HISTORY 1100. SURVEY OF AMERICAN HISTORY TO 1865. Introduction to U.S. history through the Civil War, surveying political, economic, social and cultural development of the American people. No credit will be given to students who have received credit in HISTORY 1400 (AP credit for US History).

HISTORY 1200. SURVEY OF AMERICAN HISTORY SINCE 1865. Introduction to U.S. history since 1865, surveying political, economic, social, and cultural development of the American people. No credit will be given to students who have received credit in HISTORY 1400 (AP credit for US History).

HISTORY 1410. AFRICAN AMERICAN HISTORY. (Same as Black Studies 1410). Surveys African-American history from the fifteenth century to the present. Eras and topics include the trans-Atlantic slave trade, slavery, the Civil War and emancipation, segregation, the New Negro era, the Great Depression and World War II, the modern black freedom struggle, and the post-civil rights era. Exams and papers: Midterm, final, research paper. Readings: To be announced. Professor: K. Ervin; 9:30-10:45 TTh

HISTORY 1500. FOUNDATIONS OF WESTERN CIVILIZATION. A general introduction to major themes in the Western cultural heritage from the origin of civilization in the ancient Near East to the breakdown of traditional European society in the late 18th century. Designed to give a broad background for general education, and to be a sound foundation for further study not only in history but also in other social science and humanities fields. Exams and papers: Three unit exams (no comprehensive final); three short papers (= 2-3 pages each) based on assigned readings; participation in weekly discussion sections. Readings: To be announced. Professor: J. Frymire; 9:30-10:20 TTh

HISTORY 1520. INTRODUCTION TO THE ANCIENT WORLD. This course will explore the development of some of the earliest civilizations of Central Asia, North Africa, and Europe until the collapse of the Roman Empire in the west in the late 5th century. These civilizations include the prominent societies associated with ancient Mesopotamia, Egypt, Israel, Greece, and Rome. The course focuses on several central themes that include the emergence of cities and states, legal codes and the organization of society, the nature of kingship, the evolution of religious expression, social hierarchies and gender, the nature of empire as a political system, military history, and the evolution of slavery in the ancient world. Exams and papers: To be determined. Readings: To be announced. Professor: J. Stevens; 12:00-12:50 MWF

HISTORY 1840. COLONIAL LATIN AMERICA. Surveys the economic, social, political, and cultural history of Latin America before 1810. Beginning with a detailed discussion of the pre-Columbian Indian civilizations and climaxing with the Haitian Revolution and rumblings of discontent in Spanish and Portuguese colonial possessions, it demands a rigorous study of primary sources to get at the lived experiences of Latin American residents. Applying a mixed approach to the region, both chronological and thematic, the class will place special emphasis on the multi-cultural character of colonial Latin American history—African, Native American, and European. The course seeks both to sharpen the students’ understanding of the region and to stimulate an appreciation for the techniques of historical inquiry and analysis. Exams and papers: One exam, two papers, ten short comments, and ten quizzes. Readings: Four texts. Professor: R. Smale; 10:00-10:50 MWF
HISTORY 1871. HISTORY OF CHINA IN MODERN TIMES. History 1871 is an introductory level course that provides a basis for understanding China’s development since the 17th century. Prior knowledge of China or East Asia is not required. The course puts China’s recent rise as a hegemonic global power and its uneasy relationship with the United States in historical perspective. The journey starts with the collapse of the Ming Dynasty. It ends with the People's Republic of China in the early 1990s. Class format consists of lectures, reading workshops, and film sessions. Coursework and evaluation: Exams 50%, assignments 30%, attendance 20%. Readings: To be announced. Professor: D. Yang; 11:00-11:50 MWF

2000 Level Courses

HISTORY 2004.1. EPIDEMICS AND SOCIETY. Survey of epidemic diseases from the ancient to modern eras, focusing on both the factors giving rise to specific diseases and how different societies have understood and responded to them. Traces the connections of epidemic diseases to globalization, examining links between epidemics and warfare, exploration, colonization, and trade networks. The course will conclude with a discussion of newly emerging diseases in the contemporary world. Exams and papers: Two exams, three short papers and a research bibliography. Readings: Three paperback books and additional readings online (Canvas). Professor: K. Wilson-Bowers; 12:00-12:50 MWF

HISTORY 2100H. THE REVOLUTIONARY TRANSFORMATION OF AMERICA. (Must be eligible for Honors Standing). This course covers the causes, course, and consequences of the American Revolution. Our readings and discussion will push us to see the Revolution not as a straightforward march towards American independence, but rather as a complex series of interrelated political, military, social, economic, and cultural events that unfolded across the larger eighteenth-century world. Students will engage with both primary sources and scholarly assessments as they reconstruct the origins and outcomes of the Revolution from wide-ranging perspectives. Exams and papers: To be determined. Readings: To be announced. Professor: A. Reichardt; 3:50-4:45 TTh

HISTORY 2120H. THE YOUNG REPUBLIC. (Must be eligible for Honors Standing). This course examines the early years of the United States. Our focus will be on abandoning our preconceptions about the nation’s early history and thoroughly understanding the contingencies, crises, and challenges that faced the American Founders after 1776. Exams and papers: To be determined. Readings: To be announced. Instructor: Z. Dowdle; 9:30-10:45 MW

HISTORY 2150. THE AMERICAN CIVIL WAR: A GLOBAL HISTORY. In this class students will study the American Civil War from the perspective of global history. The familiar actors and events will be covered – the debate over slavery, the secession of the South, the rise of Abraham Lincoln, the great battles and generals, etc. But these familiar episodes will take on different meanings when viewed in relation to global structures of politics, economics, social relations, and ideology. The 1860s was at once a formative moment in the history of globalization and the key decade for the formation and consolidation of modern nations. There are two objectives to this class: first, to expose undergraduates to the historical, political, and moral education that the Civil War offers all of its students; and, second, to introduce students to the enterprise of global history through a familiar and particularly illuminating historical event. Exams and papers: To be determined. Readings: To be announced. Professor: J. Sexton; 2:00-3:15 TTh

HISTORY 2240. FLIGHT IN AMERICA: FROM THE WRIGHT BROTHERS TO THE SPACE AGE. This course focuses on the history of flying in the U.S. from its beginnings to the Apollo moon missions. In a little over a century, aviation and space flight have transformed our world in deep and enduring ways. We will focus on key innovations and the people behind them. This is an exciting story, full of fascinating men and women. There are a lot of great videos and films about flight and we will use excerpts from these in class. Exams and papers: Grades will be based on quizzes, newspaper projects, and a take-home final. Readings: Weekly reading assignments, including historical newspaper articles. Professor: J. Wigger; 11:00-12:15 TTh
HISTORY 2400. SOCIAL HISTORY OF U.S. WOMEN. (Same as Women’s and Gender Studies 2400). This course introduces students to the history of US women from the colonial period to the present. Lectures and readings will juxtapose the lives of individual women with larger cultural, scientific, and legal/political trends which helped to shape women’s lives. Although many aspects of women’s experiences are often assumed to be trans-historical, even the most seemingly essential do have a history. Students will explore the changing conceptions of what it means to be female as well as how understandings of female roles – e.g. mother, wife, domestic worker – have changed over the past four hundred years. Students will also explore America’s women’s history in its more traditional legal and political contexts. Although this course will cover many events included in more conventional American history courses, students may find that seemingly familiar events and documents, from the American Revolution and the writing of the US Constitution to the counter-cultural movements of the twentieth century and beyond, look different when seen through the eyes of America’s women. Exams and papers: Quizzes, midterm and final and two four-five-page papers. Readings: Two books, other articles and primary sources as assigned. Professor: M. Morris; 2:00-3:15 TTh

HISTORY 2950. SOPHOMORE SEMINAR: THE SPACE RACE. (Department Consent Requested). This course will use focus on learning the craft of history by looking at how historians have treated one particular topic, the Space Race between Americans and Russians during the middle years of the twentieth century. We will practice evaluating sources of information, and do different forms of historical research using oral histories, newspaper and periodical collections, monographs, and scholarly articles. Students will learn to develop research questions and do a variety of smaller assignments, concluding with a prospectus for a major research paper (8-10 pages). Exams and papers: Book reviews, prospectus, annotated bibliography, formal peer reviews. Readings: To be announced. Professor: L. Huneycutt; 3:00-5:20 W

HISTORY 3200. BLACK FREEDOM MOVEMENT, 1955-1973. (Same as Black Studies 3200). Examines the transformation of the struggle for black freedom and liberation from Civil Rights to Black Power. Themes include changing strategies, tactics, and goals, campaigns for political and economic power, gender and sexuality, conflict and difference within and among black communities, and continuing struggles for racial justice. Exams and papers: Reading responses, presentation, final project. Readings: To be announced. Professor: K. Ervin; 2:00-3:15 TTh

HISTORY 3510. THE ANCIENT GREEK WORLD. This course will explore the world of ancient Greece from the eighth century BC to the death of Alexander the Great. Some of this course will include an examination of the prominent historical developments traditionally associated with ancient Greece, such as the emergence of the polis (city-state), the phenomenon of tyranny, the rise of Athens and Sparta, the birth of Athenian democracy, and the iconic military campaigns of the Persian and Peloponnesian Wars in the fifth century BC. In addition to these traditional topics, this course will also emphasize current historical debates over popular conceptions of Greek identity and citizenship, Greek interactions with foreigners, the role of women in Greek society, as well as the debates over the nature of slavery, freedom, and equality as the cultural legacy of ancient Greece spread throughout the Mediterranean world. Exams and papers: To be determined. Readings: To be announced. Professor: J. Stevens; 3:00-4:15 MW

HISTORY 3550. THE ORIGINS OF SCIENTIFIC THOUGHT. Survey of attitudes toward nature from prehistoric beginnings to the period of the scientific revolution in the 17th century. Covers developments in physical and biological sciences, including mathematics and medicine. Designed for both science and non-science majors; no background in science required. Exams and papers: Two exams, two short papers and a research paper. Readings: A packet of ancillary readings and additional readings online (Canvas). Professor: K. Wilson-Bowers; 10:00-10:50 MWF
HISTORY 3570. EUROPEAN WOMEN IN THE 19TH CENTURY. (Same as Women's and Gender Studies 3570). This course will trace the history of European women from 1789 to 1900, exploring the ways women experienced the political, social, and economic transformations of the 19th century. We will look at how the French revolution, industrialization, and colonialism redefined the lives of European women. Themes emphasized in this course include changes in nation-formation, family, sexuality, work and politics. Exams and papers: There will be two exams and one term paper. Readings: Historical monographs and articles; primary sources including novels, and memoirs. Professor: L. Reeder; 9:30-10:45 TTh

HISTORY 3590. THE EARLY MIDDLE AGES. This course will cover the evolution of European culture from roughly 300 to 1100. Although its focus will primarily be on social, political, and economic developments, it will also take developments in religion, art, literature, and philosophy into account. Exams and papers: Final, in-class quizzes and several short writing assignments. Readings: Backman, The Worlds of Medieval Europe, Farmer (ed.), The Age of Bede, plus supplementary readings. Professor: L. Huneycutt; 1:00-1:50 MWF

HISTORY 3870. SOCIAL REVOLUTION IN LATIN AMERICA. (Same as Peace Studies 3870). This course will focus on the four significant social revolutions of twentieth-century Latin America: the Mexican Revolution of 1910, the Bolivian Revolution of 1952, the Cuban Revolution of 1959, and the Sandinista Revolution of 1979 in Nicaragua. We will also explore various failed revolutions such as the presidency of Salvador Allende in Chile (1970-1973). The military governments that arose across the region to halt the spread of social revolution will also be discussed. Exams and papers: One exam, two papers, ten short comments, and ten quizzes. Readings: Four texts. Professor: R. Smale; 11:00-11:50 MWF

4000 Level Courses

HISTORY 4270. AFRICAN AMERICANS IN THE TWENTIETH CENTURY. (Same as Black Studies 4270). This course is a survey of the major political, social, economic, and cultural developments in the African American experience across the twentieth century. Themes include the migration, cultural production, struggles for civil rights and Black Power, class, gender and sexuality, crime, and urban experience. The course closes by considering the state of Black America today. Through secondary source readings, lectures, discussions, films, and images, students will investigate key trends and evaluate historians’ debates. Exams and papers: Two Exams, one-three papers. Readings: Four-five books. Professor: D. Fergus; 11:00-12:15 TTh

HISTORY 4290. INNOVATION IN 20TH & 21ST CENTURY AMERICA. This course focuses on innovations that have shaped our world and the people behind them, from Edison and the introduction of electric light to airplanes, transistors, semiconductors, fracking, subprime mortgages, televangelism, Uber, and Airbnb. The idea is not to determine which innovations are most important, but to examine how innovations are created and why some are successful and others are not. This is a reading and discussion based course. Exams and papers: Grades will be based on assigned book reviews and quizzes. Readings: We will read seven books for this course, most of which are widely available used in various editions. These books are good reads. They focus not just on technology and markets, but on the dramatic stories of the people involved. Professor: J. Wigger; 2:00-3:15 TTh

HISTORY 4430. THE GREAT WEST IN AMERICAN HISTORY. Through this course we will explore the major themes current in the field of western history today. These themes include, but are not limited to, the articulation of race, gender, class and the environment in shaping the region’s history. Viewed through these lenses, we will attempt to form a working understanding of the region and its complex history that transcends the “mythical West” common in US popular culture. Exams and papers: To be determined. Readings: To be announced. Professor: J. Frank; 9:30-10:45 TTh
HISTORY 4540. THE LATER ROMAN EMPIRE. This course will explore the political, religious, and cultural life of the Later Roman Empire and the early period of Late Antiquity that facilitated the rise of the Byzantine Empire in the sixth century. The survey of topics will examine the evolution and transformation of the classical Roman world from as early as the Severan Dynasty, the subsequent ‘Crisis of the Third Century’ and the rise of the soldier emperors, down through the emergence of the barbarian kingdoms and early Byzantium. Major themes also include the division of the empire, transition from imperial capital to holy city, the construction and impact of Constantinople, the formation of Christian orthodoxy, the evolution of slavery, as well as the mass migrations and warfare of the period. Exams and papers: To be determined. Readings: To be announced. Professor: J. Stevens; 3:30-4:45 TTh

HISTORY 4630. THE AGE OF THE RENAISSANCE. This class will explore the major changes in European economic, social, political, religious, and intellectual life between 1250-1500. We will examine Humanism and Renaissance as well as the “Renaissance problem.” Exams and papers: To be determined. Readings: To be announced. Professor: J. Frymire; 3:00-5:20 W

HISTORY 4650. REVOLUTIONARY FRANCE, 1789-1815. The French Revolution is one of the best-known events and turning points in history, an event with enormous repercussions for both French and world history. The personal dramas, sudden changes of fortunes, and dramatic consequences of the Revolution have inspired innumerable artists, novelists, playwrights, and filmmakers over the centuries. Regarded as the first “social” revolution, it marked a decisive transition in European history, established the “rights of man” as a new ideal of legitimacy, and created the model of the modern nation-state. This course examines the origins, process, and impact of the French Revolution. It will begin by tracing the ancient régime and those structures that the revolutionaries attempted to dismantle. The course will follow with an examination of Enlightenment concepts and their influence on revolutionary fervor. With an understanding of the historical processes leading to revolution, the course will then launch into an investigation of both traditional and more recent interpretations of the Revolution itself. We will conclude with the rise of Napoleon and the establishment of his Empire. Exams and papers: To be determined. Readings: To be announced. Professor: I. Karthas; 2:00-2:50 MWF

HISTORY 4880. CHINESE MIGRATION: FROM YELLOW PERIL TO MODEL MINORITY. In the United States, people who identify themselves as Chinese Americans have surpassed 3.5 million. Overall, Asians constitute the fastest growing ethnic minority in this country since the early 2000s. Despite being considered "a model minority" and a success story, many Chinese Americans and Asian Americans continue to feel alienated from the mainstream society. Their stories are overshadowed by the dominant discourse on the black and white dichotomy. People of Chinese or Asian descent have not only been an integral part of the history of the United States. They are in fact the key to understanding America’s conception of racial/ethnic differences and its immigration policy at the present time. This course sheds light on these crucial but lesser-known developments. The class format consists of seminar discussions and in-class works. Course work and evaluation: Two in-class presentations (30%); one final research paper (30%); attendance (20%); seminar participation (20%). Readings: To be announced. Professor: D. Yang; 2:00-2:50 MWF
SENIOR SEMINARS

*THESE COURSES ARE RESTRICTED TO HISTORY MAJORS ONLY
AND REQUIRE DEPARTMENT CONSENT*

ALL SEMINARS ARE WRITING INTENSIVE

HISTORY 4971W.1. HISTORY OF THE MODERN CITY IN EUROPE. (Department Consent Required, Writing Intensive Capstone). This capstone seminar will examine the experience of modern life in Europe in the 19th and 20th centuries. It will place particular emphasis on the “modern city” and “the senses” in order to understand the how people coped with the vast changes occurring in this period, paying attention to the diversity of experiences based on class, gender, and race. In the age of urbanization, we will examine life in London, Paris, Berlin, Vienna, Prague, Florence, etc. How did cities change? What were their dangers? What were their pleasures? How did modern cities affect socialization? What kinds of struggles (political, social, and cultural) were played out in cities? What fears were awakened by them? How was imperialism connected to the modern city (the idea of the "colonial metropolis")? This seminar will explore modern urban spaces and the emergence of new institutions such as cafes, coffeehouses, restaurants, train stations, music-halls, museums, police stations, colonial exhibitions (state fairs), etc. In addition to examining a variety of textual sources, the course will also draw heavily upon visual sources, such as painting, advertisements, photography, dance, theatre, film. It will introduce students to visual and film theories in the hopes of strengthening their skills in visual analysis. Exams and papers: To be determined. Readings: To be announced. Professor: I. Karthas; 3:00-5:20 W

HISTORY 4972W. OIL AND ENERGY. (Department Consent Required, Writing Intensive Capstone). This seminar examines the history of oil and other fossil fuels in American history. Understanding the evolution of energy use over time helps illuminate the history of the American economy, U.S. foreign policy, the growth of cities and suburbs, climate change, and other developments that have shaped today’s world. As a Writing Intensive course, this seminar will include weekly responses to the readings and two longer papers. Students will employ a multi-step writing process, with steps that include developing a preliminary version of their arguments in outlines and rough drafts, incorporating feedback, revising, and creating polished final drafts. Exams and papers: Weekly reading responses and two papers with a multi-step revision process. Readings: To be announced. Professor: V. McFarland; 3:00-5:20 M