HSCI1113-001 Fall 2015 Science, Nature and Society
FIRST DAY HANDOUT

M, W 1:30-2:45pm Kaufman 140
Instructor: Peter Barker
Office: PHSC 617, tel. 325-2242, email: barkerp@ou.edu
Office hours: TBA

FOR COMPLETE AND UP-TO-DATE INFORMATION ON THIS COURSE SEE:

http://faculty-staff.ou.edu/B/Peter.Barker-1/1113/

Headline: Understand the science in your life -- think like a historian!

This course is an introduction to the serious study of history, and especially the history of science, emphasizing the unique resources of the University of Oklahoma. Students will be introduced to a range of research tools and methods. They will be expected to read class assignments, and to participate in class discussions and exercises. Students will produce one single-author essay, and collaborate in a group project.

Texts:
Paul Lawrence Farber, *Mixing Races: From Scientific Racism to Modern Evolutionary Ideas* (Johns Hopkins U Pr. 2010)

Additional reading materials will be available to registered students through the course D2L site under ‘Content’.

1 Getting started
2 What is history? Read for Wednesday Aaron Rothstein, “Vaccines and their critics, then and now.”
   Operation and Procedures, Wed Sept 02.
3 Galileo – The world in 1600
4 Galileo – Pisa to Padua: Finnochiaro pp. 1-84.
   Proceedings against Copernicanism, Finnochiaro pp. 168-78
6 Galileo – *Dialogo*, trial and sequel: Finnochiaro 190-271; Finnochiaro 271-294
7 Darwin – The world in 1850
8 Darwin – TBA Darwin readings
9 Darwin – Farber Ch.’s 1-4
10 Darwin – Farber Ch.’s 5-7 plus Epilogue
11 Climate – The world in 1950
12 Climate – *Smoking and lung cancer; acid rain*. Oreskes and Conway, 1-106.
14 Climate – *Climate change*. Oreskes and Conway, 216-276, esp. 240-265.
15 presentations
**Grades:** There will be a graded test on class Operations and Procedures, Wed Sept 02. Students will also complete one single author research paper, due in week 7, and one group project, which will be presented during class in week 15. A variety of smaller assignments will occur throughout the semester. See separate instructions for Papers, Assignments and Projects. Class participation will make up the final 20% of the grade, divided into two equal parts. Half of this grade portion will reflect participation in the group project. Half of the grade portion will reflect attendance and participation in class exercises. Other than excused religious holidays, students absent from more than three classes will be penalized one letter grade within this second portion of the participation grade item.

Grades will be computed as follows: O&P Test = 10%; research essay = 20% each; group project = 20%; additional assignments = 30%; participation = 20%. There is no curve. Late delivery of essays, projects and assignments will not be permitted except under circumstances of emergency or illness, verifiable to the satisfaction of the Instructor. However, it is the policy of the University to excuse absences of students that result from religious observances and to provide without penalty for the rescheduling of required class work that may fall on religious holidays. If you wish to be excused for religious observances, please contact your Instructor at least one week before you will be absent, in order to reschedule the corresponding work or assignments.

**Academic honesty:** We assume you understand and adhere to the norms of academic honesty stated in A Student's Guide to Academic Integrity at the University of Oklahoma. We also assume you are honest unless proven otherwise, so if you are not sure about something ask us. We encourage you to work together (and with us) to prepare for class, exams and essays -- on the understanding that the final version is all your own work. Plagiarism used to mean copying out of a book. Electronic media like web pages pose special problems. While we encourage you to use them as sources of ideas and information, no sentence that you submit as your own work should be identical to any sentence in a book or electronic medium. If we judge that work you submit fails to meet these standards, the following things will happen:

1. On the first occasion, you will be asked to amend the work and resubmit it to receive a grade.
2. On the second occasion you will receive a formal admonition, as explained in Rights and Responsibilities under the Academic Misconduct Code, and a grade of zero for the work.
3. On the third occasion, a complaint of academic misconduct will be filed, as explained in Rights and Responsibilities under the Academic Misconduct Code.

**Students with disabilities:** Students in this course who have any disability that may prevent them from fully demonstrating their abilities should contact the Instructor as soon as possible to discuss accommodations necessary to ensure full participation and facilitate their educational opportunities.

**Inclusivity:** In this class you will be expected to take part in discussions, work in small groups, contribute to group projects, study and review in groups settings. The University of Oklahoma is a multicultural and multiethnic community. Your time here is a unique opportunity to engage with people from backgrounds, cultures, and life experiences very different from your own. Remember that these people are just like you — they may not have lived in a multicultural, multiethnic community either. If you need help about any of these issues, talk to your Instructor. The University of Oklahoma expects to provide you with many opportunities to work productively and communicate effectively with people from different backgrounds. By engaging, you will acquire skills that are essential for citizenship in the 21st century.