Censor Instructions MITRA4020, fall 2018

The aim of the course is to introduce students to bibliographical and archival research and prepare them for designing their research projects for their master's thesis. As members of small groups, they choose from a list of topics in international and transnational history, search for relevant research literature and compile it in a bibliography, and get orientation about archival sources during two archival visits. Students submit in groups a draft bibliography during the course of the seminar. To complete the course, they submit (again in their groups) a mock project proposal consisting of 1) a brief discussion of a body of research literature, 2) a research question that is motivated by this discussion and 3) suggestions which primary evidence may be analysed to pursue that question. This project proposal should be between four and six pages long (without the bibliography) and is going to be assessed as either "pass" or "fail".

A submission that "passes" the exam draws on a plausible selection of books, chapters and articles from the research literature. It identifies relevant arguments and makes a credible attempt at engaging critically with these arguments. A "pass" also requires the mock proposal to make plausible suggestions for relevant primary sources, specifying the type of materials and possibly fruitful holdings. A "failed" submission does not identify a body of relevant literature, fails to identify and engage with scholarly arguments and shows insufficient reflection about evidence.