



Departmental Seminars - Spring term 2008/09

The department puts on two separate seminar programmes: the Departmental Seminars (DS) and the Research Seminars (RS). The Departmental Seminars are joint seminars, organized by 2 or more professors (convenors), and are essentially teaching seminars, aimed at examining broad developments within the discipline, and exploring major theoretical and methodological issues. Each semester the department will put on 5 to 6 Departmental Seminars (8 to 9 sessions per semester). Alongside the Departmental Seminars are the Research Seminars (8 to 9 sessions per semester) which are organized by individual professors (or in some cases jointly organized by 2 professors). The Research Seminars are intended as specialized seminars dealing with the research in progress of professors, researchers and visiting scholars. Researchers normally attend the Research Seminars of their supervisors.

First year researchers are required to take 3 seminars in the autumn semester (RS or DS) and two seminars in the spring semester (RS or DS). Of these five seminars the researcher has to choose two DS. A researcher is not confined to the Departmental Seminars offered by the Department of History, but may, where appropriate and with the approval of her/his supervisor, take a seminar offered by another department. The Department formally requires you to **register** with Ms Nicky Koniordos the titles of the **seminars**, which you must attend during each of your first and second semesters of study. During the autumn semester all first year researchers will be required to hand in a written presentation and to give an oral presentation upon the subject of 2 of the seminars that they are attending.

The teaching programme for the Spring Term runs from 12 January until 20 March 2009

The Departmental Seminars in Spring term 2008/09 will be as follows:

Prof. Philipp Ther , Oral History and Related Social Science Methods

Profs. Giulia Calvi , Challenging the Master Narratives

Profs. Heinz-Gerhard Haupt and Prof. Bartolomé Yun-Casalilla, Thesis writing and research framing seminar

Prof. Martin van Gelderen, Intellectual History Work-in-Progress Seminar



Prof. Philipp Ther

Oral History and Related Social Science Methods

Usually on Tuesday at 13,00 in Sala Belvedere

Date	Title and readings
13 January	<p>Session 1:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• <i>What is Oral History? The History of Oral History.</i> <p>Mandatory Reading:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Louis Starr, "Oral history", in David K. Dunaway, Willa K. Baum (eds.), <i>Oral History. An Interdisciplinary Anthology</i>, 2nd edition, (Walnut Creek: Altamira Press, 1996), pp. 39-61.• Paul Thompson, "The voice of the past: oral history", in Robert Perks, Alistair Thomson (eds.), <i>The oral history reader</i>, (London, New York: Routledge, 1998), pp. 21-28.• Alessandro Portelli, "What makes oral history different", in Robert Perks, Alistair Thomson (eds.), <i>The oral history reader</i>, (London, New York: Routledge, 1998), pp. 63-74.• Rebecca Sharpless, "The History of Oral History", in Thomas L. Charlton, Lois E. Myers, Rebecca Sharpless, <i>Thinking About Oral History. Theories and Applications</i>, (Lanham: Altamira Press, 2008), pp. 7-32. <p>Further Reading:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Allan Nevins, "Oral History: How and Why It was Born", in David K. Dunaway, Willa K. Baum (eds.), <i>Oral History. An Interdisciplinary Anthology</i>, 2nd edition, (Walnut Creek: Altamira Press, 1996), pp. 29-38.• Thomson, Alistair, "Fifty Years On: An International Perspective on Oral History", <i>The Journal of American History</i>, Vol. 85, No. 2. (Sep., 1998), pp. 581-595.• Shopes, Linda. "Making Sense of Oral History." <i>History Matters: The U.S. Survey on the Web</i>. Available at http://historymatters.gmu.edu/mse/oral/. (Last retrieved: November 11, 2008).• Karen Hirsch, "Culture and disability: the role of oral history", in Robert Perks, Alistair Thomson (eds.), <i>The oral history reader</i>, (London, New York: Routledge, 1998), pp. 214-223.• Alessandro Portelli, "The Peculiarities of Oral History", <i>History Workshop</i>, No. 12 (Autumn, 1981), pp. 96-107.• Alessandro Portelli, "Oral History as Genre" in Idem, <i>The Battle of Valle Giulia. Oral History and the Art of Dialogue</i>, (Wisconsin: The University



	of Wisconsin Press, 1997).
20 January	<p>Session 2: <i>Methodological Problems, Part 1:</i> <i>Time Distance, Objectivity and Subjectivity, Validity and Reliability.</i></p> <p>Mandatory Reading:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Alessandro Portelli, "The Time of My Life': Functions of Time in Oral History", in Idem, <i>The death of Luigi Trastulli, and other stories: form and meaning in oral history</i>, (Albany: State University of New York, 1991), pp. 59-80.• Elizabeth Tonkin, "Temporality: narrators and their times", in Idem, <i>Narrating Our Pasts. The Social Construction of Oral History</i>, (Cambridge, New York, Oakleigh: Cambridge University Press, 1992), pp. 66-82.• Elizabeth Tonkin, "Subjective or objective? Debates on the nature of oral history", in Idem, <i>Narrating Our Pasts. The Social Construction of Oral History</i>, (Cambridge, New York, Oakleigh: Cambridge University Press, 1992), pp. 83-96.• Alessandro Portelli, "The Death of Luigi Trastulli: Memory and the Event", in Idem, <i>The death of Luigi Trastulli, and other stories: form and meaning in oral history</i>, (Albany: State University of New York, 1991), pp. 1-26.• Alice Hoffman, "Reliability and Validity in Oral History", in David K. Dunaway, Willa K. Baum (eds.), <i>Oral History. An Interdisciplinary Anthology</i>, 2nd edition, (Walnut Creek, Lanham, New York, Oxford: Altamira Press, 1996), pp. 87-93. <p>Further Reading:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Trevor Lummis, "Structure and validity in oral evidence", in Robert Perks, Alistair Thomson (eds.), <i>The oral history reader</i>, (London, New York: Routledge, 1998), pp. 273-283.
29 January Europa Please note change of date and room	<p>Session 3: <i>Methodological Problems, Part 2:</i> <i>Positivism in Oral History and the Challenge of the Linguistic Turn.</i></p> <p>European integration and the politics of science - national, European or global view? to be given by Veera Nisonen</p> <p>Mandatory Reading:</p>



- Paul Thompson, "Historians and Oral History", in Idem, *The Voice Of the Past. Oral History*, Second Edition, (Oxford, New York: Oxford University Press, 1988), pp. 22-71.
 - Jan Vansina, "Oral Tradition as Process", in Idem, *Oral Tradition as History*, (London: James Currey Ltd., 1985), pp. 3-32.
- Elizabeth Tonkin, "The Teller of the Tale: Authors and Their Authorisations", in Idem, *Narrating Our Pasts. The Social Construction of Oral History*, (Cambridge, New York, Oakleigh: Cambridge University Press, 1992), pp. 38-49.
- Mary Chamberlain, "Narrative Theory", in Thomas L. Charlton, Lois E. Myers, Rebecca Sharpless, *Thinking About Oral History. Theories and Applications*, (Lanham, New York, Toronto, Plymouth, UK: Altamira Press, 2008), pp. 142-165.

Further Reading:

- Robert Darnton, "Peasants Tell Tales: The Meaning of Mother Goose", in Idem, *The Great Cat Massacre and other Episodes in French Cultural History* (New York: Basic Books, 1984), pp. 9-76.
- Katherine Borland, "'That's not what I said': interpretive conflict in oral narrative research", in Robert Perks, Alistair Thomson (eds.), *The oral history reader*, (London, New York: Routledge, 1998), pp. 320-332.
- Jan Vansina, "Oral Tradition and Historical Methodology", in David K. Dunaway, Willa K. Baum (eds.), *Oral History. An Interdisciplinary Anthology*, 2nd edition, (Walnut Creek, Lanham, New York, Oxford: Altamira Press, 1996), pp. 121-125.
- Marta Kurkowska, "Archiwa Pamięci – Oral History.", in *Historyka, Studia Metodologiczne*, Tom XXVIII, 1998. S. 67-76.
- See also the issue of *The Oral History Review* (Vol. 30, No. 1, Winter-Spring 2003) on the topic of "sharing authority", especially the following articles:
 - Alistair Thomson, "Introduction: Sharing Authority: Oral History and the Collaborative Process" (pp. 23-26).
 - Linda Shopes, "Commentary: Sharing Authority" (pp. 103-110).
 - Michael Frisch, "Commentary: Sharing Authority: Oral History and the Collaborative Process", (pp. 111-113).

3 February

Session 4:
Oral History and Memory.



	<p>Mandatory Reading:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Alice M. Hoffman, Howard S. Hoffman, "Memory Theory: Personal and Social", in Thomas L. Charlton, Lois E. Myers, Rebecca Sharpless, <i>Thinking About Oral History. Theories and Applications</i>, (Lanham: Altamira Press, 2008), pp. 33-54.• Elizabeth Tonkin, "Memory makes us, we make memory", in Idem, <i>Narrating Our Pasts. The Social Construction of Oral History</i>, (Cambridge: Cambridge University Press, 1992), pp. 97-112.• Jay Winter, "Notes on the Memory Boom: War, Remembrance and the Uses of the Past", in Duncan Bell (ed.), <i>Memory, Trauma and World Politics. Reflections on the Relationship between Past and Present</i>, (Basingstoke [England]; New York: Palgrave Macmillan, 2006), pp. 54-73.• Richard S. Esbenshade, "Remembering to Forget: Memory, History, National Identity in Postwar East-Central Europe", in <i>Representations</i> (49, Winter 1995), pp. 72-96.• Pierre Nora, <i>Reasons for the current upsurge in memory</i>. Available from www.eurozine.com Published on April 19, 2004. <p>Further Reading:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Jacques Le Goff, <i>Histoire et Memoire</i>, (Paris: Gallimard, 1988).• Natale Losi, Luisa Passerini, Silvia Salvatici, <i>Archives of memory: supporting traumatized communities through narration and remembrance</i>, (Geneva: International Organization for Migration, 2001).• Luisa Passerini, (ed.), <i>Memory & totalitarianism</i>, (New Brunswick: Transaction Publishers, 2005).• Lutz Niethammer, "Virtuelle Vergangenheit und Zukunft", in Idem <i>Kollektive Identität. Heimliche Quellen einer unheimlichen Konjunktur</i>, (Hamburg, 2000), pp. 314-366.
10 February	<p>Session 5:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• <i>Introduction to Quantitative Interviews and Participatory Field Research.</i> <p>Mandatory Reading:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Robert G. Burgess, "Preface", "Introduction" and "Methods of Field Research 1: Participant Observation", in Idem, <i>In the Field. An Introduction to Field Research</i>, (London: George Allen&Unwin, 1984), pp. xiii-xiv, 1-6 and 78-100.• David L. Morgan, "Focus Groups", <i>Annual Review of Sociology</i>, Vol. 22 (1996), pp. 129-152.• David de Vaus, <i>Surveys in Social Research</i>, Fifth Edition (London and



	<p>New York: Routledge, 2002), pp. 3-8.</p> <p>Further Reading:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ben Crewe, Shadd Maruna, “Self-Narratives and Ethnographic Fieldwork”, in Dick Hobbs, Richard Wright, <i>The Sage Handbook of Fieldwork</i>, (London: Sage Publications, 2006), pp. 109-124. • Bob Simpson, “‘You Don’t Do Fieldwork, Fieldwork Does You’: Between Subjectivation and Objectivation in Anthropological Fieldwork”, in Dick Hobbs, Richard Wright, <i>The Sage Handbook of Fieldwork</i>, (London: Sage Publications, 2006), pp. 125-138. • Floyd J. Fowler, Jr., <i>Survey Research Methods</i>, Third Edition (Thousand Oaks: Sage Publications, 2002).
17 February	Session 6: Researcher Presentation of Oral History Research Project: Title TBA
24 February	Session 7: Researcher Presentation of Oral History Research Project: Title TBA

Profs. Giulia Calvi

Challenging the Master Narratives

The seminar will present an overview of historiographical approaches that have questioned and challenged accepted notions and categories of historical analysis such as: change, time, gender, individualism/subjectivity, space. In so doing, the seminar will focus on sites of epistemological tension in international historiographies from the Seventies to the present. Issues of interdisciplinarity will also be addressed.

Usually held on **Tuesday, from 11,15-13,15 Sala Belvedere**

Date	Titles and readings
13 January	<p>Theoretical issues: engendering change in the writing of history</p> <p>Judith M.Bennett, <i>Confronting continuity</i>, “Journal of Women’s History” 9, 1997, n. 3</p> <p>Joan Kelly, <i>The Social Relation of the Sexes</i>, “Signs” 1, 1976, n.4</p>
22 January please note change of date	<p>Methodological frameworks and the production of knowledge</p> <p>Ann T.Allen, <i>Feminism, Social Science and the Meanings of Modernity: The Debate on the Origin of the Family in Europe and the United States, 1860-</i></p>



	<p>1914, "The American Historical Review", 104, 1999, 4</p> <p>Cynthia Eller, <i>Sons of the Mother: Victorian Anthropologists and the Myth of Matriarchal Prehistory</i>, "Gender and History", 18, 2006, n. 2</p>
27 January	<p>The body as an object of historical enquiry</p> <p>Karen Harvey, <i>The Substance of Sexual Difference: Change and Persistence in Representations of the Body in XVIII century England</i>, "Gender and History", 14, 2002, n.2</p> <p>Heidi Gegenbach, <i>Tattooed Secrets: Women's History in Magude District, Southern Mozambique</i>, in T.Ballantyne and A.Burton (eds.), <i>Bodies in Contact</i>, Duke UP, 2005</p>
3 February	<p>Culture and power</p> <p>Bonnie G.Smith, <i>Historiography, Objectivity and the Case of the Abusive Widow</i>, in J.Scott (ed.) <i>Feminism and History</i>, Oxford U.P.1996</p> <p>C. Dauphin, A.Farge, G. Fraisse, <i>Women's culture and women's power: issues in French Women's history</i>, in J.W.Scott (ed.), <i>Feminism and History</i>, Oxford UP 1996</p>
10 February	<p>A critique of the universal subject</p> <p>Joan W. Scott, <i>Politics of the veil</i></p>
17 February	<p>Difference in the making of equality</p> <p>Joan W.Scott, <i>Politics of the veil</i></p>
24 February	<p>Gender in Islamic Middle Eastern Societies</p> <p>Leila Ahmed, <i>Women and Gender in Islam</i>, Yale UP 1992 (chapters 6;8)</p>
3 March	<p>History and Fiction</p> <p>Assia Djebar, <i>Women of Algiers in their Apartment</i>, 1999</p>

Prof. Heinz-Gerhard Haupt and Prof. Bartolomé Yun-Casalilla

Thesis writing and research framing seminar

The aim of this seminar is to discuss key aspects of our work as researchers in history, from the contact with sources to the production of outlines and the writing of chapters and the thesis, as well as strategies for publication and reviews. Some presentations by students are considered within this frame, but –differently from other thesis writing seminars- this one tries to discuss with the researchers the common problems that historians usually find in their work as well as the way those problems can be faced. To that end, not only personal experiences of professors, researchers and guests will be commented, but also their know-how and the most common practices. Though this is not a seminar on comparative and trans-national history, some sessions will be devoted to this as a way to help the students in the conception of their rhetoric when writing comparative history.



Usually on **Thursday at 9.00AM in sala Belvedere**

Programme TBA

Date	Title and readings
22 January	<i>How to write a PhD.</i> Comments and discussion on a video-interview.
29 January	<i>How to produce a state of the art and, how build analytical questions</i>
5 February	<i>Sources, scales and the historian</i> (tentative title) by prof. Giovanni Levi This session will merge with the seminar on "Reading the Sources and Answering the Questions. History in the Archives" by B. Yun and V. Soen.
12 February	<i>How to choose the methods</i>
19 February	<i>How to write a chapter and the structure of the thesis</i>
25 February	<i>How to write reviews and criteria for judgements of referees</i>
5 March	<i>Specific problems, rethoric and strategies for a thesis in comparative history.</i>
12 March	<i>Strategies for publication in the anglosaxon academy.</i> (Guest speaker, Professor S. Smith, tbc)

Prof. Martin van Gelderen

Intellectual History Work-in-Progress Seminar

Usually on Monday at 17,15 in sala Belvedere

Date	Speaker
12 January	Adriana Luna (4th year)
19 January	Arthur Weststeijn (4th year)
26 January:	Guest speaker: Tim Stanton, University of York
02 February	Ilse Lazaroms (3rd year)
09 February:	Susan Karr (Max Weber Fellow)
16 February:	Ere Nokkala (4th year)
23 February:	Lone Martinsen (3rd year)
02 March:	Josh Derman (Max Weber Fellow)
09 March:	Michael Sorensen (3rd year)