

HISTORY (HIS)

HIS 1101 - World History I (Conceptions : VCHI - History) - 4 cr.

Introduces world history from the origins of civilization to 1500. The course focuses on the societies and cultures of Eurasia: Southwest Asia (the Middle East), India, Persia, China, Greece and Rome, and Europe. Major themes include the founding and development of the world's great religions; political ideas, institutions and practices; law and legal institutions; society and economy; war, conquest and empire; the expression and meaning of human dignity in varied contexts; and the richness and diversity of human experience and aspiration in the foundational eras of the world's civilizations.

HIS 1102 - World History II (Conceptions : VCHI - History) - 4 cr.

Introduces world history since 1500. The course surveys the societies and cultures of Europe, Asia, Africa, the Middle East and the Americas. Themes include Europe's impact on the world, modernization and tradition, imperialism and empire, the great ideologies of the modern era, and growing consciousness of human rights and world citizenship. The course traces global patterns of change and continuity, while striving to understand the particular perspectives of distinct world cultures and the meanings these cultures have given to their historical experiences.

HIS 1104 - World History II: Since 1492 (Conceptions : VCHI - History) - 4 cr.

Introducing modern world history since 1492 – the year Columbus “sailed the ocean blue” and Spain conquered the city-state of Granada, the last Muslim bastion in western Christendom. As we shall see, the year 1492 was also the beginning of the European Renaissance and the first stirrings of political modernity. As anthropologist Mahmood Mamdani observes in his book *Good Muslim, Bad Muslim*, 1492 thus “stands as a gateway to two related endeavors: one the unification of the nation, the other the conquest of the world.” In this connection, one of our major themes will be Europe's impact on the world vis-à-vis colonialism and its forms of knowledge (e.g. philology, anthropology, and comparative religion). While many historians on both sides of the Atlantic equate political modernity with the rise of democracy and a growing recognition of what eventually came to be called “human rights,” we will explore the multiple ways in which European modernity depended on the nation-state monopolizing the “legitimate” use of violence.

HIS 1110 - History of the United States I (Conceptions : VCHI - History) - 4 cr.

Examines the history of the region that eventually became the United States from pre-European contact through 1865. Major themes include: encounters between Native Americans, Europeans, and Africans in the formation of colonial North America; the social, political, economic, religious, and cultural forces that shaped various colonies; the origins and evolution of slavery and racism; the movement for Independence; the development of urbanization and industrialization in the North and the entrenchment of slavery in the South; sectional crisis and party politics; and the Civil War.

HIS 1111 - History of the United States II (Conceptions : VCHI - History) - 4 cr.

Explores major themes in United States history since 1865. Particular attention will be paid to the impact of wars on American society and culture; the roles of immigrants and immigration in shaping American identity and distinctiveness; how the nature and meaning of work have changed in a period that witnessed heavy industrialization and de-industrialization; movements for equality and civil rights; the cultural ferment of the Jazz Age and the 1960s; the challenges of the Depression; and the complexities of foreign policy in a global era.

HIS 1112 - Religion in the United States (Conceptions : VCHI - History) - 4 cr.

Offers students an introduction to the history of religion and culture in the United States from the pre- Colonial era to the present. Explores the varieties of religious life in the United States (e.g. Native American religions, Christianity, Judaism, Islam, Buddhism, and various “non-traditional” religions such as Mormonism, Spiritualism and Christian Science) from a combination of historical, literary and cultural perspectives.

HIS 1777 - History Topics - 0-4 cr.

Topics.

HIS 2201 - American Indian History I (Conceptions : VCHI - History) - 4 cr.

Studies political, economic, social and cultural development of the American Indian from pre-contact through conquest.

Equivalent Course: NAS 2201

HIS 2222 - A History of Christian Thought - 4 cr.

Considers the intellectual history of Christian theology, examining people and their ideas from the birth of Jesus to the modern era.

Equivalent Course: TRS 2222

HIS 2250 - Environmental History of the Americas (Conceptions : VCHI - History) - 4 cr.

Introduces the field of environmental history. Just as flora, fauna, wind, and pollution do not adhere to political boundaries, we will take a transnational and border-crossing approach, considering environmental histories of the Americas, north and south. Through course readings, we will take stock of the evolving field of environmental history and address convergences with other thematic areas, including race and political identity, gender and representation, urban and rural communities, capitalism and economics, the politics of natural disasters, science and climate change, and the transnational flow of people, plants, animals, natural resources, and ideas. In this course, we will set a local, place-based foundation in order to think expansively about the Americas. We will build toward a final written project about place, paying close attention to the research process throughout the semester, including writing proposals, finding sources and materials, producing a draft, and peer review.

Equivalent Course: GSJ 2250

HIS 2270 - Plagues and Peoples in World History (Conceptions : VCHI - History) - 4 cr.

Questioning how epidemics have impacted human societies and in part shaped human history is fundamental to this course, which lies at the crossroads of natural history and social history. We will consider elements of world history and culture from the perspective of the impact of epidemics ancient, modern, and possibly future – the Bubonic Plague being one. Specific topics include theories and conceptions of contagion, and social and medical responses; political impacts of epidemics and political responses to them; the impact of epidemics on belief, meaning, and responsibility (God, disfavored people, personal and professional responsibility); and the history of epidemics related to social and economic conditions.

HIS 2777 - Topics - 2-4 cr.

Topics.

HIS 2999 - Independent Study - 0-4 cr.

Independent Study.

HIS 3210 - Historical and Cultural Theory (Integrations : VIHI - History) - 4 cr.

Introduction and hands-on survey of major historical and cultural theories that inform research and analysis. Specific attention to theories, methods, and tools relevant for historians and anthropologists, as well as other disciplines seeking to understand human societies.

Equivalent Course: GSJ 3210

HIS 3212 - The Renaissance and Reformation in Global Perspective (Integrations : VIHI - History) - 4 cr.

Exploring the historical, social and cultural formation of Renaissance and Reformation Europe in global perspective, ca. 1300-1650, this History course begins with Jacob Burckhardt – the 19th century Swiss historian and art critic who set the terms of debate for modern interpretations of the Renaissance – before examining the startling changes in religion and culture, economics, science and technology, and world-wide exploration during the Renaissance and Reformation. The Renaissance was an age of amazing intellectual and political awakening, from the literary and aesthetic achievements of Petrarch, Leonardo da Vinci, and Raphael to the philosophical humanism of Erasmus and Thomas More. This era in European history was also a time of religious conflict and warfare, as Martin Luther in Germany, Huldreich Zwingli of Zurich, and Jean Calvin of Geneva ushered in the “Reformation” to protest and resist the religious and political practices of the Roman Catholic Church. Topics and critical issues include the rise of historiography, the Black Death, the Italian City-State, humanism, the development of the nation-state in Northern Europe, the rise of science, the wars of religion, the place of women in Renaissance and Reformation history and culture, and last but not least, widespread ideas about witchcraft, the apocalypse, and the last days.

HIS 3214 - The World Since 1945 (Integrations : VIHI - History) - 4 cr.

Introduces world history from the end of World War II to the present. Major themes include the origins, course and end of the Cold War; the Soviet Union from Stalin to Gorbachev; China under Mao and his successors; decolonization, nationalism and the retreat from empire; the Vietnam War; Africa since independence; democracy, dictatorship and intervention in Latin America; war and peace in the Middle East; the Islamic world; human rights and the struggle for justice; the role of the United States in the contemporary world; and the meaning and responsibilities of global citizenship.

HIS 3300 - Russia: Kievan Beginnings - 1917 (Integrations : VIHI - History) - 4 cr.

Introduces Russian history from the first Russian state (centered on Kiev and traditionally dated from 882) to the fall of the Romanov dynasty in 1917. Over these roughly 1,000 years, Russian history is divided into four main periods: Kievan Rus (until 1240), appanage Russia under the Mongols (1240-1462), Muscovy (1462-1689), and imperial Russia (1689-1917). After considering the historical background, this course will concentrate on the imperial period. Topics and themes include the nature and development of the Russian autocracy, Orthodoxy and religious experience, the growth of empire, serfdom, state and civil society, the intelligentsia, and the revolutionary movement. There will be some emphasis on intellectual and cultural history.

HIS 3301 - Russia: Revolution and Empire (Integrations : VIHI - History) - 4 cr.

Introduces Russian history from late tsarism to the post-communist era. The first half of the course treats the last years of the tsarist autocracy, the Russian Revolution, Lenin and Stalin, the nature of Soviet communism, and the concept of totalitarianism. The second half of the course considers the Khrushchev and Brezhnev eras, Gorbachev and perestroika, the collapse of the Soviet Union, Russia under Yeltsin and Putin, and the Chechen wars. Cultural and intellectual history is an integral part of the course.

Equivalent Course: GSJ 3304

HIS 3304 - Modern European Intellectual History (Integrations : VIHI - History) - 4 cr.

Explores some of the critical issues and currents in European intellectual history from the eighteenth century to the present. Themes and topics include the European Enlightenment and its legacy; the idea of progress; modern social philosophies and ideologies such as liberalism, conservatism, socialism and anarchism; Romanticism and nationalism; communism and fascism; major developments in philosophical, religious, historical, and scientific thought; and recent trends such as feminism, existentialism, deconstruction, post colonialism, and postmodernism. The course will consider thinkers such as Rousseau, Kant, Hegel, Marx, Darwin, Nietzsche, Freud, Einstein, Heidegger, Adorno, Sartre and Foucault.

HIS 3305 - Issues in Mod European History - 4 cr.

Study of major selected themes and problems in European history since 1789. Topics may include intellectual history, nationalism, liberalism and democracy, religion, revolution and social change, and the role of the modern state.

HIS 3307 - Modern Latin American History (Integrations : VIHI - History) - 4 cr.

Provides an introduction to 19th and 20th century Latin American history. Themes and issues will include the colonial legacy, modernization and nationalism, religion and politics, the revolutionary experience of the 20th century, the role of women and the continuing struggles of indigenous people.

Equivalent Course: GSJ 3307

HIS 3310 - United States Foreign Relations (Integrations : VIHI - History) - 4 cr.

Studies American foreign relations from the emergence of the U.S. as a world power at the end of the 19th century to the present. Examines principles, personalities and politics involved in the creation of modern American foreign policy.

HIS 3324 - African American History I - 4 cr.

Examines significant topics in African American history from the period of forced migration to the Americas through Reconstruction. Analyzes the roles African Americans of different classes and genders have played in shaping U.S. history.

HIS 3325 - African American History II (Integrations : VIHI - History) - 4 cr.

Examines significant topics in African American history from Reconstruction through the current experience of diverse members of the African Diaspora living in the U.S. Analyzes the roles African Americans of different classes and genders have played in shaping U.S. history.

HIS 3327 - U.S. Economic History - 4 cr.

Uses historical events as case studies for basic economic principles. Students use historical analysis to investigate economic concepts and use economic theories to analyze U.S. history. Requirements: develop critical thinking skills so that students can evaluate the influences and trends that have shaped the economic institutions and events of the United States, both past and present.

HIS 3333 - Issues in United States History - 4 cr.

Studies topics in United States history. Issues considered may include the role of race, class, and gender in the shaping of the nation state, movements for reform or liberation, and the lived experience of people and communities.

HIS 3350 - Feminism and Globalization: Women, Religion, and the Body - 4 cr.

Explores how European imperialist accounts of non-European women's experiences have been crucial to culturally dominant ideas about feminism, globalization, and the legacy of the colonial state throughout the so-called Third World. Beginning with a critical and historical overview of feminist theory and practice, the course will trace recent studies, both historical and ethnographic, of how terms such as "women," "religion," and "the body" were radically changed by the colonial projects of the 19th century (e.g. in South Asia and Africa) - projects that are intimately related to contemporary debates on transnational women's movements and globalization.

HIS 3355 - Islam and the Modern World (Integrations : VIH - History) - 4 cr.

Introduces the history of Islam and the modern world from Napoleon's invasion of Egypt in 1798 to the present day. The course traces the history of Islam as one of the Abrahamic religions and explores the theological tensions within the many Islamic traditions (in theology and philosophy, mysticism and law). We will focus on the impact of WWII on the Middle East as well as the legacy of colonialism in the Islamic world, including the collapse of the Ottoman Empire, the rise of Arab nationalism, and the origins of the Israel-Palestinian conflict. In the concluding section, we will also take a critical and historical look at sex and gender in Islam, focusing on the widespread belief in Europe and the United States that Muslim women are in need of rescue by the West.

Equivalent Course: WGS 3355

HIS 3356 - History of Modern India - 4 cr.

Examines the history and culture of modern India from the origins of British colonialism in South Asia to the present. Beginning with a brief introduction to ancient, medieval and Moghul history (Muslim rule), the course focuses on British rule in India and the colonizing logic of its various forms of knowledge, from efforts by British Orientalists to study Indian languages and law to anthropology and the history of religions. Topics and critical issues include the vexed relations between Hindus, Shikhs and Muslims, the invention of authentic Indian religious "tradition" by British interpretations of ancient Hindu scriptures, the colonial history of the caste system, representations of Indian women by British missionaries and colonial officers, the role of Gandhi's rise to power and other indigenous nationalist movements, the origins of independence and the partition of the subcontinent between India and Pakistan in 1947, and the religious politics of contemporary Hindu nationalism.

HIS 3370 - Health, Disease and Medicine in History (Integrations : VIH - History) - 4 cr.

Covers the impact of disease on human history, together with human responses to disease, first of all medicine itself. The focus is the western world and western medicine, beginning with the Greek and Roman eras (Hippocrates and Galen) and continuing through the Middle Ages and Renaissance, the Scientific Revolution and Enlightenment, and the modern era. The course will trace the development of medical knowledge, including theories and conceptions of disease, from ancient humoral theory to bacteriology (germ theory), modern pathology, and genetics. It will also recount the history of medical practices, therapies, and technologies to cure and prevent disease, to heal people, and to promote health. Specific topics include disease as both a pathological reality and social construct; the social history of medicine, especially the social and economic conditions (notably poverty) of disease; the societal and cultural impact of epidemics such as the plague; health disparities and the effects of power, wealth, race, class, and sex on public health and healthcare; the medical exploitation of (and unethical experimentation on) vulnerable populations, e.g., the infamous Tuskegee study; and the dangers of biomedical reductionism in forms such as "scientific" racism, the eugenics movement, and Nazi medicine. At a philosophical level the course will ask what the history of medicine tells us about ourselves as human beings.

HIS 3410 - Slavery, Lincoln, and the Civil War (Integrations : VIH - History) - 4 cr.

The Civil War was the greatest crisis, costliest war, and, many historians say, the defining episode in our national identity. Its impact has rippled through American history for more than a century and a half, up to the present. Central to the cause of the war was the issue of slavery. And central to the execution and outcome of the war was Abraham Lincoln. This course will examine each of these three critical stories in American history. Each of them will be examined in themselves, but also in the larger context of how they reflect the development of the United States.

HIS 3555 - Independent Study - 1-4 cr.

Internship.

HIS 3689 - Fall of the Wall (Integrations : VIH - History) - 4 cr.

Fall of the Wall centers on the Berlin Wall as a symbol of the Cold War. The course examines the history of a divided Germany from the end of World War II to the present. Pivoting around the construction and destruction of the Berlin Wall, the course traces the paths of East and West Germany as they developed separate societies in the aftermath of World War II on opposite sides of the Iron Curtain. Fall of the Wall focuses on the tumultuous events leading to the reunification of Germany and the challenges to integration in a multiplex world order.

Equivalent Course: GSJ 3689

HIS 3777 - Topics in History - 2-4 cr.

History courses not a part of the regular curriculum but are occasionally taught by guests or regular faculty on special topics. Each course taught under "Topics" will also have a specific course title listed on the schedule and transcripts.

HIS 3999 - Independent Study - 0-4 cr.

Independent Study.

HIS 4402 - Seminar in World History - 4 cr.

In-depth study of special historical topics or problems in world history.

HIS 4403 - Seminar in United States History - 4 cr.

In-depth study of special historical topics or problems in American history.

HIS 4405 - Seminar in European History - 4 cr.

In-depth study of special historical topics or problems in European history.

HIS 4555 - History Internships - 0-8 cr.

Internships are an opportunity for students majoring in history to gain first-hand experience in history related fields. Internships can vary and are not limited to work with museums, historic sites, archives, historic preservation agencies and libraries. Prior approval of the host institution or agency is necessary along with a learning agreement for the history internship.

Prerequisite Courses: approval from the History Department chair.

HIS 4777 - Topics in History - 0-4 cr.

Topics.

HIS 4999 - Independent Study - 1-8 cr.

Self-determined program of study under faculty direction for the student whose interests extend beyond the curricular offerings of the History Department.