LOCAL AND COMMUNITY HISTORY

HIST5376D, Spring 2019

CRN # 34687

Wednesdays, 6:30 – 9:20 pm

Mr. Dan K. Utley

This course will provide students with an overview of local history research methodology, with special emphasis on such investigative measures as courthouse records, special collections, census records, genealogy, personal records, newspapers, oral history, maps and aerial photography, statewide databases, and historical archeology. Major components of the course will include the development of broad historical contexts followed by the exploration of more focused research projects, both group and individual, based on personal interests. The work will involve best practices procedures as set up by the Texas Historical Commission (THC) and the U.S. Department of Interior, the fundamental guidelines for a wide range of public history projects in the state. Class projects will culminate in the completion of in-depth, site-based histories that explore a local sense of place and the cultural landscapes of everyday life. The course will appeal to students interested in how local history fits into broader contexts, as well as to those who want to contribute to the preservation of often neglected or under-told elements of the past.

Required Texts:

Perales, Monica. *Smeltertown* (University of North Carolina Press)

Utley, Dan K. and Cynthia J. Beeman, *History Along the Way: Stories beyond the Texas Roadside Markers* (Texas A&M University Press).