creation / Website Framing): Write 1-2 blocks of website content (blurbs for pages, etc) .
- Section 4 (Website Construction): Fill in content to 1-2 wireframe pages .
- Section 5 (Website Publication): Create 1-2 social media posts advertising site launch over the course of launch week.
- Contribute with generosity and good faith in all aspects of the course project.

At the end of the course students will complete a self-evaluation outlining their fulfilment of their contract. Students should maintain a record of their contributions to the course project for this purpose.

Students will complete and sign the contract on page 3 of this document and return it to Professor Rose by Tuesday January 26 2021.

These contracts place responsibility for course grades in the hands of students, and provide a clear and upfront set of expectations about participating effectively in this instance of HIST1P50.

# HIST1P50 “Co-Operative Historical Projects”

## Grading Contract Winter 2021

Agreed between  
26<sup>th</sup> of January 2021.

and Professor Colin Rose at Brock University on the

I, \_\_\_\_\_, contract with Professor Rose for a grade of \_\_\_\_\_ in HIST1P50: Co-Operative Historical Projects during the Winter Semester (D3) of the 2020-21 school year.

I have read and understand the requirements for this grade as outlined on Page 2 of this document.

I will complete these requirements to the best of my ability and to the highest quality I am able.

I will review my progress towards this grade during Weeks 5 and 9 of the semester in a brief meeting with Professor Rose, at which point I may revise my contracted grade either up or down.

Within one week of the final class of the semester, I will submit a written self-evaluation of 1 page (plus any necessary attachments) detailing my completion of the requirements for my contracted grade.

I understand that failure to complete the requirements for my contracted grade will result in a lower grade being assigned by Professor Rose.

Satisfactory completion of all requirements will result in the contracted grade being assigned for HIST1P50.

Signed on the  of January, 2021.

\_\_\_\_\_

Student Name

Colin Rose

\_\_\_\_\_

Professor Name

\_\_\_\_\_

Student Signature

\_\_\_\_\_

Professor Signature