

# Course Syllabus

[Jump to Today](#)

 [Edit](#)

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Office Hours: By Appointment Only

## Course Description:

Local history, like public history, is peculiar among other fields of historical inquiry in that its central focus is not topical. After all, one could do local labor history, local women's history, local business history, and, as we will see, local religious history. Rather, what sets local history apart from the rest of the discipline is a set of professional and ethical concerns. Who is local history for? What can local history do? Where does one go to find it? How does a historian work with a community when the object of study may be their neighbors? And how can historians build the kind of relationships that not only yield obscure or overlooked sources, but also ensures their work has impact?

We will try and work these questions throughout the course of this semester by both talking about and doing local history.

## Course Requirements and Grading:

Your final grade requires you to participate in all of the requirements below.

- Participation (20%): Knowledge is never passively received, but always actively constructed. Therefore, a portion of your grade comes from the best way for you to learn: by engaging with both course materials and your colleagues. "Participation" covers every aspect of your involvement in the course including attendance, attentiveness, discussion, and the completion of required assignments. The course will ultimately be more beneficial, and more interesting, if you engage with it seriously. This also extends to class attendance. Any unexcused absence from class will result in a deduction of your participation grade.
- Crisis Collecting (20%): As part of this class, we will talk about the crisis collecting initiatives historians will occasionally undertake during dramatic moments like a pandemic. After this, you will do some crisis collecting yourself by contributing to the [COVID-19 MKE Archive](https://uwm.edu/covid19mkearchive) (<https://uwm.edu/covid19mkearchive>).
- Oral History (20%): In addition to collecting photographs, documents, and other ephemera, you will also conduct one oral history for the COVID-19 MKE Archive.
- Review (20%): One of the ways we will learn about other crisis collecting initiatives is by exploring what others have done.
- Mock Exhibit (20%): To conclude the course, you will draw up a mock exhibit based on materials from the *COVID-19 MKE Archive* that could potentially be installed in UWM's Mathis Gallery.

## Required Texts:

The following texts are available for purchase through UWM eCampus.

- Bill Adair, et al., eds., *Letting Go: Sharing Authority in a User Generated World* (New York: Routledge, 2011). ISBN: 978-0983480303.
- Beverly Serrell, *Exhibit Labels: An Interpretive Approach* (New York: Rowman & Littlefield, 2015). ISBN: 978-1442249035.
- Tammy S. Gordon, *Private History in Public: Exhibition and Settings of Everyday Life* (New York: Rowman & Littlefield, 2010). ISBN: 978-0759119352.
- Steven Lubar, *Inside the Lost Museum: Curating, Past and Present* (Cambridge, MA: Harvard University Press, 2017). ISBN: 978-0674971042.

### **Vital Campus Resources:**

- **UWM COVID-19 Policy** (<https://uwm.edu/cetl/covid-19-syllabus-statements/>)
- **Campus Resources for Students in Need** (<https://uwm.edu/cetl/wp-content/uploads/sites/128/2020/10/UWM-Milwaukee-Campus-Resources-1-2.pdf>)
- **Tutoring and Supplemental Instruction** (<https://uwm.edu/studentsuccess/tutoring-and-supplemental-instruction/>)
- **Financial Aid** (<https://uwm.edu/onestop/>)
- **Norris Health Center** (<https://uwm.edu/norris/youatuwm/>)

### **Other University Resources and Policies:**

- Students with disabilities. Notice to these students should appear prominently in the syllabus so that special accommodations are provided in a timely manner. <http://uwm.edu/arc/> (<http://uwm.edu/arc/>)
- Religious observances. Accommodations for absences due to religious observance should be noted. <http://www4.uwm.edu/secu/docs/other/S1.5.htm> (<http://www4.uwm.edu/secu/docs/other/S1.5.htm>)
- Students called to active military duty. Accommodations for absences due to call-up of reserves to active military duty should be noted.
- Students: <http://uwm.edu/active-duty-military/> (<http://uwm.edu/active-duty-military/>)
- Employees: <https://www.wisconsin.edu/ohrwd/download/policies/ops/bn9.pdf> (<https://www.wisconsin.edu/ohrwd/download/policies/ops/bn9.pdf>)
- A notation of "incomplete" may be given in lieu of a final grade to a student who has carried a subject successfully until the end of a semester but who, because of illness or other unusual and substantiated cause beyond the student's control, has been unable to take or complete the final examination or to complete some limited amount of term work. [https://www4.uwm.edu/secu/docs/other/S\\_31\\_INCOMPLETE\\_GRADES.pdf](https://www4.uwm.edu/secu/docs/other/S_31_INCOMPLETE_GRADES.pdf) ([https://www4.uwm.edu/secu/docs/other/S\\_31\\_INCOMPLETE\\_GRADES.pdf](https://www4.uwm.edu/secu/docs/other/S_31_INCOMPLETE_GRADES.pdf))
- Discriminatory conduct (such as sexual harassment). Discriminatory conduct will not be tolerated by the University. It poisons the work and learning environment of the University and threatens the careers, educational experience, and well-being of students, faculty, and

staff. [https://www4.uwm.edu/secu/docs/other/S\\_47\\_Discrimina\\_duct\\_Policy.pdf](https://www4.uwm.edu/secu/docs/other/S_47_Discrimina_duct_Policy.pdf)

([https://www4.uwm.edu/secu/docs/other/S\\_47\\_Discrimina\\_duct\\_Policy.pdf](https://www4.uwm.edu/secu/docs/other/S_47_Discrimina_duct_Policy.pdf))

- Academic misconduct. Cheating on exams or plagiarism are violations of the academic honor code and carry severe sanctions, including failing a course or even suspension or dismissal from the University. <http://uwm.edu/academicaffairs/facultystaff/policies/academic-misconduct/> (<http://uwm.edu/academicaffairs/facultystaff/policies/academic-misconduct/>)
- Complaint procedures. Students may direct complaints to the head of the academic unit or department in which the complaint occurs. If the complaint allegedly violates a specific university policy, it may be directed to the head of the department or academic unit in which the complaint occurred or to the appropriate university office responsible for enforcing the policy. [https://www4.uwm.edu/secu/docs/other/S\\_47\\_Discrimina\\_duct\\_Policy.pdf](https://www4.uwm.edu/secu/docs/other/S_47_Discrimina_duct_Policy.pdf) ([https://www4.uwm.edu/secu/docs/other/S\\_47\\_Discrimina\\_duct\\_Policy.pdf](https://www4.uwm.edu/secu/docs/other/S_47_Discrimina_duct_Policy.pdf))
- Grade appeal procedures. A student may appeal a grade on the grounds that it is based on a capricious or arbitrary decision of the course instructor. Such an appeal shall follow the established procedures adopted by the department, college, or school in which the course resides or in the case of graduate students, the Graduate School. These procedures are available in writing from the respective department chairperson or the Academic Dean of the College/School. <http://www4.uwm.edu/secu/docs/other/S28.htm> (<http://www4.uwm.edu/secu/docs/other/S28.htm>)
- LGBT+ resources. Faculty and staff can find resources to support inclusivity of students who identify as LGBT+ in the learning environment. <http://uwm.edu/lgbtrc/> (<http://uwm.edu/lgbtrc/>)
- (<http://uwm.edu/lgbtrc/>)\_Other. The final exam requirement, the final exam date requirement, etc. <http://www4.uwm.edu/secu/docs/other/S22.htm> (<http://www4.uwm.edu/secu/docs/other/S22.htm>)

## Course Summary:

Date	Details	
Mon Feb 1, 2021	 <a href="#">Week 1 Discussion</a>	to do: 9am
Mon Feb 8, 2021	 <a href="#">Week 3 Discussion</a>	to do: 9am
Mon Feb 15, 2021	 <a href="#">Week 4 Discussion</a>	to do: 9am
Mon Apr 19, 2021	 <a href="#">Project Review</a> ( <a href="https://uwmil.instructure.com/courses/370584/assignments/3059283">https://uwmil.instructure.com/courses/370584/assignments/3059283</a> )	due by 9am
Mon May 17, 2021	 <a href="#">Mock Exhibit</a> ( <a href="https://uwmil.instructure.com/courses/370584/assignments/3059475">https://uwmil.instructure.com/courses/370584/assignments/3059475</a> )	due by 11:59pm

**Date****Details**

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**Crisis Collecting**

(<https://uwmil.instructure.com/courses/370584/assignments/3059284>).

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**Oral History**

(<https://uwmil.instructure.com/courses/370584/assignments/3059343>).

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**Participation Points**

(<https://uwmil.instructure.com/courses/370584/assignments/3059303>).

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