

Department of History

Fall 2019 Courses

****Unless noted, general education designations are for students entering beginning Fall 2017**

****Honors courses taught by history faculty are listed at the end of this packet**

History 200

Empires of the Ancient World

Mrs. RoseMarie T. Eichler

MW—11:45 a.m.–1:00 p.m.

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 200

Empires of the Ancient World

Mr. Nathaniel Bassett

MW—8:45–10:00 a.m.

This course will apply a global lens to the rise and fall of the world's earliest civilizations and empires across Eurasia. Students will explore global encounters and parallel development from the ancient civilizations of the Fertile Crescent, Egypt, and India, through the rise of Mediterranean and Asiatic empires, culminating in the expansion of Islam and the Mongol conquests. Special consideration will be placed on the role of the Silk Road global history as a means of economic connection and a tool of cultural diffusion. Topics will include the growth of urban trade centers, the spread of religious and philosophical ideas, and the role of large state structures in world history.

****Gen Ed:** Humanities, Global Diversity

History 210

Humanities in the Western Tradition

Mrs. RoseMarie T. Eichler

MW—8:45-9:30 a.m.

This course provides an introduction to the human condition as manifested in ideas, religions, visual arts, and music of Western civilization from the Ancient Greeks through the Italian Renaissance. The Humanities in the Western Tradition is a single, unified course of instruction, consisting of lectures, followed by small group discussions. Thus, you must be enrolled in both lecture and an affiliated

discussion. The goal of the lecture is to convey the general cultural background to selected topics. The principle goals of the discussion class are discussion of the assigned readings in the required texts and of the ideas presented in the lectures.

****Gen Ed:** (pre-Fall 2017): Humanities. Gen Ed (Fall 2017-present): Humanities, Critical Thinking

History 210

Humanities in the Western Tradition

Prof. Michael Graham

MW—10:15-11:05 a.m.

This course provides an introduction to the human condition as manifested in ideas, religions, visual arts, and music of Western civilization from the Ancient Greeks through the Italian Renaissance. The Humanities in the Western Tradition is a single, unified course of instruction, consisting of lectures, followed by small group discussions. Thus, you must be enrolled in both lecture and an affiliated discussion. The goal of the lecture is to convey the general cultural background to selected topics. The principle goals of the discussion class are discussion of the assigned readings in the required texts and of the ideas presented in the lectures.

****Gen Ed:** (pre-Fall 2017): Humanities. Gen Ed (Fall 2017-present): Humanities, Critical Thinking

History 210

Humanities in the Western Tradition

Mrs. RoseMarie T. Eichler

Online

This course provides an introduction to the human condition as manifested in ideas, religions, visual arts, and music of Western civilization from the Ancient Greeks through the Italian Renaissance. The Humanities in the Western Tradition is a single, unified course of instruction, consisting of lectures, followed by small group discussions. Thus, you must be enrolled in both lecture and an affiliated discussion. The goal of the lecture is to convey the general cultural background to selected topics. The principle goals of the discussion class are discussion of the assigned readings in the required texts and of the ideas presented in the lectures. This course fulfills a portion of the General Education Program requirements and cannot be used for History credit.

****Gen Ed:** (pre-Fall 2017): Humanities. Gen Ed (Fall 2017-present): Humanities, Critical Thinking

History 221-310

Humanities in the World Since 1300

Prof. Martha Santos

MW—10:15-11:05 a.m.

This course covers some the major global intellectual, political, and artistic trends since 1300, and the ways in which those trends in the humanities reveal both the interconnections and conflicts among continents, regions, nations, and peoples in the modern era. The course also focuses on how gender affects the human experiences of people cross-culturally and how men and women interpret those experiences differently; and on the ways in which art, music and literature both reflect and define the

societies in which they were created. This course has two hours of lecture and two hours of discussion each week.

****Gen Ed:** (pre-Fall 2017): Humanities. Gen Ed (Fall 2017-present): Humanities, Critical Thinking

History 221

Humanities in the World since 1300

Prof. Janet Klein

T—5:20-7:00 p.m.

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:** (pre-Fall 2017): Humanities. Gen Ed (Fall 2017-present): Humanities, Critical Thinking

History 250

United States History to 1877

Prof. Gina Martino

T/Th—10:15-11:30 a.m.

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

History 251**United States History since 1877****Prof. Michael Sheng****M/W—5:15-6:30 p.m.**

Survey of United States history from the end of Federal Reconstruction to the present.

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

History 286**World Civ: Japan****Prof. Michael Sheng****M/W—2:45-3:35 p.m.**

Provides a basic knowledge of past human experiences and an understanding of current events in Japan.

****Gen Ed:** (pre-Fall 2017): Area Studies & Cultural Diversity

History 300**Imperial China****Prof. Gang Zhao****TTH—10:15-11:30**

Selective study of institutional, intellectual, political and artistic developments in Chinese civilization from antiquity to 18th century. Emphasis on general features of traditional Chinese culture.

History 308**Greece****Prof. Clayton Fant****TTH—2:45-4:00 p.m.**

This course traces the development of a Greek identity from the Bronze Age to the end of the Peloponnesian War. Literature and art were important parts of that identity as the Greeks defined themselves in opposition to the Persians, and then they defined themselves against each other, as Athenian versus Spartan. We will look at the formation of intellectual trends like the growth of democracy, dialectic, and self-critical arts like tragedy. Slavery, gender roles, and family composition are also examined. Requirement are a midterm, final (take-home essays), two short analytical exercises on primary sources, and a brief research report on an open topic at the end of the semester.

History 310**Historical Methods****Prof. Walter Hixson****M/W—4:15–5:05 p.m.**

This course teaches the essence of historical research and writing. Students will learn how to identify a research topic; conduct research in primary and secondary sources on that topic; how to construct and document a historical paper; how to craft an argument or thesis; and how to revise and improve a

history research paper. With help from the instructor and from assigned reading, students will identify a topic in American or world history pertaining to the year 1969 (as 2019 marks the fiftieth anniversary of that pivotal year).

History 321

Europe 1348-1610: From the Bubonic Plague to the Era of Religious Wars

Prof. Michael Levin

MW—11:45 a.m.-1:00 p.m.

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.

History 323

Europe from Revolution to World War, 1789-1914

Prof. Stephen Harp

MW—1:15-2:30 p.m.

This class surveys 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: Critical Thinking**

History 340

Selected Topics: The United States, Israel, and Palestine

Prof. Walter Hixson

M/W: 1:15-2:05 p.m.

This course surveys the history of the Palestine conflict from its foundations to the present. Students will learn about the history of the late Ottoman Empire; the British mandate in Palestine; the rise of the Zionist movement; the creation of Israel; the roots and evolution of the US “special relationship” with Israel; the various wars over Palestine and their implications; the impasse in the “peace process”; and myriad controversies over the “Middle East conflict.” The course will feature lectures, required readings, discussion, and film.

History 372

Selected Topics: Balkans

Mrs. RoseMarie T. Eichler

MW—10:15–11:30 a.m.

This course surveys the major political, social, and cultural developments in the Balkan nations from 1875 to the present. Special attention will be given to nationalism, national identity, and ethnic and religious conflict in the region. In addition, the course will examine how state rivalries and internal conflicts manifested themselves in important European developments. Course goals include 1) providing a general understanding of the Balkans and their role in this period of European history; 2) to improve reading, comprehension, and analytical skills; 3) to improve writing skills; 4) promote a deeper awareness of the region's role in current European and world affairs.

History 373

Selected Topics: Unclass: Salsa: History in Motion

Prof. Martha Santos

MW—2:45-4:00 p.m.

With Lenin A. Guerrero Maldonado (Professional Salsa Dancer and Director of Salcity of Angels Dance Company, Cleveland)

Salsa, an energetic, rich, and vibrant music and dance of Latin American origins, also has strong ties to long histories of globalization, enslavement, resistance, and cultural creation in Latin America and with immigration processes and cultural identities in the United States. This unclass makes the embodied practice of salsa dancing a central component of the learning experience. Students will contribute to breaking the bounds of traditional academic, field-centered, teaching and learning approaches by analyzing, reading, writing, and experiencing the history, aesthetics, and movement of salsa dancing. Students and faculty will also develop a creative language to reflect on their personal and group discovery of the history and motion of salsa.

History 470/570-002

Ohio History

Prof. Greg Wilson

MW—8:45-10:00 a.m.

This course covers the span of Ohio 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.

History 471/571

American Environmental History

Prof. Greg Wilson

MW—10:15-11:30 a.m.

Planet Earth is changing in fundamental ways. To paraphrase author/activist Bill McKibben, for better or worse, it's a new planet. How did we get here and how might we survive? This class on the

United States and the environment will help us answer these big questions. Humans have always interacted with their environment, but only in the last generation have historians analyzed the relationship between humans and nature over time. In this course we will examine the interdependence between humans and their environments in the United States and North America from pre-history to the present, examining how nature has shaped human society and how humans have shaped and thought about nature. There are many issues we will examine that are global or national in scope; but studying the local or even the microscopic are equally important and engaging. The class may include field trips to local sites. This course counts towards the Certificate in Environmental Studies.

History 483/583

History in Video Games

Prof. Martin Wainwright

TTH—11:45-1:00 p.m.

This course analyzes video games depicting historical themes. Although these games attempt to simulate history, issues of game balance, marketability, and developers' biases determine what aspects of history gamers encounter. Students will learn which approaches to history different development teams take and historians' perspectives on the major themes these games cover. Critical analysis will focus on the games' portrayal of different cultures and ethnic groups, gender, economic systems, religions, political ideologies, and technological development. Students will also learn about the power of games to help us better understand the past, particularly regarding immersive experiences and counterfactual scenarios.

Assignments will include a basic test on historical theories that we will be applying in our analysis of these games, mini-reviews of individual games, and a comparative analysis of games sharing a common theme. Students with programming experience may substitute a major modification (a.k.a. mod) of a game for part of the latter requirement. Students will be expected to rent, buy, or already own games that they use in the course or for their assignments.

Graduate Student Field(s): Contact Professor

History 487/587

Science and Technology in World History

Prof. Kevin F. Kern

TTh—8:45 -10:00 a.m.

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.

History 495/595**Special Topics: French Culinary History****Prof. Stephen Harp****MW—4:15-5:30**

This course will survey the evolution of French cuisine since the late Middle Ages, with a focus on the modern period. It will be taught as a seminar, with little lecture capsules from me as needed. Together we will read seven different monographs on the history of French food and drink, and students will write a book review of each. Students will do a short presentation on a French region and its specialties early in the semester and a 10-12 page research paper at the end. There will be additional, short readings on Brightspace. We will sample both classic (beef burgundy, bouillabaisse, etc) dishes as well more recent additions/appropriations in the wake of imperialism (couscous), not to mention assortments of cheese (plateaux de fromage).

Graduate Student Field(s): Modern Europe**History 499/599****Women and Gender in Middle Eastern Societies****Prof. Janet Klein****TTH—1:15-2:30 p.m.**

The roles of women in Middle Eastern societies have been contested both from within and also by outsiders, who have frequently misunderstood and stereotyped them. This course explores the complex and multi-layered processes and dimensions, including texts, cultural values and practices, institutions, and events, which have shaped and continue to shape women's experiences in the different societies of the Middle East. We will examine texts and traditions that have influenced, or have attempted to influence, women's lives (and by extension, society at large), and we will also consider women's lives in a comparative context in an attempt to discern the specific roles played by state policies, war, class, geography, religion, law, family structures, colonialism/imperialism, and nationalism. Although we will consider these processes in their historical context, the main focus of the course is the modern period. This course offers students the chance to explore these questions and more through a variety of media—academic works, fiction, film, and other primary sources. This course counts towards fields in Comparative Non-Western History and the Middle East.

****Gen Ed.:** Global Diversity**Graduate Student Field(s):** Middle East**History 631****Reading Seminar: Early Modern Europe****Prof. Michael Graham****W—5:45-8:55 p.m.**

Study of historical literature, sources of materials, major interpretations of early modern Europe history to Napoleonic era.

Graduate Student Field(s): Europe, Renaissance to 1815

History 666

Reading Seminar: American History to 1877

Prof. Gina Martino

T—5:45-8:55 p.m.

The seminar in early American history explores this dynamic period that stretches from the earliest cultural encounters of the Colonial Era through the Age of Revolutions and the mid-nineteenth century. In addition to acquiring a greater understanding of the events of the period, you will investigate major themes, debates, and methodologies involved in the study of early American history. Through an examination of innovative scholarship in the field, you will gain insight into how historians understand this formative period in American history and build a foundation for comprehensive exams. Students interested in early modern Europe should also consider this seminar, as much of the newer literature in the field considers imperialism, colonialism, and transatlantic perspectives. Requirements include writing short reviews of readings, leading a discussion, writing a final paper, and participating in class discussions.

Note: If you are planning to have a comps field in early America, this is a required course! **Graduate Student Field(s):** America to 1877

Honors Courses:

1870: 350

Honors Humanities Colloquium: The History of Anti-Semitism

Prof. Michael Levin

MW—8:45-10:00 a.m.

Why do people hate Jews? Is anti-Semitism different from other forms of prejudice? And what does it mean to be Jewish in the first place? In this colloquium we will explore the historical roots of these questions, using various primary sources as a springboard for discussion. We will start in Biblical times, and cover such topics as the Spanish Inquisition, the Holocaust, and events in modern America. There will be guest lectures from other professors in the History Department, who will bring their own expertise and experiences to the class. The emphasis of the course will be on discussion, with a final project to be determined.

Honors: Eugenics in the United States, Past and Present

Prof. Kevin Kern

TTH—10:15-11:30 a.m.

Should we be actively engaged in the business of breeding better humans? Members of the Eugenics Movement in the United States emphatically answered “yes” to this question, and actually met with some success in affecting public policy—from immigration restriction to the forced sterilization of “the unfit”—both in the U.S. and in Nazi Germany. This course will examine the idea and history of the eugenics in the United States, and will explore the intersection of scientific, political, social, ethical, and racial issues involved in this movement. It will also trace the long-term effects of eugenics on American life throughout the twentieth century and on into twenty-first century debates over genetic engineering research.