

Department of History

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Instructor: *Slobodian*

History is the study of the cumulative human experience. As a study of change in human society over time it lies at the foundations of knowledge in both the humanities and the social sciences, offering its own approaches to questions explored in both branches of learning. The study of history prepares students for a wide range of careers that require broad knowledge of the human experience as well as critical thinking, research, and writing skills. Most of the major geographical fields in history as well as the subdisciplines of social, cultural, political, and economic history are represented in our course offerings and in the research interests of our faculty.

HIST 200 Roots of the Western Tradition

Rogers

NOT OFFERED IN 2008-09. In this introductory survey we will examine how the religious, political, and scientific traditions of western civilization originated in Mesopotamia and Egypt from c. 3500 B.C.E. and were developed by Greeks and Romans until the Islamic invasions of the seventh century C.E. The course will help students to understand the emergence of polytheism and the great monotheistic religions, the development of democracy and Republicanism, and the birth of western science and the scientific method.

Prerequisite: None

Distribution: Historical Studies or Religion, Ethics and Moral Philosophy

Semester: N/O Unit: 1.0

HIST 201 The Rise of the West?: Europe 1789-2003

Slobodian

This course traces the history of Modern Europe and the idea of "the West" from the French Revolution to the Second Gulf War. We will explore the successes of empire, industry, and technology that underwrote European global domination until the First World War and Europe's subsequent financial dependence on the United States. We will reexamine conventional narratives of the rise of Europe and the West, and explore how people experienced "progress" differently according to geography, class, gender, nationality, and ethnicity. We will also follow the emergence of mass consumption, urbanization, total war, genocide, and decolonization, as well as the developing political idioms of national self-determination, feminism, and human rights, and the scientific idioms of eugenics, psychology, and anthropology.

Prerequisite: None

Distribution: Historical Studies

As of 6/4/2008

Semester: Fall Unit: 1.0

HIST 203 History of the United States, 1607 to 1877

Williams

A survey of the social, cultural, and institutional dimensions of American history from the colonial period through the Civil War and Reconstruction. Special attention to recurrent themes in the pattern of America's past: immigration, racial and cultural conflict, urbanization, and reform.

Prerequisite: None

Distribution: Historical Studies

Semester: Fall Unit: 1.0

HIST 204 History of the United States in the Twentieth Century

Auerbach

The emergence of an urban industrial society; social change amid tension between traditional and modern cultures; development of the welfare state; issues of war and peace; the shifting boundaries of conservative reaction, liberal reform, and radical protest, from the 1890s to 2001.

Prerequisite: None

Distribution: Historical Studies

Semester: Spring Unit: 1.0

HIST 205 The Making of the Modern World Order

Rao (Fall), Osorio (Spring)

A foundational course in international history. Explores the evolution of trade, competition, and cultural interaction among the world's diverse communities, from the Mongol conquests of the late thirteenth century through the end of the twentieth century. Themes include the growing divergence in trajectories of the Western and non-Western worlds evident by the fifteenth century, the rise of European wealth and power in the seventeenth and eighteenth centuries, imperialism and its impact, the evolution of the nation-state, scientific and industrial revolutions, and "modernization" and the non-Western world in the twentieth century. Attention to agents of global integration, including trade, technology, migration, dissemination of ideas, conquest, war, and disease.

Prerequisite: None

Distribution: Historical Studies

Semester: Fall, Spring Unit: 1.0

HIST 206 From Conquest to Revolution: A History of Colonial Latin America

Osorio

The “discovery” by Christopher Columbus in 1492 of the “New World” unleashed a process of dramatic changes in what we now call Latin America. Spanning roughly from the fifteenth through the mid-eighteenth centuries, this course examines the ideological underpinnings of the Spanish Conquest, the place of the Americas in a universal Spanish empire, and the role of urban centers in the consolidation of Spanish rule. Emphasis is placed on indigenous societies and the transformation and interactions with Africans and Europeans under colonial rule; the role of Indian labor and African slavery in the colonial economy; the creation, consolidation, and decline of colonial political institutions; and, finally, the role of religion and baroque ritual in the creation of new hybrid colonial cultures and identities.

Prerequisite: None

Distribution: Historical Studies

Semester: Fall Unit: 1.0

HIST 207 Contemporary Problems in Latin American History

Osorio

In this problem-centered survey of the contemporary history of Latin America we will critique and go beyond the many stereotypes which have inhibited understanding between Anglo and Latin America, cultivating instead a healthy respect for complexity and contradiction. Over the course of the semester we will examine key themes in current history, including the dilemmas of uneven national development in dependent economies; the emergence of anti-imperialism and various forms of political and cultural nationalism; the richness and variety of revolution; ethnic, religious, feminist, literary, artistic, and social movements; the imposing social problems of the sprawling Latin American megalopolis; the political heterodoxies of leftism, populism, authoritarianism, and neoliberalism; the patterns of peace, violence, and the drug trade; the considerable U.S. influence in the region, and finally, transnational migration and globalization.

Prerequisite: None

Distribution: Historical Studies

Semester: Spring Unit: 1.0

HIST 208 Society and Culture in Medieval Europe

Ramseyer

This course examines life in medieval Europe c. 750–1250 in all its manifestations: political, religious, social, cultural, and economic. Topics to be studied include the papacy, the political structures of France, Germany, and Italy, monks and monastic culture, religion and spirituality, feudalism, chivalry, courtly love and literature, the crusading movement, intellectual life and theological debates, economic structures and their transformations, and the varied roles of women in medieval life. Students will learn to analyze and interpret primary sources from the period, as well as to evaluate critically historiographical debates related to medieval history.

Prerequisite: None

Distribution: Historical Studies

As of 6/4/2008

Semester: Spring Unit: 1.0

HIST 209 The British Isles: From Roses to Revolution

Frace

NOT OFFERED IN 2008-09. By the late seventeenth century, the British Isles were poised to compete for European (and soon global) dominance, yet their unsteady road to power and stability was precarious at every turn. This course will thus explore a period that is often as renowned as it is misunderstood, and whose defining events and personalities have long captured the historical imagination: the Wars of the Roses; King Henry VIII; Queen ‘Bloody’ Mary and Elizabeth; the British Civil War/Puritan Revolution; and the Royal Restoration. While moving across time, we will also focus on the broader socio-economic, religious, and intellectual changes that defined each monarch’s reign. The course centers on England, but integrates Scotland’s and Ireland’s particular histories of conquest and resistance.

Prerequisite: None

Distribution: Historical Studies

Semester: N/O Unit: 1.0

HIST 210 The British Isles: From Glorious Revolution to Global Empire

Frace

Between the seventeenth century and Queen Victoria’s reign, Britain transformed itself from a relatively minor European kingdom into the wealthiest and most powerful nation in the world, ruling over a quarter of the earth’s population. This course will explore Britain’s often tumultuous history while addressing several major themes, such as: the creation of a modern consumer society; secularization; the radical mobilization of the working class; abolitionism; questions of social and sexual hierarchies raised at home by an expanding empire abroad; and the birth of liberal, conservative, and socialist ideologies. This course will center on England, but will also look at Scotland and Ireland’s particular histories of resistance, conquest, and integration.

Prerequisite: None

Distribution: Historical Studies

Semester: Spring Unit: 1.0

HIST 211 Bread and Salt: Introduction to Russian Civilization

Tumarkin

For centuries Russians have welcomed visitors with offerings of bread and salt. This introductory course is an earthy immersion in Russian life and culture from the age of Tolstoy to Putin’s dissonant new Russia. Black bread, dense and pungent, is central to our exploration of food, feasting, fasting, and famine in the Russian experience. We will weave in both related and contrapuntal themes, such as: religious practice, folk beliefs and peasant life; surviving Stalinism in the age of terror; making do in the surreal “era of stagnation” under Brezhnev; and the splendor and agony of Russian high culture. Guest lectures by Russianists in disciplines other than history.

Prerequisite: None.

Distribution: Historical Studies

As of 6/4/2008

Semester: Fall

Unit: 1.0

HIST 213 Conquest and Crusade in the Medieval Mediterranean

Ramseyer

This course examines life in the Mediterranean from the disintegration of the Roman Empire in the fourth and fifth centuries through the Latin Crusades of the Holy Land in the eleventh and twelfth centuries. Readings will focus on the various wars and conflicts in the region as well as the political, religious, and social structures of the great Christian and Muslim kingdoms, including the Byzantine Empire, the Islamic caliphates of the Fertile Crescent and North Africa, the Turkish emirates of Egypt and the Near East, and the Latin Crusader States. Attention will also be paid to the cultural and religious diversity of the medieval Mediterranean and the intellectual, literary, and artistic achievements of Christian, Muslim, and Jewish communities.

Prerequisite: None

Distribution: Historical Studies

Semester: Fall

Unit: 1.0

HIST 214 Medieval Italy

Ramseyer

This course provides an overview of Italian history from the disintegration of the Roman Empire in the fifth century through the rise of urban communes in the thirteenth century. Topics of discussion include the birth and development of the Catholic Church and the volatile relationship between popes and emperors, the history of monasticism and various other forms of popular piety as well as the role of heresy and dissent, the diverging histories of the north and the south and the emergence of a multi-cultural society in southern Italy, and the development and transformation of cities and commerce that made Italy one of the most economically advanced states in Europe in the later medieval period.

Prerequisite: None

Distribution: Historical Studies

Semester: Spring

Unit: 1.0

HIST 215 Gender and Nation in Latin America

Osorio

NOT OFFERED IN 2008-09. Since their invention in the early nineteenth century, nations and states in Latin America have been conceived of in gendered terms. This has played a key role in producing and reproducing masculine and feminine identities in society. This course examines the powerful relationship between gender and nation in modern Latin America. Topics include patriarchal discourses of state and feminized representations of nation; the national project to define the family as a male-centered nuclear institution; the idealization of motherhood as a national and Christian virtue; the role of military regimes in promoting masculine ideologies; state regulations of sexuality and prostitution; changing definitions of the feminine and masculine in relation to the emergence of “public” and “private” spheres; and struggles over the definition of citizenship and nationality.

As of 6/4/2008

Prerequisite: None
Distribution: Historical Studies
Semester: N/O Unit: 1.0

HIST 216 Revolution in Latin America

Osorio

NOT OFFERED IN 2008-09. In Latin America, the twentieth century was indelibly marked by revolution and counter-revolution. Any analysis of the recent history of the peoples and states of Latin America must focus on the conditions, desires, and perils that have shaped the revolutionary experience. We will examine the main historical currents of armed revolution in Latin America, including instances of successful armed revolution, post-revolutionary state-making and nation-building, and the many guerrilla movements. Revolution in the Americas was not only about seizing state power, but about making “the new man” and reinventing society. We will consider the past, present, and possible future of revolution in the Americas.

Prerequisite: None
Distribution: Historical Studies
Semester: N/O Unit: 1.0

HIST 217 The Making of European Jewry, 1085 to 1815

Malino

NOT OFFERED IN 2008-09. A study of the Jewish communities of Western and Eastern Europe from the reconquest of Toledo to the end of the Napoleonic era. Topics include medieval Jewish communities, their dispersion, the differentiation of Eastern and Western Jewry, persecution and toleration, secularism, religious revivalism and mysticism, and the emancipation of the Jews during the French Revolution.

Prerequisite: None
Distribution: Historical Studies
Semester: N/O Unit: 1.0

HIST 218 From Ghettos to Nation-States: Jews in the Modern World

Malino

NOT OFFERED IN 2008-09. This course explores the revolutionary social, economic, and cultural transformation of Jews living in Europe and America. Topics include struggles for emancipation, enlightenment and mysticism, immigration, acculturation and economic diversification; also the emergence of anti-Semitism in the West and East, Zionism, the Holocaust and the creation of the state of Israel.

Prerequisite: None
Distribution: Historical Studies
Semester: N/O Unit: 1.0

HIST 219 The Jews of Spain and the Lands of Islam

Malino

NOT OFFERED IN 2008-09. The history of the Jews in Muslim lands from the seventh to the twentieth century. Topics include Muhammed's relations with the Jews of Medina, poets, princes and philosophers in Abbasid Iraq and Muslim Spain, scientists, scholars and translators in Christian Spain, the Inquisition and emergence of a Sephardic diaspora. Twentieth-century focus on the Jewish community of Morocco.

Prerequisite: None

Distribution: Historical Studies

Semester: N/O Unit: 1.0

HIST 222 The Barbarian Kingdoms of Early Medieval Europe

Ramseyer

NOT OFFERED IN 2008-09. This course examines the Barbarian successor states established in the fifth and sixth centuries after the disintegration of the Roman Empire in the west. It will focus primarily on the Frankish kingdom of Gaul, but will also make forays into Lombard Italy, Visigothic Spain, and Vandal North Africa. In particular, the course will look in-depth at the Carolingian empire established c. 800 by Charlemagne, who is often seen as the founder of Europe, and whose empire is often regarded as the precursor of today's European Union. Political, cultural, religious, and economic developments will be given equal time.

Prerequisite: None

Distribution: Historical Studies

Semester: N/O Unit: 1.0

HIST 224 Zionism and Irish Nationalism: A Comparative Perspective

Malino

Emergence and evolution of Zionism and Irish nationalism in the nineteenth and twentieth centuries. Poets, ideologues, charismatic leaders; immigration and diaspora. Political, social, religious and ideological trends in modern Israel and in Ireland. Comparisons and contrasts.

Distribution: Historical Studies

Prerequisite: None. Not open to students who have taken HIST [327].

Semester: Fall Unit: 1.0

HIST 227 The Renaissance in Italy and Northern Europe

Frace

NOT OFFERED IN 2008-09. The legendary rebirth of classical learning coincided with an era of global expansion, the religious Inquisition, and civil unrest. While placing Renaissance Europe into its wider historical context, this course will emphasize cultural developments and intellectual innovations. While ranging between London, Oxford, Rotterdam, Paris, Florence, and Venice, we will interrogate the minds of distinguished scholars and the world of the common crowd. How did they redefine what it meant to be human? What were the heated debates over the roles of women or sexuality, or over the nature of God and religious heresy? How did the accumulation of wealth and the exploration of “new worlds” change society?

Prerequisite: Not open to students who have taken [228].

Distribution: Historical Studies

Semester: N/O Unit: 1.0

HIST 229/329 Alexander the Great: Psychopath or Philosopher King

Rogers

Alexander the Great murdered his best friend, married a Bactrian princess, and dressed like Dionysus. He also conquered the known world by the age of 33, fused the eastern and western populations of his empire, and became a god. This course will examine the personality, career, and achievements of the greatest conqueror in Western history against the background of the Hellenistic World. *This course may be taken as either 229 or, with additional assignments, as 329.*

Prerequisite: 229: None; 329: Permission of the instructor.

Distribution: Historical Studies

Semester: Spring Unit: 1.0

HIST 230 Greek History from the Bronze Age to the Death of Philip II of Macedon

Rogers

The origins, development, and geographical spread of Greek culture from the Bronze Age to the death of Philip II of Macedon. Greek colonization, the Persian Wars, the Athenian democracy, and the rise of Macedon will be examined in relation to the social, economic, and religious history of the Greek polis.

Prerequisite: None

Distribution: Historical Studies

Semester: Fall Unit: 1.0

HIST 231 History of Rome

Rogers

NOT OFFERED IN 2008-09. Rome's cultural development from its origins as a small city state in the eighth century B.C.E. to its rule over a vast empire extending from Scotland to Iraq. Topics include the Etruscan influence on the formation of early Rome, the causes of Roman expansion throughout the Mediterranean during the Republic, the Hellenization of Roman society, the urbanization and Romanization of Western Europe, the spread of "mystery" religions, the persecution and expansion of Christianity, and the economy and society of the Empire.

Prerequisite: None

Distribution: Historical Studies

Semester: N/O Unit: 1.0

HIST 232 The Transformation of the Western World: Europe from 1300–1815

Frace

NOT OFFERED IN 2008-09. This course will provide a dynamic overview of the intellectual, socio-political, and cultural movements and events that defined Europe during its turbulent shift into modernity. From the Black Plague to the French Revolution, we will focus on: the secular humanism of the Renaissance; the Reformation and the resulting Wars of Religion; the emergence of absolutist autocracies and modern liberal states; the radical Enlightenment; feminism, and the dueling ideologies of embryonic capitalism and socialism. By including documents ranging from private diaries and letters to political treatises and popular publications, this course will bring to vivid life a world that is at once foreign and familiar.

Prerequisite: None

Distribution: Historical Studies

Semester: N/O Unit: 1.0

HIST 236 The European Enlightenment: A Revolution in Thought, Culture, and Action

Frace

NOT OFFERED IN 2008-09. The Enlightenment has been alternately demonized and revered for its prominent role in forging Western modernity. Was it the harbinger of modern democracy, secularism, and feminism? Or of ethnocentric racism, sexism, and the terror? This course will examine the works of the most innovative and controversial writers in the canon, including Mary Wollstonecraft, Kant, Montesquieu, Voltaire, Rousseau, Locke, and Diderot. We will also address the forgotten legions of men and women who comprised the international republic of letters, and who frequented the (sometimes respectable, often scandalous) coffeehouses, salons, and secret societies of the eighteenth century. Our discursive focus will be on political hegemony, civil liberties, religious toleration, gender, social development, sexuality, and race.

Prerequisite: None

Distribution: Historical Studies

Semester: N/O Unit: 1.0

HIST 240 Cities in Modern Europe

Slobodian

This lecture course explores the uses and visions of the city in Europe since the mid-nineteenth century. The course covers both the history of modern urban planning and the responses to it--the way the city was designed and the way it was lived. We will begin by looking at differing theories of the city: Was it a place of freedom or increased control, especially for socially marginalized groups like women, colonized populations and the poor? Was it an artifact of dominant social forces or a space for individual self-creation? Themes we will cover include colonial urbanism, modernism, fascist city planning, suburbanization, tourism, migration and reclamations of urban space by social movements, squatters and youth subcultures.

Prerequisite: None

Distribution: Historical Studies

Semester: Fall Unit: 1.0

HIST 242 Postwar Europe and the Three Germanies

Slobodian

In 1945, Germany's war had left much of Europe in ruins. Yet postwar planners recognized that the continent's strongest economic power and most populous country would have to remain the center of a reconstructed Europe. This course explores the challenges confronting a divided continent after 1945 through the histories of East and West Germany, which faced similar problems but developed solutions that reflected the differing ideologies of state socialism and capitalism. It compares the relative influence of the U.S. and Soviet "partners," strategies for dealing with the Nazi past and histories of collaboration, and efforts to build consumer culture and domestic consent. It also compares youth revolt, gender politics, immigration, and explores the role of a third, reunified Germany in Europe and the world after 1989.

Prerequisite: None

Distribution: Historical Studies

Semester: Spring Unit: 1.0

HIST 246 Vikings, Icons, Mongols, and Tsars

Tumarkin

NOT OFFERED IN 2008-09. A multicultural journey through the turbulent waters of medieval and early modern Russia, from the Viking incursions of the ninth century and the entrance of the East Slavs into the splendid and mighty Byzantine world, to the Mongol overlordship of Russia, the rise of Moscow, and the legendary reign of Ivan the Terrible. We move eastward as the Muscovite state conquers the immense reaches of Siberia by the end of the turbulent seventeenth century, when the young and restless Tsar Peter the Great travels to Western Europe to change Russia forever. We will focus on khans, princes, tsars, nobles, peasants and monks; social norms and gender roles; icons and church architecture; and a host of Russian saints and sinners.

Prerequisite: None

Distribution: Historical Studies

Semester: N/O Unit: 1.0

As of 6/4/2008

HIST 247 Splendor and Serfdom: Russia Under the Romanovs

Tumarkin

An exploration of Imperial Russia over the course of two tumultuous centuries, from the astonishing reign of Peter the Great at the start of the eighteenth century, to the implosion of the Russian monarchy under the unfortunate Nicholas II early in the twentieth, as Russia plunged toward revolution. St. Petersburg—the stunning and ghostly birthplace of Russia’s modern history and the symbol of Russia’s attempt to impose order on a vast, multiethnic empire—is a focus of this course. We will also emphasize the everyday lives of peasants and nobles; the vision and ideology of autocracy; Russia’s brilliant intelligentsia; and the glory of her literary canon.

Prerequisite: None

Distribution: Historical Studies

Semester: Spring Unit: 1.0

HIST 248 The Soviet Union: A Tragic Colossus

Tumarkin

The Soviet Union, the most immense empire in the world, hurtled through the twentieth century, shaping major world events. This course will follow the grand, extravagant, and often brutal socialist experiment from its fragile inception in 1917 through the rule of Lenin, Stalin, Khrushchev, Brezhnev, and Gorbachev, after which the vast Soviet empire broke apart with astonishing speed. We will contrast utopian constructivist visions of the glorious communist future with Soviet reality. Special emphasis on Soviet political culture, the trauma of the Stalin years and World War II, and the travails of everyday life.

Prerequisite: None

Distribution: Historical Studies

Semester: Spring Unit: 1.0

HIST 250 Research or Individual Study

Prerequisite: Open to first-year students and sophomores.

Distribution: None

Semester: Fall, Spring Unit: 1.0

HIST 250H Research or Individual Study

Prerequisite: Open to first-year students and sophomores.

Distribution: None

Semester: Fall, Spring Unit: 0.5

HIST 251 Continent in Crisis: North America During the Age of Revolution

Sheidley

An examination of the forces that shattered British colonial society during the eighteenth century and gave rise to a new nation in North America. We will investigate the causes of the American Revolution from a continental perspective, paying careful attention to the experiences of Native Americans as well as colonists having European and African roots, and explore the consequences of this transformative event for all inhabitants of the new Republic.

As of 6/4/2008

Prerequisite: None
Distribution: Historical Studies
Semester: Spring Unit: 1.0

HIST 252 Race, Ethnicity, and Difference in Early America

Sheidley

NOT OFFERED IN 2008-09. An examination of the multiracial, multiethnic societies which took shape in North America during the colonial period. We will explore the causes of voluntary and involuntary migration from Europe and Africa, the pattern of colonial settlement, concepts of family and community, strategies of cultural adaptation and resistance, the emergence of racial and ethnic consciousness, and the development of British and American identities.

Prerequisite: None
Distribution: Historical Studies
Semester: N/O Unit: 1.0

HIST 253 First Peoples: An Introduction to Native American History

Sheidley

A survey of the social, cultural, and political history of North America's native peoples from 1200 through the present. Case studies of particular nations will be used to explore a wide range of issues, including the politics of treaty-making, the economic and environmental consequences of the fur trade, "removal" and reservation life, pan-Indianism, and the "Red Power" movement of the 1970s. In addition to historical scholarship, sources will include autobiography, fiction, and several cinematic depictions of Native American life.

Prerequisite: None
Distribution: Historical Studies
Semester: Fall, Summer Unit: 1.0

HIST 257 Women, Gender, and the Family in American History

Williams

This course surveys the interplay between the histories of women and the family in American history from the colonial period through the Progressive Era (seventeenth through early twentieth centuries). Through a focus on the changing history of the family, the course will address gender roles, women's work inside and outside the household, and their changing relation to state authority. It will also consider how the regulation of the family serves to reproduce social differences of race and class.

Prerequisite: None
Distribution: Historical Studies
Semester: Spring Unit: 1.0

HIST 258 Freedom and Dissent in American History

Auerbach

Freedom of speech since the founding of the nation, with special attention to the judicial boundaries of permissible dissent and the enduring tension between individual rights and state power in American society. Among the issues considered are radical protest; wartime censorship; forms of symbolic expression; obscenity and pornography; campus hate speech; political and sexual correctness.

Prerequisite: None

Distribution: Historical Studies

Semester: Fall Unit: 1.0

HIST 263 South Africa in Historical Perspective

Kaptejns

NOT OFFERED IN 2008-09. An analysis of the historical background and lasting consequences of Apartheid, focusing on the transformation of the African communities in the period of commercial capitalist expansion (1652–1885) and in the industrial era (1885–present). Important themes are the struggle for land and labor; the fate of African peasants, labor migrants, miners and domestic servants; the undermining of the African family; the diverse expressions of African resistance; and the processes which are creating a new, post-apartheid South Africa. The enormous challenges of reversing inequality and resolving conflicts will receive special attention.

Prerequisite: None

Distribution: Historical Studies

Semester: N/O Unit: 1.0

HIST 264 The History of Precolonial Africa

Kaptejns

NOT OFFERED IN 2008-09. Precolonial Africa encompasses ancient agrarian kingdoms (such as Egypt and Merowe), city-states on the shores of sea and desert, and “nations without kings,” with their own, unique social and political institutions. Students will learn about the material bases of these societies, as well as their social relations and cultural production, all the while familiarizing themselves with the rich array of written, oral, linguistic, and archeological sources available to the historian of Africa. After 1500, in the era of the European expansion, large parts of Africa were incorporated into the Atlantic tropical plantation complex through the Slave Trade. The enormous impact on Africa of this unprecedented forced migration of Africans to the Americas from c. 1500 to the 1880s will constitute the concluding theme.

Prerequisite: None

Distribution: Historical Studies

Semester: N/O Unit: 1.0

HIST 265 History of Modern Africa

Kaptejns

NOT OFFERED IN 2008-09. Many of Africa's current characteristics are the legacy of colonial domination. We will therefore first study different kinds of colonies, from those settled by White planters to the "Cinderellas," in which colonial economic intervention was (by comparison) minimal and the struggle for independence less bloody. For the post-independence period, we will focus on the historical roots of such major themes as neo-colonialism, economic underdevelopment, ethnic conflict and genocide, HIV-AIDS, and the problems of the African state. However, Africa's enormous natural and human resources, its resilient and youthful population, and its vibrant popular culture—a strong antidote against Afro-pessimism—will help us reflect on the future of this vast continent.

Prerequisite: None

Distribution: Historical Studies

Semester: N/O Unit: 1.0

HIST 266 The Struggle Over North Africa, 1800 to the Present

Rollman

Themes in the social, economic, political and cultural history of North Africa (the Maghreb and Mauretania, Libya, Egypt and Sudan) from 1800 to the present: major features of precolonial society and history in three regions, the transformations brought about by French, British and Italian colonial rule, North African resistance and wars for independence, and the contradictions of the era of formal political independence, including the emergence of Islamist movements and the literary and political debate about postcolonial identities in the area. Students will draw on analyses by historians and social scientists, on novels, short stories, autobiographies, poetry by North Africans, and on music and film from and about North Africa.

Prerequisite: None

Distribution: Historical Studies

Semester: Fall Unit: 1.0

HIST 269 Japan, the Great Powers and East Asia, 1853–1993

Matsusaka

NOT OFFERED IN 2008-09. The history of Japan's international relations from the age of empire through the end of the Cold War. Topics include: imperialism and nationalism in East Asia, diplomacy and military strategy, international economic competition, cultural and "civilizational" conflicts, World War II in East Asia, the US-Japan alliance, and the politics of war memory. Special emphasis on Japan's relations with the United States, China, Russia, and Korea.

Prerequisite: None

Distribution: Historical Studies

Semester: N/O Unit: 1.0

HIST 272 Political Economy of Development in Colonial and Postcolonial South Asia

Rao

In 1947 India was partitioned into India and Pakistan. Since then, these countries have wrestled with issues of governance and development, but colonial rule casts a long shadow over their efforts. This course introduces students to the complex politico-economic landscape of the subcontinent by examining how the idea of development changes in modern south Asian history. How are developmental efforts embedded in contexts of politics, society, and culture? How do political systems affect decisions? This course considers these questions by examining themes such as: the colonial state's construction of railway and irrigation networks; Gandhi's critique of industrialization; Nehru's vision of an industrial economy; the challenges posed by Partition and militarization of Pakistan; the Green Revolution; the onset of economic deregulation.

Prerequisite: None

Distribution: Historical Studies

Semester: Fall Unit: 1.0

HIST 273 South Asian Civilizations

Rao

NOT OFFERED IN 2008-09. This course introduces the history of the south Asian subcontinent from antiquity to modern times. Following a broadly chronological trajectory, we consider the classical antiquity of the Mauryas and Guptas, the Muslim empires of the Delhi Sultanate and the Mughals, and the period of European colonialism until independence. Themes include: the emergence of states, the arrival of Islam, the rise of cities, the contradictions of colonial rule, and the struggle for independence. A range of primary materials will present the perspectives of diverse actors such as rulers, merchants, women, reformers, workers, colonial officials and nationalists.

Prerequisite: None

Distribution: Historical Studies

Semester: N/O Unit: 1.0

HIST 274 China, Japan, and Korea in Comparative and Global Perspectives

Matsusaka, Giersch

Overview of each political/cultural community and their interactions from ancient times to 1912. Topics from earlier periods include ancient mytho-histories and archeological records, the rise of China's Han and Tang empires, selective adaptations of Chinese patterns by indigenous polities and societies in Korea and Japan, commercial and technological revolution in China and its international impact, Mongol "globalization," Japan in the age of the *samurai* and Korea in the heyday of the *yangban*. Topics from later periods include the growth of international trade in East Asia and early modern developments in Ming-Qing China, Tokugawa Japan, and Late Choson Korea. Coverage extends through first decade of twentieth century to examine Europe's expansion and the divergent trajectories of modern transformation in each society.

Prerequisite: None

Distribution: Historical Studies

As of 6/4/2008

Semester: Fall

Unit: 1.0

HIST 275 The Emergence of Ethnic Identities in Modern South Asia

Rao

NOT OFFERED IN 2008-09. South Asian society has long been represented by rigid systems of hierarchy. Caste, most famously, has been represented as an inexorable determinant of social possibility. Yet, what are the ways in which people actually identify themselves, and to what extent is hierarchical identification a product of South Asia's modern history? This course explores the problems of social and cultural difference in South Asia. How do modern institutions such as the census and electoral politics shape the way in which these problems are perceived today? What are the effects of the introduction of English education? Caste will be the primary form of identity that we explore, but we also consider class, religion and gender in seeking to unravel the complex notion of ethnicity.

Prerequisite: None

Distribution: Historical Studies

Semester: N/O

Unit: 1.0

HIST 276 The City in South Asia

Rao

South Asian cities are currently undergoing massive demographic and spatial transformations. These cannot be understood without a consideration of both the specific history of south Asia and a broader account of urban change. This course examines these changes in historical perspective and situates urban south Asia within a global context. How did colonial rule transform old cities such as Delhi and Lahore? How were the differing ideologies of India and Pakistan mapped onto new capitals such as Chandigarh and Islamabad? How are ethnic pasts and techno futures reconciled in booming cities such as Bangalore and Mumbai? What are the connections between the urban environment and political mobilization? We consider a range of sources, including scholarly literature, films and short stories.

Prerequisite: None

Distribution: Historical Studies

Semester: Spring

Unit: 1.0

HIST 277 China and America: Evolution of a Troubled Relationship

Giersch

A survey of China's economic, cultural, and political interactions with the United States from 1784 to present with a focus on developments ca. 1940-present. Principal themes include: post-imperial China's pursuit of wealth and power, changing international conditions, military strategy, the influence of domestic politics and ideology, and the basic misunderstandings and prejudices that have long plagued this critical relationship. Topics include: trade throughout the centuries; American treatment of Chinese immigrants; World War II and the Chinese Revolution; the Cold War; Taiwan, and the ongoing instability of relations since 1979. Sources include the ever-increasing number of declassified U.S. documents as well as critical materials translated from the Chinese.

As of 6/4/2008

Prerequisite: None
Distribution: Historical Studies
Semester: Fall Unit: 1.0

HIST 278 Reform and Revolution in China, 1800–Present

Giersch

From shattering nineteenth-century rebellions that fragmented the old empire to its emergence as a twenty-first-century superpower, few places have experienced tumult and triumph in the same massive measures as modern China. To understand China today, one must come to terms with this turbulent history. This course surveys China's major cultural, political, social, and economic transformations, including failed reforms under the last dynasty; the revolutions of 1911 and 1949; the rise of the Communist Party and Mao's transformation of society and politics; the remarkable market reforms of recent decades; the contentious issue of Taiwan's democratic transition; and China's ongoing effort to define its position within East Asia and the world.

Prerequisite: None
Distribution: Historical Studies
Semester: Spring Unit: 1.0

HIST 279/379 Heresy and Popular Religion in the Middle Ages

Ramseyer

This course looks at popular religious beliefs and practices in medieval Europe, including miracles, martyrdom and asceticism, saints and their shrines, pilgrimages, relics, curses, witchcraft, and images of heaven and hell. It seeks to understand popular religion both on its own terms, as well as in relationship to the Church hierarchy. It also examines the basis for religious dissent in the form of both intellectual and social heresies, which led to religious repression and the establishment of the Inquisition in the later Middle Ages.

This course may be taken as 279 or, with additional assignments, as 379.

Prerequisite: 279: None; 379: Permission of the instructor.
Distribution: Historical Studies
Semester: Fall Unit: 1.0

HIST 281/381 *Dream of the Red Chamber: An Introduction to Chinese Society, ca 1650–1800*

Giersch

NOT OFFERED IN 2008-09. We will read one of China's great novels, *Dream of the Red Chamber*, and use it as an entrée into the social, political and economic history of the early and high Qing periods. Cao Xueqin's engaging tale describes in rich detail the fictional Jia family, a wealthy, powerful clan whose political connections and social status closely resembled those of Cao's own family. While reading about the Jias, we will simultaneously use historical studies to deepen our understanding of family life, gender relations, religious devotion, sexuality, education, commerce, and political power during one of China's most dynamic periods. *This course may be taken as either 281 or, with additional assignments, as 381.*

Prerequisite: 281: None; 381: Permission of the instructor.

As of 6/4/2008

Distribution: Historical Studies
Semester: N/O Unit: 1.0

HIST 284 The Middle East in Modern History

Kapteijns

Themes in the history of the Modern Middle East from 1914 to the present. After World War I, European powers dominated the area and carved it up into the modern nation states that we know today. We will study the political history of these states up to the present, but will focus especially on the historical roots and causes of crucial social developments and conflicts. Thus we will study the impact of the oil boom, labor migration, urbanization, the changing roles of women, and the emergence of politicized fundamentalist Islam, as well as aspects of the Palestinian-Israeli conflict, the Iranian Revolution, the Lebanese Civil War, and the Gulf War. Our emphasis will be on the Arab Middle East.

Prerequisite: None
Distribution: Historical Studies
Semester: Spring Unit: 1.0

HIST 285 Social Protest and Political Opposition in the Islamic Middle East and North Africa in the Twentieth Century

Rollman

NOT OFFERED IN 2008-09. Using primary sources in translation and related readings, the course will critically analyze the programs, leadership, and strategies of protest and reform movements in the modern Middle East and North Africa. Through a selection of case studies, (e.g., Algeria, Afghanistan, Egypt) students will develop an understanding of the historical roots, theoretical bases, and social dynamics of these movements and the salience of Islamic ideology and practice in contemporary political and cultural discourses in the region.

Prerequisite: None
Distribution: Historical Studies
Semester: N/O Unit: 1.0

HIST 286 History of the Middle East, c. 600–1918

Rollman

NOT OFFERED IN 2008-09. Introduction to the political, religious, cultural and social history of the Middle East from the emergence of Islam to the disintegration of the Ottoman Empire in World War I. Themes include: Pre-Islamic Arabia, the life of the Prophet, the expansion of Islam, the Umayyad Empire, Shi'ism and other movements of political and religious dissent, the Abbasid Empire and its successor states, and the expansion of Europe into the Middle East.

Prerequisite: None
Distribution: Historical Studies
Semester: N/O Unit: 1.0

HIST 287 History of Everyday Life in the Modern Middle East and North Africa

Kaptejns

NOT OFFERED IN 2008-09. Using sources such as legal documents, memoirs, chronicles, literature, and monographs from several disciplines, the course will explore in depth the quality and rhythms of life in a variety of urban and rural settings through an investigation of specific institutions, patterns of behavior, modes of work and residence, popular entertainment and popular culture. Students will study specific cases to develop an appreciation of how people of all classes experienced and responded to critical issues in modern history, such as the growing power of the centralizing state, urbanization, economic scarcity and opportunity, changing patterns of religious practice, gender relations, identity, the challenge of western secular values, the impact of national and regional politics, and the uneven but inexorable integration of the region into the global economy.

Prerequisite: None

Distribution: Historical Studies

Semester: N/O Unit: 1.0

HIST 290 Morocco: History and Culture (Wintersession in Morocco)

Kaptejns, Rollman

NOT OFFERED IN 2008-09. An introduction to Moroccan culture, history, and society through experiential and classroom learning. Students will participate in seminars and attend lectures given by Moroccan faculty at the Center for Crosscultural Learning in Rabat. Program themes include: women in private and public life, Berber culture, Islam, Arabic, Morocco's Jewish heritage and history, and the legacy of European cultural rule. Students will travel as a group to the central and southern regions of the country to study historic sites and contemporary life and culture in a variety of rural and urban settings. *Not offered every year. Subject to Dean's Office approval.*

Prerequisite: None. Application required.

Distribution: Historical Studies

Semester: N/O Unit: 1.0

HIST 291 Marching Toward 1968: The Pivotal Year

Auerbach

Within a single year the Tet offensive in Vietnam, the assassinations of Martin Luther King, Jr. and Robert F. Kennedy, and the election of Richard M. Nixon transformed American foreign and domestic policy, ending an era of liberal internationalism, domestic reform, and generational protest. Exploration of how, and why, "The Sixties" happened. Consideration of recent political and intellectual trends that reflect the continuing impact of the 1960s on American public life.

Prerequisite: None

Distribution: Historical Studies

Semester: Fall Unit: 1.0

HIST 292 The Era of the Civil War and Reconstruction

Williams

This course examines one of this country's most important eras, including the late antebellum years, the drama of the War and emancipation, and the promise and failures of Reconstruction. Although we will touch on military and paramilitary engagements that took place before and after the war's official end, this is not a course in military history. Rather, we will pay close attention to the political, social, legal, and cultural implications of the war, emancipation, and black male suffrage. In particular, we will assess the role of slavery, citizenship, democracy, and economic reform as central issues in the era. We will also address the legacy of the era in popular memory, and the ways popular representations both contribute to and depart from historical knowledge.

Prerequisite: None

Distribution: Historical Studies

Semester: Fall Unit: 1

HIST 295 Strategy and Diplomacy of the Great Powers

Matsusaka

This course examines the history of international politics since the late eighteenth century. Rather than treating one country in depth, it considers many countries in relation to each other over time. It examines how major states of the world have, over the past two centuries, interacted with each other in war and peace. It explores past attempts to create international systems that allow each major power to achieve its objectives without recourse to war. It also looks at relations between the Great Powers and smaller states, conflicts between colonial powers and anti-colonial movements, and post-colonial developments.

Prerequisite: None

Distribution: Historical Studies

Semester: Spring Unit: 1.0

HIST 298 The United States and the Middle East Since World War II

Rollman

A critical overview of the evolution of U.S. interests, the positive and negative impacts of its policy initiatives, and its cultural influence in the Middle East since World War II. Special attention will be given to the U.S.'s role in the Arab-Israeli-Palestinian peace process, its participation in the region's economic and educational development, its struggle against terrorism, and its military and political interventions in Iraq, Iran, Lebanon, and Afghanistan intended to affect regime change and to promote democracy and human rights. The course will examine both public and private sector relations and initiatives. Attention will be given the role that American and Middle East media have played in shaping the quality and course of relations over the past half century.

Prerequisite: None

Distribution: Historical Studies

Semester: Summer Unit: 1.0

HIST 299/ES 299 United States Environmental History

Turner (Environmental Studies)

NOT OFFERED IN 2008-09. This course examines the relationship between nature and society in American history. The course will consider topics such as the decimation of the bison, the rise of Chicago, the history of natural disasters, and the environmental consequences of war. There are three goals for this course: First, we will examine how humans have interacted with nature over time and how nature, in turn, has shaped human society. Second, we will examine how attitudes toward nature have differed among peoples, places, and times and we will consider how the meanings people give to nature inform their cultural and political activities. Third, we will study how these historical forces have combined to shape the American landscape and the human and natural communities to which it is home. While this course focuses on the past, an important goal is to understand the ways in which history shapes how we understand and value the environment as we do today. *Students may register for either HIST 299 or ES 299 and credit will be granted accordingly.*

Prerequisites: ES 101, 102, or an American history course, or permission of the instructor.

Distribution: Historical Studies

Semester: N/O Unit: 1.0

HIST 301 Seminar. Women of Russia: A Portrait Gallery

Tumarkin

An exploration of the tragic, complex, inspiring fate of Russian women in the nineteenth and twentieth centuries, a period that spans the Russian Empire at its height, the Russian Revolution of 1917, and the Soviet experiment. We will read about Russian peasants, nuns, princesses, feminists, workers, revolutionaries, poets, pilots and prostitutes, among others in our stellar cast of characters. Sources include memoirs, biographies, works of Russian literature, and film.

Prerequisite: Normally open to juniors and seniors who have taken a grade II unit in History and/or a grade II unit in a relevant area/subject.

Distribution: Historical Studies

Semester: Fall Unit: 1.0

HIST 307 Seminar. Religious Change and the Emergence of Modernity in Early Modern Europe, 1600–1800

Frace

NOT OFFERED IN 2008-09. During the seventeenth and eighteenth centuries, important religious, social, and intellectual transformations in Western Europe created two distinctly new and competing visions of modernity: an empirically-based rational religion and a faith-based evangelicalism. The legacy of their creation and conflict, both between one another and with the established traditionalists and insurgent atheists, reverberate to this day. In this seminar, we will explore: the relationship between science and religion; the effects of rising pluralism at home and global exploration overseas; witchcraft; the secularization and commercialization of daily life; the separation of church and state; and the formation of the first supra-national identities that transcended traditional religious boundaries. These issues raise broader questions about the origins of cultural change, as well as the nature of modernity itself.

Prerequisite: Normally open to juniors and seniors who have taken a grade II unit in History and/or a grade II unit in a relevant area/subject.

Distribution: Historical Studies

Semester: N/O Unit: 1.0

HIST 316 Seminar. Authority and Authenticity in Native American History

Sheidley

NOT OFFERED IN 2008-09. An in-depth exploration of diversity and difference as factors which shaped the history of North America's native peoples from the sixteenth century through the era of "removal." Particular attention will be paid to gender, class, ethnicity, and belief as modes of organizing power within American Indian societies east of the Mississippi River. We will consider how these elements have influenced relations with non-Indians and determined the very nature of the sources historians use to interpret the Native American past.

Prerequisite: Normally open to juniors and seniors who have taken a grade II unit in History and/or a grade II unit in a relevant area/subject.

Distribution: Historical Studies

Semester: N/O Unit: 1.0

HIST 317 Seminar. The Historical Construction of American Manhood, 1600–1900

Sheidley

From Nat Turner to Frederick Douglass, Thomas Jefferson to Teddy Roosevelt, the history of American men is well known. But does manhood itself have a history? Drawing on autobiography, fiction, personal correspondence and visual evidence, we will explore the diverse and changing meanings attached to masculinity in America from the seventeenth through the nineteenth centuries. What forces have shaped male identities in colonial America and the United States and what impact have those identities had on men's lives and actions? Topics include: fatherhood and family life, violence and war, male sexuality, religious belief, work, and the myth of the self-made man. Special attention will be paid to race, class, and region as sources of variation and conflict in the historical construction of American manhood.

Prerequisite: Normally open to juniors and seniors who have taken a grade II unit in History and/or a grade II unit in a relevant area/subject.

Distribution: Historical Studies

Semester: Fall Unit: 1.0

HIST 326 Seminar. American Jewish History

Auerbach

NOT OFFERED IN 2008-09. The development of American Jewish life and institutions, from European immigration to the present. Particular attention to the pressures, pleasures, and perils of acculturation. Historical and literary evidence will guide explorations into the social and political implications of Jewish minority status in the United States, the impact of Israel on the consciousness of American Jews, and the tension between traditional Judaism and modern feminism.

Prerequisite: Normally open to juniors and seniors who have taken a grade II unit in History and/or a grade II unit in a relevant area/subject.

Distribution: Historical Studies

Semester: N/O Unit: 1.0

HIST 328 Seminar. Antisemitism in Historical Perspective

Malino

NOT OFFERED IN 2008-09. Historians often refer to antisemitism as the “Longest Hatred.” What accounts for this obsession? Is the antisemitism of medieval Europe that of Nazi Germany? These questions will inform our examination of pre-Christian antisemitism, the evolving attitudes of Christianity and Islam, the ambiguous legacy of the Enlightenment and the impact of revolution, modernization and nationalism. Sources include Church documents, medieval accounts, nineteenth- and twentieth-century memoirs and contemporary films.

Prerequisite: Normally open to juniors and seniors who have taken a grade II unit in History and/or a grade II unit in a relevant area/subject.

Distribution: Historical Studies

Semester: N/O Unit: 1.0

HIST 330 Seminar. Revolution and Rebellion in Twelfth-Century European Society

Ramseyer

NOT OFFERED IN 2008-09. This course will examine the revolutionary changes that occurred in all facets of life in twelfth-century Europe. The twelfth century represents one of the most important eras of European history, characterized by many historians as the period that gave birth to Europe as both idea and place. It was a time of economic growth, religious reformation, political and legal reorganization, cultural flowering, intellectual innovation, and outward expansion. Yet the twelfth century had a dark side, too. Crusades and colonization, heresy and religious disputes, town uprisings and mob violence also marked the century. Students will study the internal changes to European society as well as the expansion of Europe into the Mediterranean and beyond, paying close attention to the key people behind the transformations.

Prerequisite: Normally open to juniors and seniors who have taken a grade II unit in History and/or a grade II unit in a relevant area/subject.

Distribution: Historical Studies

Semester: N/O Unit: 1.0

HIST 333 Seminar. Dangerous Relations: USSR and the World, From Stalin to Gorbachev

Tumarkin

NOT OFFERED IN 2008-09. The USSR was America's superpower rival in a prolonged and deadly nuclear arms race. Beginning with the Nazi-Soviet Pact of 1939, and ending with the spectacular demise of east European communism and the collapse of the USSR in 1991, this seminar on the Soviet Union in world politics spans the entire Cold War. What accounts for the USSR's extraordinary success in sovietizing eastern Europe just when the US had a monopoly on the atomic bomb? Was ideology or play in determining the USSR's international affairs? The seminar will conclude by exploring the ways in which the imperatives of a global communist empire both empowered and ultimately destroyed the USSR.

Prerequisite: Normally open to juniors and seniors who have taken a grade II unit in History and/or a grade II unit International Relations course.

Distribution: Historical Studies

Semester: N/O Unit: 1.0

HIST 334 Seminar. World Economics Orders, 1918-2008

Slobodian

The idea of the "world economy" as a single, interconnected entity only entered widespread discussion in Europe and North America after the First World War. This course explores the diverse ways of imagining and ordering the world economy since then and what Europe's place has been within it, from imperial economies to national economies to a supposedly "globalized" economy to recent tilts of the European Union away from the United States and toward China and Russia. We will see how ideas such as development, modernization and globalization have dictated falsely universal models but have also served as emancipatory idioms for previously marginalized individuals and populations. We will demystify economic arguments and learn to study economic texts for their content but also as political and cultural documents.

Prerequisite: Normally open to juniors and seniors who have taken a grade II unit in History and/or a grade II unit in a relevant area/subject.

Distribution: Historical Studies.

Semester: Spring Unit: 1.0

HIST 336 Seminar. The Middle East and World War I, 1914–1923

Rollman

NOT OFFERED IN 2008-09. Gallipoli and “Lawrence of Arabia” figure most prominently in Hollywood films and published accounts of World War I in the Middle East. The region’s involvement in the “Great War” was, however, much more complicated than such popular accounts suggest. Turkey, Egypt, Palestine, Syria, Iraq, Iran, and North Africa were theaters of military operations. The entire region was the object of intense diplomatic efforts too, as European powers, especially Great Britain and France, confronted the demands of war, their competing interests, and the challenge of emergent nationalism among Kurds, Jews, Arabs, Iranians, Armenians, and Turks living there. Using primary and secondary sources, students will explore and analyze the pivotal transformations initiated and shaped by the war and the creation of new nation-states in its aftermath.

Prerequisite: Normally open to juniors and seniors who have taken a grade II unit in History and/or a grade II unit in a relevant area/subject.

Distribution: Historical Studies.

Semester: N/O Unit: 1.0

HIST 343 Seminar. History of Israel

Auerbach

This course explores the historical development of Jewish national identity, from biblical promise through Zionist advocacy to contemporary political reality in the State of Israel. We will consider the continuing debate within Israel, ever since its founding, over national identity: traditional or modern; Jewish or democratic; religious or secular. Close attention will be paid to such formative national experiences as the Holocaust; the struggle for independence; the social and political consequences of mass immigration; the 1967, 1973, and Lebanon wars; the Palestinian intifadas; Israel’s relations with its Arab citizens and neighbors; Jewish settlements; and the “post-Zionist” revision of Israeli national history.

Prerequisite: Normally open to juniors and seniors who have taken a grade II unit in History and/or a grade II unit in a relevant area/subject.

Distribution: Historical Studies

Semester: Spring Unit: 1.0

HIST 350 Research or Individual Study

Prerequisite: Open by permission to juniors and seniors.

Distribution: None

Semester: Fall, Spring Unit: 1.0

HIST 350H Research or Individual Study

Prerequisite: Open by permission to juniors and seniors.

Distribution: None

Semester: Fall, Spring Unit: 0.5

HIST 360 Senior Thesis Research

Prerequisite: By permission of department. See Academic Distinctions.

Distribution: None

Semester: Fall, Spring Unit: 1.0

HIST 364 Seminar. Women in Islamic Society: Historical Perspectives

Kaptejns

NOT OFFERED IN 2008-09. In the last decade, Muslim scholars and writers have become major contributors to the study (and history) of women in Islamic societies. They have undertaken a critique of older (including Western feminist) scholarship and proposed new theoretical approaches and methods. This seminar will focus on this new historiography and the insights it provides into the history of women and gender issues from the time of the Prophet to the present. Student research papers will focus on concrete case studies of women in specific Islamic societies and time periods, from North Africa and Western Europe to South Africa, Afghanistan and China.

Prerequisite: Normally open to juniors and seniors who have taken a grade II unit in History and/or a grade II unit in a relevant area/subject.

Distribution: Historical Studies

Semester: N/O Unit: 1.0

HIST 365 Seminar. Research in African History

Kaptejns

This seminar is organized around four broad and overlapping themes of recent African historiography that are relevant to the period 1960 to the present. In this period, African societies tried to overcome the legacies of colonial rule, and to fashion national identities and establish nation-states. However, due to external and internal causes, the successes of the 1960s and 1970sm began to falter in the 1980s and 1990s – in many cases leading to violence in the form of civil and other wars. This seminar focuses on African expressions – the fancy word is "mediations" – of these historical changes, with a particular emphasis on popular culture broadly construed, that is to say including a wide range of media, from the writing of history and journalism, to literary representations of history, and the popular arts such as popular song and TV programs. The four central themes of the seminar are: (1) colonialism, nationalism, and modernity, (2) women and gender; (3) the historical roots of modern conflicts, and (4) popular culture broadly construed. Student will be encouraged to work with primary sources.

Prerequisite: Normally open to juniors and seniors who have taken a grade II unit in History and/or a grade II unit in a relevant area/subject.

Distribution: Historical Studies

Semester: Spring Unit: 1.0

HIST 367 Seminar. Jewish Identities in the Modern World

Malino

Modern Jewish identity is as varied as the countries in which Jews lived and the cultures to which they belong. Through contemporary literature, memoirs, and film, we shall explore the construction and dynamics of Jewish identity in Europe, America, Africa, the Middle East and South Asia. Topics include the struggle for political equality, nationalism, feminism, colonialism and political anti-Semitism. We shall also examine the ways in which modern and modernizing nations, when constructing their own national identities, re-imagine the presence of “their Jews.” Comparisons to other ethnic and religious groups.

Prerequisite: Normally open to juniors and seniors who have taken a grade II unit in History and/or a grade II unit in a relevant area/subject.

Distribution: Historical Studies

Semester: Fall Unit: 1.0

HIST 370 Senior Thesis

Prerequisite: 360 and permission of department.

Distribution: None

Semester: Fall, Spring Unit: 1.0

HIST 371 Seminar. Chinese Frontier Experience, 1600–1990

Giersch

NOT OFFERED IN 2008-09. Much of China’s vast and ethnically diverse territory was conquered after 1644. Nationalistic histories describe conquest in rosy terms in order to legitimize rule over Tibetans and other minorities. This course explores the social, military, economic and ideological realities—and legacies—of conquest. Readings from U.S. history provide a comparative perspective.

Prerequisite: Normally open to juniors and seniors who have taken a grade II unit in History and/or a grade II unit in a relevant area/subject.

Distribution: Historical Studies

Semester: N/O Unit: 1.0

HIST 372 Seminar. Chinese Nationalism and Identity in the Modern World

Giersch

NOT OFFERED IN 2008-09. China’s emergence as a great power is a vital contemporary issue. Disputes over Taiwan and tensions over China’s strategic agenda raise questions about how Chinese envision their nation and its global role. This course places these questions in historical context by examining the evolution of modern China’s national identity. Topics include: the emergence of modern nationalism in the 1890s; the growth of revolutionary nationalism under the Communists; struggles over women’s place in the nation; schooling and propaganda in teaching nationalism; the relationship between popular culture and nationalism; and the challenge of alternative visions, including Taiwanese identity. We conclude with current debates: is China’s rise peaceful or is there currently a “China Threat” to global stability? Materials include position pieces, documentaries, and translated fiction and essays.

As of 6/4/2008

Prerequisite: Normally open to juniors and seniors who have taken a grade II unit in History and/or a grade II unit in a relevant area/subject.

Distribution: Historical Studies

Semester: N/O Unit: 1.0

HIST 377 Seminar. The City in Latin America

Osorio

NOT OFFERED IN 2008-09. Urbanity has long been central to Latin American cultures. This seminar examines the historical development of Latin American cities from the Roman principles governing the grid pattern imposed by the Spanish in the sixteenth century, through the development of the twentieth-century, post-modern megalopolis. The seminar's three main objectives are (1) to develop a theoretical framework within which to analyze and interpret the history, and historical study of, Latin American cities; (2) to provide a basic overview of the historical development of cities in the context of Latin American law, society, and culture; (3) to subject to critical analysis some of the theoretical "models" (i.e. Baroque, Classical, Dependency, Modernism and so on) developed to interpret the evolution and workings of Latin American cities.

Prerequisite: Normally open to juniors and seniors who have taken a grade II unit in History and/or a grade II unit in a relevant area/subject.

Distribution: Historical Studies

Semester: N/O Unit: 1.0

HIST 378 Seminar. Women and Social Movements in Latin America

Osorio

This seminar examines the historical development of women's movements in Latin America from the nineteenth century through the twentieth century. We will examine the local political and ideological events that shaped women's movements and feminism(s) in the region. Topics include women's early claims to equal education and the development of the ideologies of 'women's rights' and social motherhood around 1900; women in democracy and the search for social justice from the 1930s-1950s; women's role in revolutions and counterrevolutions from the late 1950s through the 1970s; the advent of international feminism in the context of national liberation and redemocratization after 1974, and neoliberalism and globalization.

Prerequisite: Normally open to juniors and seniors who have taken a grade II unit in History and/or a grade II unit in a relevant area/subject.

Distribution: Historical Studies

Semester: Fall Unit: 1.0

HIST 382 Seminar. Gandhi, Nehru, and Ambedkar: The Making of Modern India
Rao

The creation of the world's largest democracy brought powerful ideas into contact and conflict: the overthrow of colonial rule through a philosophy of non-violence; the desire to industrialize rapidly; and the quest to end centuries of caste discrimination. This seminar explores the key ideas that shaped modern India through the lives of three extraordinary individuals. How did Gandhi's experiments with food and sex affect his vision of India? How did Nehru's understanding of world history structure his program of industrialization? How did Ambedkar's untouchable upbringing shape his agenda? Could Gandhi's non-violent agenda be sustained? Could an India based on individual transformation also annihilate caste? We engage extensively with primary sources such as autobiographies, writings, and speeches, as well as scholarly accounts and films.

Prerequisite: Normally open to juniors and seniors who have taken a grade II unit in History and/or a grade II unit in a relevant area/subject.

Distribution: Historical Studies

Semester: Spring Unit: 1.0

HIST 383 Seminar. 1947: Partition in History and Memory in South Asia

Rao

NOT OFFERED IN 2008-09. In the years leading to 1947, nationalist activism against the British and tensions between Hindus and Muslims escalated in the Indian subcontinent. This culminated in Partition and the emergence of the nations of India and Pakistan. Independence was marred, however, by the bloodshed accompanying the mass movements of Muslims into Pakistan and Hindus into India. What were the factors leading to this juxtaposition of triumphal Independence with shameful Partition? How have memories of Partition continued to affect powerfully politics and culture in the subcontinent? This seminar investigates such questions using a wide variety of materials, including novels such as Salman Rushdie's *Midnight's Children* and Bapsi Sidhwa's *Cracking India*, feature films such as Deepa Mehta's *1947*, and documentary films such as Sabiha Sumar's *Silent Waters*.

Prerequisite: Normally open to juniors and seniors who have taken a grade II unit in History and/or a grade II unit in a relevant area/subject.

Distribution: Historical Studies

Semester: N/O Unit: 1.0

HIST 390 Seminar. Race, Law, and Culture in Louisiana, 1699-1904

Williams

This seminar explores the history of colonial and nineteenth-century Louisiana and New Orleans in particular, beginning with the earliest French settlement and ending with the 1904 centennial celebration of the Louisiana Purchase. It examines how Louisiana's geography, legal heritage, social and economic institutions, and Creole culture made it centrally important to the nation in the nineteenth century. It pays special attention to the national implications of local political contests over slavery and race relations. It also considers questions of method, evidence and narrative in understanding the dissonance between history and memory.

Prerequisite: Normally open to juniors and seniors who have taken a grade II unit in History and/or a grade II unit in a relevant area/subject.

Distribution: Historical Studies

Semester: Spring Unit: 1.0

HIST 395 Seminar. Historical Origins of Contemporary Global Problems

Giersch

Understanding the world's most pressing challenges demands knowledge that transcends cultural and national perspectives. It also requires historical thinking—both to analyze the origins of complex problems and to assess possibilities for solution. This course explores the historical origins of contemporary challenges and conflicts as well as the capabilities of national and global institutions seeking solutions. Topics are drawn from the following thematic categories: poverty and inequality in an era of increased globalization; terrorism, arms proliferation, and other challenges to international security; migration and its impact on source and destination countries; democracy, human rights, and humanitarian intervention; and the environmental impact of economic development. Seminar is designed primarily, although not exclusively, as capstone for IR-History majors.

Prerequisite: Normally open to juniors and seniors who have taken a grade II unit in History and/or a grade II unit in a relevant area/subject.

Distribution: Historical Studies

Semester: Spring Unit: 1.0

Related Courses

For Credit Towards the Major

A student nearing the completion of her major requirements may, with approval of her advisor, petition the chair of the history department to receive credit toward the major for one related course outside the department's offerings taken at Wellesley or an institution at which a Wellesley student may cross-register.

Directions for Election

Most 200-level courses in the department are open to first-year students. Seminars are ordinarily limited to 15 students, non-majors as well as majors, who meet the prerequisite.

Majors in history are allowed great latitude in designing a program of study, but it is important for a program to have breadth, depth, and historical perspective. To ensure breadth, the program must include: (1) at least one course (1.0 unit) in the history of Africa, China, Japan, Latin America, the Middle East, or South Asia; and (2) at least one course (1.0 unit) in the history of Europe, the United States, or Russia. To encourage depth of historical understanding, we urge majors to focus eventually upon a special field of study, such as (1) a particular geographical area, country, or culture; (2) a specific time period; (3) a particular historical approach, e.g., intellectual and cultural history, social and economic history; (4) a specific historical theme, e.g., the history of women, revolutions, colonialism. To ensure that students have a broad historical perspective, history majors must take at least one course (1.0 unit) in pre-modern history (e.g., Medieval Italy, Colonial Latin America, and so forth). We recommend that majors include at least one seminar in their program of two 300-level units (2.0) in the major required for the B.A. degree.

The minimum major requires nine units of coursework. Normally, seven of the nine units and all 300-level work must be taken at Wellesley. No Advanced Placement credits. In special circumstances and only with the permission of major advisor and department chair, at most one related course (1.0 unit) in another department may be counted toward the major. One cross-listed course may be counted toward the major, but a student may not count both a cross-listed and a related course toward the major.

360/370 Honors Thesis: The only path to honors is the senior thesis. Students must have a grade-point average of 3.5 or higher in courses applied to the major and must complete 6 of the 9 major units of coursework before the end of their junior year. For additional information, please consult the departmental website or ask at the history office. Also see Academic Distinctions.

The history minor consists of a minimum of five units of coursework, of which at least four courses (4.0 units) must be above the 100 level and at least one course (1.0 unit) at the 300 level (excluding 350). Of these five courses, at least three courses (3.0 units) shall represent a coherent and integrated field of interest, such as, for example, American history, Medieval and Renaissance history, or social history. Of the other courses, at least one course (1.0 unit) shall be in a different field. Normally at least four courses (4.0 units) must be taken at Wellesley, and related courses in other departments will not count toward the minor.

International Relations/History: Students interested in a major combining both of these fields should consider International Relations History, listed under International Relations.

Teacher Certification: Students interested in obtaining certification to teach history in the Commonwealth of Massachusetts should consult Mr. Auerbach in the history department and the chair of the education department.