

HISTORY (HIST)

HIST 112 - World History (3 Credits)

Examines world history from the 15th century to the present, covering key themes like globalization, migration, empire, global wars, slavery, genocide, (de)colonization, and technological changes across different eras. Explores multiple, global perspectives on these processes and the origins of recent issues like late capitalism, environmental crises, and populist authoritarianism.

HIST 121 - Western Civilization I (3 Credits)

From ancient Near Eastern origins through classical Greece and Rome, the Middle Ages and the Renaissance and Reformation Era to the seventeenth century.

HIST 122 - Western Civilization II (3 Credits)

From the seventeenth century through the Age of Absolutism, the Enlightenment, and the French Revolution to the era of nationalism and industrialism and the modernism of the twentieth century.

HIST 131 - American History to 1865 (3 Credits)

The Age of Discovery and the Colonial Era through the American Revolution, nation building, the rise of the party system, slavery, and the Civil War.

HIST 132 - American History Since 1865 (3 Credits)

Reconstruction, the emergence of industrialism, the development of world power status through the World Wars, and post-1945 trends.

HIST 141 - Asian Civilization I (3 Credits)

Asian civilization from its origins in India, China, Japan, and other societies through 1500 AD. Emphasis on social, intellectual, and technological change in the development of the culture and history of the area.

HIST 142 - Asian Civilization II (3 Credits)

Asia in the modern era, 1500 AD to present, the age of Western expansion and penetration and the social, political, economic, and intellectual transformation of the nineteenth and twentieth centuries.

HIST 200 - Topics in History (3 Credits)

Listed in the Schedule of Courses, chosen according to timely interest.

HIST 299 - Introduction to the Study of History (3 Credits)

Prerequisite: HIST 121 and HIST 122 OR HIST 131 and HIST 132 OR HIST 141 and HIST 142 and major status. In HIST 299, students learn how to "think like historians." They practice the essential skills of historians as they undertake the research and writing of a history research paper and its related projects. The course prepares students for the research, writing, and thinking required in upper-division history courses.

HIST 300 - Topics in History (3 Credits)

Listed in the Schedule of Courses, chosen according to timely interest.

HIST 304 - The Civil War (3 Credits)

Development of Southern nationalism and the Confederacy; emphasis on social, economic, and political as well as military aspects of the war.

HIST 305 - The American West (3 Credits)

Exploration of interactions among various peoples who have lived along the American frontier and/or the American "West."

HIST 307 - Native American History (3 Credits)

Overview of Native American experiences in North America, with a focus on the pre-contact era to the Battle of Wounded Knee in 1890; also addresses 20th-century and contemporary Native American experiences and issues.

HIST 308 - US Labor History (3 Credits)

Study of work and labor in the United States; emphasis on economic, political, social, and cultural changes in work and the labor movement.

HIST 310 - US Urban History (3 Credits)

History of cities and urban life in the United States from the colonial period to twentieth century.

HIST 313 - African American History through 1865 (3 Credits)

A survey of the African American experience in the British colonies of North America and in the early United States from African roots through the Civil War, with a focus on the experience of both slaves and free blacks.

HIST 314 - African American History since Slavery (3 Credits)

A survey of the African American experience since emancipation in 1865; covers segregation and lynching, black nationalism, the Great Migration, and the civil rights movement.

HIST 315 - U.S. Immigration History (3 Credits)

This course explores the experiences of immigrants in the United States and the creation of ethnic identity from the colonial period to the present.

HIST 318 - The American Revolution (3 Credits)

Overview of the cultural, economic, political, and social factors that fueled the American colonies movement toward rebellion and independence.

HIST 319 - The Early American Republic (3 Credits)

Cultural, social, political, and economic history of the period between the American Revolution and the Civil War.

HIST 320 - The Gilded Age (3 Credits)

A survey of the period from the Civil War to the turn of the century; covers such topics as urbanization, industrialization, immigration, reform movements, and developments in law, family, recreation, race, and labor.

HIST 322 - US Environmental History (3 Credits)

This course considers interactions between human populations and their physical environments from early arrivals in North America through the 20th century, addressing the impacts of this exchange on both culture and nature.

HIST 323 - Colonial America (3 Credits)

This course considers how people of Native American, European, and African descent shaped and were shaped by colonial America's environmental, social, cultural, and economic realms, and how those experiences changed between the 16th and 18th centuries.

HIST 324 - Chinese History through Film (3 Credits)

This course explores the intersection of Chinese history and cinema during the twentieth and early twenty-first centuries. Themes of exploration include revolution, gender, sexuality, socio-economic class, as well as the dynamics of globalization, among others (e.g., humor, violence.) Students will also build skills in analysis, speaking, writing, and digital fluencies.

HIST 325 - History of American Technology and Culture (3 Credits)

Development of American technology and its relation to U.S. culture from the colonial period to the present.

HIST 326 - History of Manhood in the US (3 Credits)

Gendered history of men and masculinity in the United States from the colonial period to the present.

HIST 329 - U.S. History and Film (3 Credits)

This course examines historically oriented motion pictures as both primary and secondary sources of information about the history of the U.S. The course examines the relative successes or failures that major films have had in portraying the past, and analyzes how present events, cultures, and attitudes shape our view of the past.

HIST 330 - Introduction to Public History (3 Credits)

This course is designed to provide students with an introduction to public history and community engagement. Students explore career opportunities in the field, meet with working professionals, and develop marketable job skills by participating in hands-on projects that have an impact on campus and in the community.

HIST 337 - Medieval Islamic Civilization (3 Credits)

This course traces the articulation and development of Islamic Civilization from the appearance of Islam in the Arabian Peninsula in the 7th century CE to the spread of this civilization impulse throughout much of Eurasia and Africa by the 13th century CE.

HIST 338 - From Mongols to Ottomans (3 Credits)

This course traces the major developments that shaped the Nile to Oxus region from roughly the 13th to the 18th centuries. This period witnessed several transitions which shaped the background to the modern world in Eurasia, following the Mongol Irruption and closing with the stabilization of the "classical" Ottoman state.

HIST 339 - Modern Middle East History (3 Credits)

This course traces the major cultural, political, and economic developments that have shaped the modern Middle East from the 19th century to the present time.

HIST 358 - History of Modern Russia (3 Credits)

Late Imperial, Soviet, and post-Soviet eras of Russian history. Key topics include emancipation of enserfed peasants and the Great Reforms, radical intelligentsia, empire and nationalism, industrialization and urbanization, Russian Revolution, Stalinism, World War II, space race and the Cold War, Soviet collapse, and the Putin era.

HIST 364 - History of Japan (3 Credits)

This course explores Japanese history from pre-modern times to the present. We focus on specific topics, including the rise of new state forms, nationalism and democracy, as well as industrialization, colonialism, the Asia Pacific War and its consequences, and finally post-war changes, "lost decades," and current-day dynamics.

HIST 365 - Late Imperial China (3 Credits)

Examines China's political, social, and cultural history from the Age of Division through the rise of the Qing empire (3rd c. -17th c. CE), with a focus on the nature of empire, notions of ethnicity and difference in a pre-modern era, as well as gender, power, and ideology.

HIST 366 - Modern China (3 Credits)

Explores the history of China from the high Qing period (18th c.) through to the present day, with an emphasis on the 19th and 20th centuries and today's shifts. Key topics include revolution (from Marxism to Maoism), nationalism, colonialism, and the Asia-Pacific War (1937-1945).

HIST 368 - Gender in Chinese History (3 Credits)

An exploration of the role of gender and family in Chinese history, from imperial times to present.

HIST 369 - Minecrafting the Asian Past (3 Credits)

Prerequisite: None. What did the past look like? How were living, working, and ritual spaces built, used, and experienced? Students will work together in groups to build Minecraft models while exploring these questions for different regions of East Asia each semester. Skills-building foci: research, design, presentation, digital tools, and collaborative teamwork.

HIST 370 - History of Socialism (3 Credits)

Global history of socialist ideas, movements, and countries from the 19th century to the present.

HIST 378 - World War II in World History (3 Credits)

Global history of the conflict spanning its origins, conduct, and consequences. Specific topics and geographic focus will vary depending on the instructor teaching the course.

HIST 380 - United States Since 1945 (3 Credits)

Emphasis on major issues of the postwar era, including the Cold War, McCarthyism, civil rights movement, Vietnam, black militancy, and feminism.

HIST 385 - Arab-Israeli Conflict (3 Credits)

Surveys the development and evolution of what is commonly referred to as the "Arab-Israeli conflict" from the mid-19th century to the present.

HIST 390A - The United States and Vietnam (3 Credits)

Political, diplomatic, military, economic, and cultural study of Vietnam and of the United States' role in Indochina.

HIST 400 - From College to Career (1 Credits)

Prerequisite: Junior or senior status. Guidance and activities to help students think about and plan their post-UMW lives and careers and for finding and choosing the path or paths that best suit their interests and needs. Does not count in the history major.

HIST 419 - The Great War in the Middle East (3 Credits)

Prerequisite: HIST 298 or HIST 299. This seminar examines the history and multiple legacies of World War I for the Middle East. As such, the class explores the diplomatic background, imperial goals, military imperatives, personal experiences, negotiated settlement legacies, and evolving historiography of the conflict.

HIST 420 - The Great War, 1914-1918 (3 Credits)

Prerequisite: HIST 298 or 299 and junior or senior status. An in-depth look at the war's origins, political and military strategies, various land and sea campaigns, roles of women and marginalized populations, and diplomatic legacies.

HIST 425 - Public History Seminar (3 Credits)

Prerequisite: junior/senior status or POI. Course familiarizes students with best practices in public history as practiced in United States and the principles of public history interpretation. Students participate in research and exhibit preparation in cooperation with a community partner.

HIST 427 - History of the Information Age (3 Credits)

Prerequisite: Junior or senior status or permission of instructor. The digital humanities, history and new media, and the creation of online historical resources. Generally based in the history of the US, but it ranges more widely as appropriate.

HIST 428 - Digital History (3 Credits)

Prerequisite: Junior or senior status or permission of instructor. The digital humanities, history and new media, and the creation of online historical resources.

HIST 429 - Aerospace History (3 Credits)

Prerequisite: Junior or senior status or permission of instructor. Examines the global history of aviation and space exploration from the Wright Brothers' first flight to the future of space tourism with special emphasis on the space race in the Cold War, aviation and modern warfare, and commercial air travel in the Jet Age.

HIST 441 - Oral History (3 Credits)

Prerequisite: junior/senior status or POI. Study of oral history methodology; explores how oral history and narration of the past generations' distinctive information about people's lives and political, social and cultural change; students receive training in oral history methods for conducting and analyzing interviews.

HIST 444 - American Slavery (3 Credits)

Prerequisite: Junior or senior status or POI. Slavery in America from its African origins to its demise during the Civil War.

HIST 465 - History of Childhood (3 Credits)

Prerequisite: Junior or senior status or permission of instructor. Research and reading seminar exploring the history of childhood and youth through social, cultural, and economic history, race & ethnicity, gender, queer studies, and global/postcolonial critiques. Exploration of primary sources and research methodologies with direct application in students' own self-designed projects.

HIST 466 - Contemporary China (3 Credits)

Junior or senior status or permission of instructor. A study of the People's Republic of China since 1949 through the lens of cultural production (e.g. cinema, literature, and art). Key themes: revolution, identity, memory, and global capitalism.

HIST 468 - History of Stalinism (3 Credits)

Prerequisite: Junior or senior status or permission of instructor. Examines Soviet state and society under Stalin with particular attention to Communist ideology, collectivization and industrialization, popular culture, the Great Terror, everyday life, and World War II.

HIST 471 - Special Studies in History (3 Credits)

Prerequisite: Junior or senior status or permission of instructor. Topical seminars. See Schedule of Courses each semester.

HIST 485 - Historical Research (3 Credits)

Prerequisites: HIST 298 or HIST 299, senior status and faculty approval of research topic. Capstone research and writing course involving the in-depth investigation of a subject under close supervision by a member of the department.

HIST 486 - Historical Research Abroad (3 Credits)

Prerequisites: HIST 298 or HIST 299 and junior or senior status and faculty approval of research topic. Alternative capstone research and writing course involving in-depth investigation of a subject in foreign archives under close supervision by a member of the department.

HIST 491 - Individual Study (1-4 Credits)

Individual investigation of a subject of historical significance, directed by a member of the department.

HIST 499B - Internship (1-12 Credits)

Supervised off-campus experience, developed in consultation with the department. No more than 3 credits may be counted in the major.