

Department of History

Fall 2024/25 Courses

****Classics courses are listed after the History courses.**

HIST:200-001

Empires of the Ancient World

Prof. Kevin Kern

MWF 12:55pm-1:45pm

Through the use of examples drawn from diverse regions and historical eras, this course explores global encounters and parallel development among ancient societies, and the changes that these processes bequeathed to the modern world. It focuses on the major themes that show how connections between the world's regions formed the basis of the increasingly globalizing economies and societies of the last five hundred years. These encounters include the spread of agricultural technology, the growth of urban trade areas and the connections between them, the spread of universal religions and philosophical traditions, and the rise of large state structures that enabled many of these developments. ****Gen Ed: Humanities, Global Diversity**

HIST:200-002

Empires of the Ancient World

Prof. Ann Maltempi

Asynchronous-Online

HIST:200-003

Empires of the Ancient World

TBD

Asynchronous-Online

Through the use of examples drawn from diverse regions and historical eras, this course explores global encounters and parallel development among ancient societies, and the changes that these processes bequeathed to the modern world. It focuses on the major themes that show how connections between the world's regions formed the basis of the increasingly globalizing economies and societies of the last five hundred years. These encounters include the spread of agricultural technology, the growth of urban trade areas and the connections between them, the spread of universal religions and philosophical traditions, and the rise of large state structures that enabled many of these developments. ****Gen Ed: Humanities, Global Diversity**

History 210-001

Humanities in Western Tradition I

Prof. Michael Levin

MWF 12:55pm-1:45pm

In this course, we will discuss the question, What is "Western Civilization"? In other words, why do we in "the West" think the way we do? In this course we will use a combination of history, art, literature, and philosophy to explore the roots of our society. We will examine what has changed, and what has not changed, in our thinking about big questions: love, death, politics, and the meaning of life. This course covers material from

ancient history through the Italian Renaissance. The emphasis of the course will be on class discussion of major texts. ****Gen Ed: Humanities**

HIST:221-001

Humanities in the World since 1300

Prof. Martha Santos

MWF 9:40am-10:30am

HIST:221-002

Humanities in the World since 1300

Prof. Martha Santos

MWF 10:45am-11:35am

This course examines how peoples from across the globe have understood and explained their identities, their encounters or conflicts with others, their environment, and their histories since 1300 and into the present. Through a focus on important developments in the arts, religion, culture, and politics during the early-modern and modern era, this course surveys how people across culture, place, and time have given meanings to their human experience. We will do this through analysis and discussion of primary sources, with lectures that provide context. ****Gen Ed: Humanities, Global Diversity**

HIST:221-003

Humanities in the World since 1300

Prof. Janet Klein

MWF 11:50am-12:40pm

HIST:221-004

Humanities in the World since 1300

Prof. Janet Klein

MWF 12:55pm-1:45pm

Course Description and Themes: This course covers the major global intellectual, political, and artistic trends since 1300, and the ways in which those trends in the humanities reveal the connections among continents, regions, and nations in the modern era. Although we will cover prominent and well-known figures, the focus of this course is broader than the “high” culture that the Humanities component of the General Education curriculum has customarily offered. Instead, this course understands “culture” as the daily practices of peoples and the meanings that men and women assign to them. The main themes for this course are: (1) the interconnectedness and mutual influence of cultures (and the humanities) arising from the expansion of global trade, and the sharing of ideas and experiences across time and space; (2) the conflict that emerges (ironically) from cross-cultural interaction; (3) how gender affects the experiences of men and women cross-culturally and how they, in turn, interpret those experiences; (4) the ways in which art, music and literature reflect the societies in which they were created. Course Goals/Learning Outcomes: (1) to expose students to various cultural traditions around the world and the exchanges among them; (2) to improve students’ analytical skills through the interpretation of primary texts in their cultural and historical context; (4) to improve students’ writing skills; (3) to improve students’ oral expression in class discussions. ****Gen Ed: Humanities, Global Diversity**

HIST:250-001
U.S. History to 1877
Prof. Gina Martino
TuTh 9:15am-10:30am

HIST:250-501
U.S. History to 1877
Prof. Gina Martino
Asynchronous-Online

This course explores American history, from the first interactions between Native Americans and Europeans to the Civil War and Reconstruction. Between 1492 and 1877, North America was the site of groundbreaking social experiments and innovative inventions. This era also saw the development of an Atlantic slave system, the death and dispossession of millions of Native Americans, and wars that turned neighbors and families against one another. In History 250, we will examine this dynamic, sometimes devastating period on small and large scales, exploring remote settlements and crowded cities. We will also investigate how popular movements drove major events and how individuals shaped societies as we attempt to better understand this period.

****Gen Ed: Social Science, Domestic Diversity**

HIST:310-001
Historical Methods
Prof. Michael Graham
TuTh 3:30pm-4:45pm

This course is designed to help students of history better understand and master the tools of the trade - research (finding source materials and framing the questions they can help to answer), and historical writing (including proper citation of sources and the peer review process). The "laboratory" within which we will work will be the seventeenth century (broadly conceived here as roughly 1580-1720) in Britain and (to a limited extent) its North American colonies. We will spend the first few weeks of the course familiarizing ourselves with the basic background of seventeenth-century British history, following that up with an exam to make sure you have attained some mastery of that knowledge. Students will then select primary sources with which they would like to work, and formulate research questions around which they will write the 10-12 page paper which will be the final product of their work in this course. Along the way, there will be some shorter quizzes and writing assignments leading up to that, aimed at building up some basic historical writing skills, as well as laying a foundation for the final paper.

HIST:321-001
Europe 1348-1610: From the Bubonic Plague to the Era of Religious Wars
Prof. Michael Levin
MWF 9:40am-10:30am

This course surveys the main events and developments in Europe from the arrival of the Bubonic Plague (1347-1348) to the "era of religious warfare" (1610, the year the king of France was assassinated by a religious fanatic). We will explore the transition from "medieval" to "early modern" Europe, and the social, religious, and intellectual movements that caused that transformation, including the Renaissance, the Reformation, and the

discovery of the “New World.” We will study this period from a variety of perspectives, using a variety of sources.

HIST:323-001

Europe: From Revolution to World War, 1789-1914

Prof. Stephen Harp

TuTh 3:30pm-4:45pm

This class covers Europe during “the long nineteenth century” from the start of the French Revolution to the outbreak of the First World War. Although we will start with the bloodshed of the Revolution and end with that of the Great War, we also consider the evolution of human rights and notions of democracy, the ideologies of liberalism, conservatism and socialism, the development of imperialism, and a host of other topics. In so many ways, the nineteenth century shaped the world that we live in, so this class serves as an excellent foundation for any future work in modern world history. Course requirements include midterm and final examinations, as well as short papers on other readings, and participation in a mock trial in class. Course readings include a textbook, a primary source reader on European soldiers and civilians during the Napoleonic wars, German working-class autobiographies, and a history of King Leopold II’s exploitation of the Congo. ****Gen Ed: Tier III Critical Thinking**

HIST:337-001

France Napoleon to de Gaulle

Prof. Stephen Harp

TuTh 2:00pm-3:15pm

This survey of modern France starts with the Revolution, that is before Napoleon actually came to power in 1799, and ends with the present. It is designed to give students a small taste of all of the periods and most of the topics of modern French history. I’ve spent my entire adult life going back and forth to France and studying French history; I couldn’t be more enthusiastic about helping students discover the various ways that France has influenced modern American, European, and world history. Course requirements include a mid-term and a final exam as well as short papers on the reading assignments. In addition to a textbook and other readings, we’ll consider the fascinating World War I letters between a captain in the French army and his spouse; a recent book about American soldiers and sex in France after D- Day; and the autobiography of the Vietnamese rubber plantation worker and communist Tran Tu Binh. ****Gen Ed: Global Diversity**

History 344-002

American Revolutionary Era

Prof. Gina Martino

TuTh 10:45am-12:00pm

History 344 explores the political, cultural, and military event known as the American Revolution. In this class, you will make complex historical connections about the American Revolution on large and small scales while strengthening your analytical skills and writing. Through a combination of readings, discussion, and lectures, we will explore the origins of the Revolution, the war that accompanied it, and the tumultuous nation-building process that created the United States.

Portions of the course will focus on traditional subjects associated with the Revolutionary Era—the Boston Tea Party, the Declaration of Independence, and figures such as George Washington and Thomas Jefferson. We will also dedicate a substantial amount of time to examining the roles of popular movements, women, slaves, and

Native nations. Course assignments include short analytical papers and an original research paper based on primary sources.

HIST:351-001

Global History: Encounters and Conflicts

Prof. Martin Wainwright

TuTh 9:40am-11:20am

This course explores global encounters among societies, and the changes that have resulted. It focuses on major themes that show how connections between the world's regions created the modern world with its achievements and disparities. Examples of such forms of encounter include those hinging on labor (such as slavery, servitude, and industrial workers), food production and consumption (including the impacts of agricultural revolutions, the spice trade, and the Columbian exchange), and technology and the production of commodities such as textiles (including Old World trading routes, the Atlantic economy, and the origins of industrialization). Rather than attempt to cover the entire history of the world, which is clearly an impossible task, this course uses examples drawn from diverse regions and historical eras, to demonstrate the world's interconnectedness. The course provides relevant background as far back as prehistory, but the focus is on developments of the last six hundred years, particularly those pertaining to our modern global economy and society.

HIST:378-001

Spanish Conquest & Colonization of Americas

Prof. Martha Santos

MW 2:00pm-3:15pm

Is it true that a handful of European adventurers singlehandedly defeated entire empires of Native Americans during the Spanish "conquest" of Mexico and South America? Is it true that Native Americans viewed the conquistadors as gods? If it is not true, why are these images so common in popular culture and even in historical studies? Is the term "conquest" the best one to describe what went on after the Spanish arrived in the Americas in 1492? Through analysis of primary sources—conquistadors' letters, images, and indigenous documents—specialized studies, and some films, we will explore the answers to these and other questions about the colonial history of Latin America since 1492. The format of this course will be reading, discussion, lectures, and writing. ** Gen Ed: Global Diversity

History 440/540

Tudor and Stuart Britain, 1485-1714

Prof. Michael Graham

TuTh 12:15pm-1:30pm

This course, covering (roughly) 1485-1714 is an examination of the period in which "England," a peripheral island nation deemed past its prime by most European observers, was gradually transformed into "Great Britain," a budding imperial power which would soon dominate the international scene. This extraordinary transformation, the result of a combination of geographic chance, dynastic luck, and a cultural dynamism born out of religious, political and social conflict, will be our primary subject. Much of our attention will be devoted to the two major upheavals which so shaped that cultural dynamism - the Reformation of the sixteenth century and the Civil

War/Revolution of the seventeenth century. Since no historical event or series of events occurs in a vacuum, we will also take note of other essential aspects of the story of Great Britain (including Scotland, Wales and Ireland) during this period, such as the end of the Wars of the Roses, the six marriages of Henry VIII, the "Elizabethan Renaissance," the failed Spanish Armada, the dynastic and then constitutional union of England and Scotland, the development of the printing industry, witch-hunt and the foundation of the American colonies. We will also try, as much as possible, to view history "from below" (from the perspective of the average man or woman living in the time being studied) as well as "from above" (the traditional perspective of high politics). Needless to say, we will spend a lot of time discussing those two things one is not supposed to bring up in polite company - religion and politics.

HIST:470-001/HIST:570-001

Ohio History

Prof. Kevin Kern

MWF 10:45am-11:35am

This course covers the span of Ohio's history from prehistoric eras to the recent past. It focuses on issues including land and environment, Native American settlement, frontier life, industrial and urban growth, wars, technology, social and cultural issues, and political events. The class may include visits to local Ohio history sites.

HIST:487-001/HIST:587-001

Science and Technology in World History

Prof. Kevin Kern

MWF 9:40am-10:30am

This course examines the development and diffusion of science and technology in human history. It will focus on the rise and evolution of science and technology in both the Western and non-Western worlds by situating these phenomena in the political, economic, intellectual, global contexts. It will also examine how these developments influenced society, culture, and daily life.

Thematic in structure and interdisciplinary in approach, the course is intended to help students integrate history with other disciplines (e.g., philosophy, literary studies, anthropology, natural sciences) to trace not only the development and effects of certain specific technologies, but also the larger relationships between the Asian, Islamic, and Euro-American scientific traditions.

HIST: 489-001/589-001

Ottoman State and Society

Prof. Janet Klein

MW 3:30pm-4:45pm

The Ottoman Empire ruled over the crossroads of Eurasia and North Africa for six centuries—from the heartland of Anatolia in what is now Turkey, the empire stretched from Algeria to Iraq, from the gates of Vienna to Yemen. This enduring multi-ethnic Islamic empire was soon competitive with, if not superior to, other European empires in terms of military and economic power, as well as cultural wealth. By the time the Ottoman Empire came to an end in the early 20th century, caught between the imperialist ambitions of Europe and Russia and nationalist rebellions in its own provinces, it appeared impoverished and vulnerable to the modernizing West. What happened along the way? And how did people in this empire at the center of the Old World have

an impact on and react to the European, African, and Asian societies on its frontiers? What are the facts and fictions of Ottoman decline? The Imperial Harem? Tradition and modernity? What was the legacy of the Ottoman Empire on its successor states? Find out answers to these questions and more about the people and institutions of the Ottoman Empire in the context of early modern and modern world history. **** Gen Ed: Global Diversity**

****Classics Courses****

CLAS:230-001

Sports & Society in Ancient Greece and Rome

Heather Pollock

TuTh 10:45am-12:00pm

During this course, we will focus on the world of sports of the Ancient Greeks and the Romans and investigate the connections between sports and society. Our examination is informed by the archaeological and literary evidence for the types of sports that were popular in the ancient world, the sporting arenas, the occasions that called for sports, and the people who participated in them. We also investigate the social, political, mythical, and religious roles of sports in the ancient world, and compare these with the modern appreciation of sports. Throughout our investigation, we will discover that many of the social issues and challenges that ancient Mediterranean societies faced were reflected in sport, just like in our modern culture. This understanding will help us navigate our discussions of and approaches to current social issues and concerns.

CLAS:289-001

Mythology of Ancient Greece

Heather Pollock

TuTh 12:15pm-1:30pm

CLAS:289-501

Mythology of Ancient Greece

TBD

Asynchronous-Online

In Mythology of Ancient Greece, we look at the nature of mythology, exploring mythmaking as a vital human function, and myths as elemental in the fabric of human culture. The exciting world of the Ancient Greeks is a fascinating place for this work: the gods and heroes of this rich culture are embedded in our Western Tradition 'membership'. Time does not suppress them; these archetypal stories are with us in our modern art, literature, films, poetry, and personal psychology. We will spend a little time with Joseph Campbell as we draw the hero out of ancient origins and into our current times. In this class we will embrace both the specifics of Greek Mythology and the universality of its characters and stories.

****GRADUATE COURSES****

HIST: 601-801

Graduate Research Seminar in History (4 Credits)

Prof. Gregory Wilson

M 5:10pm-8:30pm

Research seminar designed to train graduate students in the skills of researching and writing history, with a particular emphasis on completing the capstone project.

HIST: 631-801

Reading Seminar: Modern European History to 1815 (4 Credits)

Theme: Media and History

Prof. Michael Graham

Tu 5:10pm-8:30pm

This seminar, tailored for the History Department's M.A. program in Applied History, will focus on "The Second Information Revolution" - i.e. the development of the moveable-type printing press. After a (very brief) survey of what someone should really know before diving into the history of early modern Europe (no more than two weeks, accompanied by a survey-style text, since not all students will have had such a background), we will delve into 1) the technology itself, 2) the material conditions under which books, pamphlets and prints were made in the sixteenth and seventeenth centuries and then 3) the impact of this new technology. This third part will focus on scholarship concerning the role of print in the Reformation, the witch-hunt, the origins of the newspaper, the "public sphere" and the history of reading.

HIST 669-801 (4 Credits)

Reading Seminar in American History Since 1877

Prof. Gregory Wilson

W 5:10pm-8:30:pm

The purpose of this reading seminar is to introduce the practice of public or applied history. It is one of the core courses for the MA in Applied History and Public Humanities. Using a variety of materials and class discussions, we will explore the meaning of public history and some of the major activities, methodologies, theories, practical tools, and issues historians face in the field. We may also do site visits.

HIST:689-801

Historiography (4 Credits)

Prof. Stephen Harp

Tu 5:10pm-7:40pm

This course, required of all first-year M.A. students in History, is designed to make students aware of some of the methodological assumptions historians use. By grappling with the influential works about History, students should develop a deeper understanding of what we do as professional historians. Requirements include reading the assigned book each week, writing short reviews of readings and a final analytical essay, and participating fully in discussion each week.