

HISTORY GRADUATE COURSES

HIS 552

Russia, 1440-1894

MWF 9:45-11:15

Dr. Brian LaPierre

This course will explore the history of Muscovite and Imperial Russia from the reign of Ivan III to the death of Alexander III. Through a close reading of a wide variety of primary and secondary sources, students will learn the basic outline of medieval and modern Russian history, be introduced to the period's pivotal men, movements and ideas and develop an understanding of Russia's diverse ethnic, religious and gender hierarchies. Topics to be covered include Russia's Byzantine and Mongol legacy; the triumph of Muscovy in Russia's competitive city-state system; the development and abolition of serfdom in Russia; the empire's encounter and exchange with the Islamic world and the rise of revolutionary radicalism and political terrorism.

HIS 466

The US Since 1945

TR 9:45-11:15

Dr. Heather Stur

This course will explore the lives and experiences of Americans in the US and in the world from the end of World War II through the beginning of the 21st century. We will explore themes such as nuclear fears and atomic culture, the "baby boom" generation, the rise of rock-n-roll, Cold War pop culture, social movements, war, politics, presidents, race, and the economy. We will also examine the many ways in which Americans shaped the world during the Cold War, from the music of the Mississippi Delta inspiring the Rolling Stones and the Beatles to President Ronald Reagan's "tear down this wall" speech and his friendship with Mikhail Gorbachev. By the end of the semester, we will see how the legacies of the Cold War are still present and alive in the US and in the world.

HIS 574

American Indian History to 1840

TR 3:00 – 4:30

Dr. Joshua Haynes

This course surveys Native American history up to Indian Removal. Early America was Indian country. All serious scholars of early America acknowledge this fact, yet American Indians too often play bit parts in a master narrative focused on the inevitable triumph of a new nation devoted to liberty and equality. A few Native groups make cameo appearances, trade or resist

for a moment, then vanish. Yet, for three hundred years after 1492, most of North America remained Native America. In this course, we will encounter populous, prosperous Native societies all over the continent before 1500. We will examine European invasions of the southwest and the Pacific coast as well as the Atlantic coast and eastern woodlands. We will explore the impact of environmental change, disease, and trade, and we will analyze the ways Native Americans transformed their societies in response to colonization. Finally, we will scrutinize U.S. Indian policy culminating in the forced removal of many Native Americans from lands east of the Mississippi River.

HIS 578

History of the Civil Rights Movement

MW 11:30-1:00

Dr. Rebecca Tuuri

This course will explore the history of the African American Civil Rights Movement from World War II through the end of the Black Power Movement. This class will not only cover the broad national history of the civil rights movement in America but will zoom into Mississippi, which was ground zero for the Civil Rights Movement. *As part of this class, we will be taking three Saturday trips to Civil Rights sites in Jackson, Hattiesburg, and McComb, where we will meet activists, visit museums, and make on-site presentations.* We will also have guest speakers come to our class. Finally, we will utilize primary and secondary sources to learn about the Movement and consider not only how this history has been written in secondary sources, but also how it has been publicly remembered. Assignments will include investigating USM student newspaper coverage of civil rights, designing a modern Freedom School, and making a Mississippi Moments podcast using our extensive civil rights resources on campus.

This class fulfills an upper level American history major requirement and counts towards the black studies minor, human rights minor, and Southern Studies concentration in the Bachelors of Interdisciplinary Studies degree.

HIS 710

Philosophy and Methods of History

T 6:30-9:45

Dr. Courtney Luckhardt

This seminar is designed to introduce graduate students to the philosophical and practical foundations of historical method. Our coverage is not comprehensive, but we will familiarize ourselves with some of the innovative and diverse approaches that have shaped historical work over the past several decades. As we read these works, we will consider how and why historians investigate, interpret, and write about the past as well as contest one another's findings. Together we will expose some of the underlying, unspoken assumptions and preoccupations that

we bring with us to and which persist in the discipline. Students are required to complete several written and oral assignments to hone their critical thinking, writing, and presentation skills.

HIS 711/712

Seminars in American and European History

M 3:00 – 6:15

Dr. Susannah Ural

This course focuses on the craft of historical research and writing at the graduate level. All 711 students have at least one year of MA studies behind them, so I assume you already understand the basics of good grammar, clear writing, proper citations, and the importance of making a clear argument that weaves throughout a written work. There is a difference, though, between knowing what it needed and creating that yourself. It's a skill we all develop over time, and this course is designed to help you with that process.

Students will spend the majority of class time presenting and respectfully critiquing each other's small assignments, which you will revise according to feedback received in class & then resubmit to me two days later. I'll return these to you graded during our next class period. All assignments are designed as parts of your thesis or your dissertation prospectus. By focusing on manageable pieces of your work, we will have your thesis abstract, title page, bibliography, and one chapter done by the end of October and a second chapter done by the end of November. If you're ABD, you'll use this semester to write your dissertation prospectus. Students will also create a full and short version of their professional CV (the short one perfect for conference proposals) and deliver their work in a professional format. This schedule allows students to have half or more of their thesis completed when this class ends, or their entire dissertation prospectus.

HIS 725

U.S. Historiography I Seminar

W 6:30-9:45

Dr. Kyle F. Zelner

Historiographic study, or the study of the study of history, is an incredibly important part of being a historian. Historians do not begin a single project without first learning what came before—what other historians have said on the topic, how they said it, and what the state of the field is at the moment. As beginning professional historians, students will be expected to talk about the historical debates surrounding their topics and how their work intersects with those debates. Students will be expected in their classes, and especially during their comprehensive exams, not only to know what happened in the past and why, but who argued what and the methods they used to come up with those arguments. This course will start you down the historiographical road. We will examine some of the main debates in early American history as a

way to “jump start” each student’s historiographical knowledge. Once students have successfully completed this course, they will know some of the important highlights of the field—but also come to the realization that they have just started what will likely be a lifelong task.

Students in the class will read deeply and widely on each debate and will come to class prepared to debate the topic at hand. NOTE: Students should come to the first class before purchasing any books for the various weeks, as we will choose individual books for the course during the first class meeting. Students may purchase:

Required Text:

Francis G. Couvares, et. al., *Interpretations of American History: Patterns and Perspectives*, Vol. 1 Through Reconstruction:, 8th ed. Boston: Bedford/St. Martins, 2009.

Assignments:

Students will write numerous book reviews, write a short historiographical paper, lead a few and participate in all class discussions, and write a comprehensive exam-type answer for their final exam.

Some of the topics we will explore:

- Indians, Contact, and Ethnohistory
- The Puritans of Colonial New England
- The Colonial South and Slavery
- Colonial Witchcraft
- Coming of the Revolution
- Women in the Early Republic
- The Market Revolution
- Antebellum Slavery
- The Civil War: Who Fought and Why?

HIS 796

Practicum in the Teaching of History in Colleges and Universities

R 3:00-6:15

Dr. Kyle F. Zelner

Required for all first-time teaching and graduate assistants and optional for others, this class is designed to encourage graduate students to think about the major issues of teaching at the college level, both as teaching assistants and as independent instructors. Different faculty members will visit to lead discussions on a different topic each class period. The course covers basic issues of teaching and learning strategies, classroom philosophy and management, technology in the classroom, testing and other assignments, issues of diversity, effective classroom presentation, and how to construct one’s own course.

Required Text:

Barbara Gross Davis, *Tools for Teaching*, 2nd ed. Wiley: Jossey-Bass; 2009.

Assignments:

Students will engage in weekly discussions, write several short reaction papers, and design and execute a sample lecture for an introductory History class.

HIS 720: Modern European Historiography**HIS 776: Seminar in Women's History****M 6:30-9:45****Dr. Allison Abra**

This course will provide an overview of some of the major topics and debates in modern European history, while also introducing students to the key methodologies and approaches in women's and gender history. We will examine historical events and issues including the French Revolution, imperialism and colonialism, urban cultures, the two world wars, and decolonization, exploring the broad historical and historiographical questions that surround them, but also the ways these events were experienced by women, or were influenced by and re-shaped ideas about gender within European societies. The course thus provides a unique opportunity to study two historiographies in dialogue with one another, and will be of value to graduate students in European history, as well as to those studying different geographic areas but interested in women's and gender history.

Preliminary Reading List

Lynn Hunt, *The Family Romance of the French Revolution*, University of California Press, 1992.

Catherine Hall, *Civilising Subjects: Metropole and Colony in the English Imagination, 1830-1867*, University of Chicago Press, 2002.

Judith Walkowitz, *City of Dreadful Delight: Narratives of Sexual Danger in Late-Victorian London*, University of Chicago Press, 1992.

Victoria De Grazia, *How Fascism Ruled Women: Italy, 1922-1945*, University of California Press, 1993.

Todd Shepard, *Sex, France, and Arab Men, 1962-1979*, University of Chicago Press, 2018.