

Upcoming Graduate Courses, 2021-2024

Core Courses

HIST 570: Introduction to Research

This course is about renowned historians, research techniques in history, training in the critical handling of primary and secondary resource materials, and formal presentation of research.

Required for all graduate students

Offered each Fall semester

HIST 530: Seminar in Public History

This course explores the world of public history. Museum studies, archiving, grant writing, historic sites, and historic preservation are among the topics discussed, providing a broad foundation for careers in public history.

Required for the Public History Concentration

Offered each Spring semester

Thesis I (HIST 572), Thesis II (HIST 573), and Field Experience and Internship (HIST 586) are available each semester and during summer sessions on an individualized basis.

Electives

Summer 2021, 2022, and 2023

Interpreting Civil War Sites

This public history graduate course is an examination of how Americans interpret, remember, and commemorate their Civil War past. Class focus will target a variety of venues, including historical sites, museums, and national parks, while specific attention will also be devoted to markers, monuments, buildings and battlefield tours.

Fall 2021

American Labor History

American social, cultural, economic, and political thought through the experiences of everyday Americans and how their experiences and lives at particular moments in history relate to work and labor from the Colonial Era and pre-industrialization, modern Industrialization, post-industrialization to today.

Colonialism and Nationalism in South Asia

Examines the British colonial encounter in the Indian subcontinent in the period roughly from the 18th through the middle of the 20th century. To assess this colonial relationship, primary source documents, scholarly text selections, and feature and documentary films are analyzed. The course explores the complexity of the Indian and British colonial engagement and its impact on the subcontinent, particularly the emergence of modern nationalism(s) and the construction of the modern South Asian nation states of India and Pakistan.

Spring 2022

French Revolution and Napoleon

Explores the events of the French Revolution in detail, as well as sampling the vast literature by historians and other scholars interpreting and reinterpreting the revolution ever since it began.

History of American Ideas

This course consists of readings about selected ideas that motivated American thought and action from the colonial period to the present day. Changes in meaning of older American ideas will be examined.

Westward Expansion

This course consists of research, reading, and writing in selected topics related to the early stages of frontier, westward migration, and environmental history. Since emphasis will be placed on the historiography of the period, it is assumed that students already have a basic understanding of the era.

Fall 2022

China in Revolution

Analyzes, through a variety of written and visual texts, the revolutionary domestic transformations and foreign dynamics that shaped and defined China during the 19th and into the early 21st centuries. In addition, the course focuses on some of the historiographical issues and methodological techniques employed in constructing the history of “China.”

History of the Civil Rights Movement

The social, legislative, economic, and political aspects of civil rights in American history, starting with the origins of American racism and Jim Crow discrimination and segregation in the post-Civil War Era, the long civil rights movement that dates to the 1920s, through the emergence of the Civil Rights Movement “proper” in the 1950s and the 1960s.

Spring 2023

Britain in the Age of Discovery and Revolution

Covers rapid changes in British society from the late fifteenth to the early eighteenth century and the challenge they posed to Britain’s rulers – a challenge they frequently failed to meet during this period.

Civil War & Reconstruction

This course consists of research, reading, and writing in selected topics related to the Civil War, with the political, military, social, cultural and environmental aspects of the era. The controversial and volatile Reconstruction period we also be covered. Finally, emphasis will be placed on historiography, it is assumed students already have a basic understanding of the era.

Readings on Abolitionism

The primary focus of this course is to facilitate a nuanced understanding of what abolitionism – especially in the United States – is and was. This shall be achieved by reading and discussion of a multitude of works, some published in our age and some contemporaneous with the subjects and people discussed.

Fall 2023

Vietnam and Southeast Asia

Examines the 19th and 20th century colonial experiences and national evolutions of the broad and diverse area known as Southeast Asia by spotlighting four key regions/countries: the Philippines, Indonesia, Cambodia and Vietnam. The course outlines how Southeast Asia as a whole, and specifically each of these areas, was impacted and transformed (somewhat similarly and simultaneously) by processes of Western (and to varying degrees, Chinese and Japanese) imperialist aspirations, the intensification of capitalist modes of production and exchange, Japanese military occupation, the rise of nationalism and onset of decolonization, Cold War rivalry, and the frequently violent disintegration of civil, democratic society (particularly post-World War II).

Spring 2024

Foreign Travel and Study

This course is a trip abroad. Study at foreign colleges and universities will focus on the history and government of the countries visited, and their economic growth and integration. Emphasis is placed on formal and informal discussion and analysis of contemporary indigenous problems.

The British Empire

Covers the formal and informal British Empire from its sixteenth century origins to its end in the twentieth century from a variety of viewpoints: geopolitical, economic, cultural, and as a world-system.