

# Fall 2019 History Course Descriptions

HIAF: Africa; HIAS: Asia; HIEU: Europe; HILA: Latin America/Caribbean; HIME: Middle East; HIUS; United States

- Descriptions are listed in the same order as in the table below, by number and then by subject field.
- Some courses may not have descriptions at this time.

Course Name	Course	Professor	Day & Time
<b>200s</b>			
Development/Western Civilization to 1715	HIEU 241	Matthew Gillis	MW 10:10-11:00
Development/Western Civilization to 1715	HIEU 241	Max Matherne	MWF 9:05, 11:15, 1:25
Development/Western Civilization to 1715	HIEU 241	Elizabeth Eubanks	MWF 10:10, 2:30, 3:35
Development/Western Civilization 1715-Present	HIEU 242	Margaret Andersen	MW 9:05-9:55
Development/Western Civilization 1715-Present	HIEU 242	Marina Maccari-Clayton	TR 2:10-3:25
Development/Western Civilization 1715-Present	HIEU 242	Patricia Rutenberg	MWF 8:00, 11:15
Honors: Development/Western Civilization to 1715	HIEU 247	Patricia Rutenberg	MWF 9:05-9:55
Honors: Development/Western Civilization 1715-Present	HIEU 248	Vejas Liulevicius	MWF 10:10-11:00
Early Latin American & Caribbean Studies	HILA 255	Chad Black	TR 11:10-12:25
History/World Civilization to 1500	HIST 261	Alison Vacca	MW 11:15-12:05
History/World Civilization to 1500	HIST 261	Brittany Poe	MWF 1:25, 2:30, 3:35
History/World Civilization to 1500	HIST 261	Berke Torunoglu	MWF 8:00, 9:05, 10:10
History/World Civilization 1500-Present	HIST 262	Shellen Wu	TR 9:40-10:55
History/World Civilization 1500-Present	HIST 262	Marina Maccari-Clayton	TR 11:10, 3:40
History/World Civilization 1500-Present	HIST 262	Bob Hutton	TR 2:10-3:25
History/World Civilization 1500-Present	HIST 262	Can Badahır Yüce	MWF 1:25, 2:30
Honors: History/World Civilization 1500-Present	HIST 268	Susan Lawrence	MWF 10:10-11:00
The American Dream	HIST 299	Luke Harlow	MWF 11:15-12:05
China's First Historian	HIST 299	Charles Sanft	MWF 9:05-9:55
African-American Business History	HIST 299	Brandon Winford	MWF 11:15-12:05
History of the United States to 1877	HIUS 221	Christopher Magra	MW 10:10-11:00
<b>300s</b>			
History of Africa to 1880	HIAF 371	Nicole Eggers	MWF 10:10-11:00
History of China 1600 to the Present	HIAS 390	Shellen Wu	TR 2:10-3:25
The Renaissance	HIEU 314	Robert Bast	TR 2:10-3:25
Contemporary Europe, 1900 to the Present	HIEU 320	Victor Petrov	MWF 1:25-2:15
Christianity in Early Antiquity	HIEU 321	Tina Shepardson	MWF 2:30-3:20
Modern Middle East	HIME 370	Can Badahır Yüce	MWF 11:15-12:05
Archaeology of the Biblical World	HIME 382	J.P. Dessel	TR 9:40-10:55
Honors: German Cultural History	HIST 307	Monica Black	TR 3:40-4:55
The Entangled Histories of the U.S. and Mexico	HIUS 301	Tore Olsson	MWF 9:05-9:55
History of Rape in the United States	HIUS 324	Lynn Sacco	TR 11:10-12:25
United States History 1877-1933	HIUS 354	Bob Hutton	TR 9:40-10:55
Free Speech Fights: The First Amendment in American History	HIUS 361	William Mercer	TR 2:10-3:25
U.S. Constitutional History, 1877 to the Present	HIUS 364	William Mercer	TR 3:40-4:55
African-American Experience, Colonial to the Civil War	HIUS 379	Brandon Winford	MWF 2:30-3:20
History of Tennessee	HIUS 381	Bob Hutton	TR 12:40-1:55
The Real Pirates of the Caribbean: A History of Piracy	HIUS 386	Christopher Magra	TR 9:40-10:55
<b>400s</b>			
Mesopotamian History	HIME 400	J.P. Dessel	TR 12:40-1:55
Honors: Senior Thesis I	HIST 407	Denise Phillips	TR 2:10-3:25
Honors: Senior Thesis II	HIST 408	Denise Phillips	W 3:35-6:35
Civil War Medicine	HIST 499	Susan Lawrence	MWF 2:30-3:20
The Medieval Game of Thrones	HIST 499	Matthew Gillis	M 3:35-6:35
America and the World	HIUS 450	Robert Norrell	MWF 10:10-11:00

**HIEU 242: Western Civilization II****Dr. Andersen**

This course is designed to introduce students to the history of Europe from the eighteenth century to the present day. We will cover many of the major events and conflicts during this period including the French Revolution, the Industrial Revolution, the two World Wars, the Russian Revolution, and the Cold War. Moreover, we will study the history of everyday life, as well as politics and culture. For instance, some of the topics will include developments in the natural sciences, the women's movement, and European imperialism.

**HILA 255: Early Latin American and Caribbean Studies****Dr. C. Black**

In 1492, Columbus sailed the ocean blue and discovered or destroyed, conquered or civilized the Americas. Sixty years later, in 1552, López de Gómara, the private secretary of Hernán Cortes, wrote, "The greatest event since the creation of the world (excluding the incarnation and death of Him who created it) is the discovery of the Indies [i.e. Americas]." He was, himself, a participant the conquest of Mexico. From the very beginning, not only the magnitude, but also the meaning of the Conquest of the Americas has been a point of controversy and acclaim. The history of Early Latin America, however, does not begin in October 1492. Indigenous bands and great civilizations inhabited North and South America for more than ten thousand years prior to the arrival of Europeans on the shores of Caribbean islands. Thus, in this class we will concentrate on the pre-Columbian period, the conquest period, and the ensuing three hundred years of Spanish (and to a limited extent) Portuguese rule. The lectures will move both chronologically and topically. We will concentrate on two key geographic areas of examination – central Mexico, home to the highly structured pre-Columbian societies of the Maya and the Mexica, among many others, and later the center of Spanish control in its northern kingdoms as the Viceroyalty of New Spain; and, the central Andes, land of the Inca Empire and its subject polities (among others), and home of the Viceroyalty of Peru, the center of Spanish power in its southern kingdoms. Our class will cover a tremendous breadth of time and territory, and as such the lectures, readings, and discussion sections are designed to draw your critical attention to issues, including ethnicity, gender, slavery, culture, and power, as well as the institutions and structures that patterned native, African, and European experiences of Spanish and Portuguese imperialism. *Same as LAC 251.*

**HIST 262: History of World Civilization 1500 to the Present****Dr. Wu**

This course covers world history from 1400, focusing in particular on the rise of science, with important and wide-ranging implications for the modern world and the society we live in today. Global travel, exploration, trade, and technological innovations played essential roles in the exchange of knowledge and the development and rise of modern science. This course will examine some of the key turning points in the history of science in the context of world history.

**HIST 262: History of World Civilizations 1500 to the Present****Dr. Can Badahır Yüce**

This course is designed as an introduction to world history since the beginning of the sixteenth century. The primary emphasis of the course will be the encounters between cultures. During the semester, we will learn about the civilizations of Europe, Asia, Africa, the Americas, and the Middle East from the first colonial expeditions to the globalization period in the twenty-first century. Examining key concepts such as imperialism and colonialism, we will trace how and when the world became interconnected. Through primary and secondary sources (archival material, historical narratives, visual images, and film), this course aims to provide students a better understanding of how world history shapes our lives today.

**HIST 268: Honors History of World Civilization 1500 to the Present****Dr. Lawrence**

Over the last 500 years, humans have transformed the world. In this course, we focus on the complex ways that technologies – technologies of food production and transportation, of information and experimentation, of vaccines and pharmaceuticals – have given humans unprecedented power over their environments, over their bodies and over other people. The emergence of modern science and biomedicine offer us case studies in the globalization of particular ways of understanding and manipulating nature. As we survey the globe over half a millennium, we explore how the histories of technology, medicine and science have been enmeshed in the course of world events, from colonial conquests and plagues to political revolutions and world wars.

**HIST 299: The American Dream****Dr. Harlow**

This course explores one of the most significant ideas in the history of the United States: the American Dream. While that idea has changed significantly over time, the belief that the American context offers exceptional possibilities for human flourishing through hard work and ingenuity has remarkable staying power. This course seeks to find out why that has been the case. It is not a comprehensive study of American history; we will explore the changing shape of the American Dream through various flashpoint moments in American history from the early republic to the recent past. *Restricted to History majors.*

### **HIST 299: China's First Historian**

**Dr. Sanft**

Sima Qian created his monumental Historian's Records around 100 BCE, marking a permanent shift in how people in China dealt with the past and its records. In this course we will learn about what Sima Qian did, why he did it, and why it matters. Along the way, we will develop an understanding of what history means generally and acquire essential skills for pursuing it. *Restricted to History majors.*

### **HIST 299: African-American Business History**

**Dr. Winford**

In this course, we will examine African American business beginning with the Reconstruction period. Is there even a history of black business in the United States? Yes! It happened against the backdrop of Jim Crow segregation and in the face of tighter restrictions being placed on the citizenship rights of black people at the turn of the twentieth century. Although the success and survival of these institutions were often threatened by social, political, and economic barriers, which confronted African Americans upon their emancipation, historians oppose the idea that black business failed because of the prevailing myth that black Americans had no tradition of business involvement. To the contrary, black businesses did not reach the heights of their white counterparts because they lacked the government support that white businesses had from the beginning of the country's founding. Moreover, despite the realities of economic discrimination, blacks contributed significantly to the entrepreneurial spirit that has characterized American society, while at the same time improving the overall conditions of African Americans. This seminar course is also designed as an introduction to historical writing and literature. In this way, you will be exposed to various historical methods and forms of inquiry that will hopefully better prepare you to engage successfully in your reading, research, and writing as you move forward in the discipline. *Restricted to History majors.*

## **300s**

### **HIAF 371: African History to 1880**

**Dr. Eggers**

This course will provide an introduction to the social and cultural history of Africa from the earliest times to the eve of European colonization. The course will use a variety of case studies and perspectives to highlight larger historical processes that were – and still are – at work across the continent. Though we will visit nearly every major historical region with these case studies, certain regions – namely, Kenya and the Swahili Coast, Rwanda and the Great Lakes region, the Congo and the Equatorial region, Mali and West Africa, and South Africa – will receive particular attention in an effort to balance breadth of historical knowledge with depth. At the center of our investigations will be the question of how one can think and write about early African history. How do historians use sources like archeology, linguistics, oral traditions, art, documentary evidence to highlight the experiences of African people living in the distant past? *Same as AFST 371.*

### **HIAS 390: History of China, 1600 to the Present**

**Dr. Wu**

This course is designed as a survey history of modern China from the late Ming to the present. This tumultuous period spans two imperial dynasties, decades of warlordism, and from 1949, a Communist dictatorship evolving into an authoritarian oligarchy. Both the geographical boundaries and the racial / ethnic makeup of "China" have shifted over four hundred years. The question of "China," then, is far from settled. We will ask some important questions over the course of the semester. When does "modern" China begin? How do we approach modern Chinese history? What are the boundaries of China / Chineseness? Could these concepts stretch to include the Chinese diaspora across the globe? How has Chinese imperial history affected contemporary China?

### **HIEU 314: Renaissance Europe**

**Dr. Bast**

This course examines the social and political forces in Western Europe that formed the crucible for the late-medieval cultural movement known as the Renaissance. Our main focus will be on Italy, the center of Renaissance culture between the 14th and 16th centuries, but we will also be discussing developments elsewhere in Europe. The aims of this course are as follows: 1. To familiarize you with the major events in

political, cultural, social and intellectual history during the Renaissance. 2. To introduce you to some of the major achievements of Renaissance writers and artists. 3. To examine some of the critical questions concerning the interpretation of the Renaissance as an historical event or period. 4. To help you develop and sharpen your own skills in reading and writing about history. In order to achieve these aims, it is essential that you attend class regularly and that you keep up with all reading assignments. *Same as REST 314.*

### **HIEU 320: Contemporary Europe, 1900 to the Present**

**Dr. Petrov**

Europe's 20<sup>th</sup> century has given some historians cause to call it the "age of extremes" of a "dark continent". This course will look at this stormy period in order to understand what forces shaped the continent's history and were, in turn, shaped by it. Why did totalitarian ideologies hold sway over much of the continent? What was the impact of economic change and social revolutions on the makeup of these societies? And how did Europe deal with its diminishing power in the face of the USA and USSR? We will explore these and other questions through primary and secondary sources, and think about the legacies of this period for our world today.

### **HIME 370: Modern Middle East**

**Dr. Can Badahır Yüce**

This course examines the historical and transnational formation of the Middle East, beginning from the sixteenth century. From the Ottoman and Safavid Empires to the Arab Spring, we will cover the turning points in the making of the modern Middle East and learn about cultural, political, economic, and religious practices of the region's societies. We will also explore concepts such as Orientalism and political Islam by visiting texts from several disciplines (cultural studies, film, postcolonial theory, and journalism). The primary goal of this course is to understand the historical background of the major problems the region faces today. *Same as JST 370.*

### **HIME 382: Archaeology of the Biblical World**

**Dr. Dessel**

This course will focus on the Late Bronze Age (16th century B.C.E.) through the end of the Iron Age (sixth century B.C.E.) in Israel and the Biblical World. Students will be introduced to the archaeology of Israel, Jordan, Lebanon, the Palestinian Authority, Syria, and Cyprus. The empires of Egypt, Assyria and the Hittites will also be covered. We will cover themes including the regeneration of states and cities, empire-building, ethno genesis, and socio-political collapse. The emergence of new ethnic groups such as the Israelites, Phoenicians, Philistines, and Aramaeans, will be examined as they prosper and collapse throughout the Iron Age. *Same as JST 382.*

### **Honors: HIST 307: German Cultural History**

**Dr. M. Black**

KULTUR is German for culture. But what exactly is "culture," and what is specifically German about *Kultur*? In this class, we will learn about German culture through many sources, from the time of the Brothers Grimm to the present, in films, images, fairy tales, automotive design, propaganda, and yes, even *Krautrock* (look it up!) But we'll also learn about the practice of cultural history, which entails ideas that can be useful in the study of history generally, regardless of subject matter, period, or geography.

### **HIUS 301: Borders, Burritos, and Gringos: The Entangled Histories of the U.S. and Mexico**

**Dr. Olsson**

Perhaps no chant was more definitive of the 2016 election than "Build the Wall." Yet would you believe that for most of the shared history of the United States and Mexico, Mexicans would have been the ones who favored such a wall - to keep AMERICANS out? This course explores this irony and many others, revealing that the history of these two nations has always been entangled - for both good and ill. Covering the period from 1500 to the present (though with an emphasis on the nineteenth and twentieth centuries), the course will explore the histories of the US and Mexico together in hopes of getting new perspectives on topics ranging from the Indian Wars to the New Deal to NAFTA, immigration, and beyond. Class time will be divided between lectures and discussions. This is a reading- and writing-intensive course.

### **HIUS 324: History of Rape in the United States**

**Dr. Sacco**

This seminar explores recent historical interpretations of the history of sexuality, with a focus on sexual violence, generically defined as "rape." The readings cover changing definitions and laws, cultural representations, and the role of gender, race, and age in the construction of rape and other forms of sexual violence. The course is also concerned with how historical changes in the economy, the family, and politics have reshaped sexual values and behaviors, and the ways that individuals and groups have responded to these changes. The assignments consist largely of secondary interpretations (books and articles by historians), along with several primary source assignments. *Same as AMST 326.*

### **HIUS 354: U.S. History, 1877 to 1933**

**Dr. Hutton**

This is a general survey of a pivotal fourth or fifth of the history of the United States. Within this span of time African Americans, Native Americans and women were extended the full rights and privileges of citizenship from the perspective of the Constitution – this while racism and patriarchal chauvinism became “scientific.” This is a class on political history; ‘political’ in the more prosaic electoral sense of the word, but also the allocations and reallocations of power that take place far from the ballot box.

It was also during this time that many Americans came to question what this citizenship meant and whether or not it truly made all Americans free and equal as many people had assumed. There had always been those who owned and those worked, but industrialization had made this divide something altogether different. The Civil War changed the U.S. irreversibly and involvement in World War I, at the time the largest war ever fought in human history, changed it even more. Special consideration will be given to the simmering conflicts over class, race and gender during this period that begins with a national identity crisis and ends with a national state of economic depression.

### **HIUS 361: Free Speech Fights: The First Amendment in American History**

**Dr. Mercer**

*Filth! Gossip! Blasphemy! Sedition! Fighting words!* Since the colonial era, Americans have differed over the place of speech in society. What type of speech is protected? Who has the authority to regulate speech? Does this change if the nation is at war? What if the speech is obscene? What even counts as speech? We will explore these questions and more as together we will uncover the evolution of free speech in the American legal and constitutional order.

### **HIUS 364: U.S. Constitutional History 1877 to the Present**

**Dr. Mercer**

This course will trace the constitutional development of the United States from the end of Reconstruction to the present. Topics will include the questions presented by immigration and territorial expansion, the rise of substantive due process, the New Deal Court, civil liberties during war, and the twentieth century emphasis on individual constitutional rights.

### **HIUS 379: African-American Experience, Colonial Period to the Civil War**

**Dr. Winford**

This is a survey course designed to introduce students to African and African American life and culture before the Civil War. The experience of African Americans during these years was one of great suffering as well as triumph. Special emphasis will be placed on African American social, religious, economic, and intellectual development. We will explore a variety of themes through the use of secondary and primary sources. Topics include: varieties of slavery, the development of racial slavery; free black communities, the rise of African American culture, identity; gender, religion, protest, resistance, changing notions of freedom, colonization, and abolition. Students should remember that African American history must be studied within the context of United States history. Hence, some time will be spent discussing American history to highlight the African American experience. *Same as AFST 376.*

### **HIUS 381: History of Tennessee**

**Dr. Hutton**

This class examines the state formed from the northern quarter of what we once called the Old Southwest. Early Tennessee was both southern and western. Seven decades later the state that left the Union with the most reluctance eventually became the site of more battles during the Civil War than any other state but Virginia. Its subsequent status during Reconstruction defies description within one sentence but, suffice it to say, established conditions galling to conservatives and progressives alike. While laying at the center of what many would consider an economic backwater of the United States, the state hosted some of the most monumental technological innovations of the 20<sup>th</sup> century. An island of political moderation, compared to other states beneath the 36°30 line of latitude, Tennessee nevertheless became a space of contention during the civil rights struggle. Some questions, among others, covered in this class: does Tennessee exemplify the South at large, or is it an historical outlier within the region? How, for that matter, does it look within the larger history of the United States? And, perhaps most importantly, what can we learn from one moderately-sized federal state (as opposed to a in a global age?

### **HIUS 386: The Real Pirates of the Caribbean: A History of Piracy**

**Dr. Magra**

Pirates were real historical actors on one of the world's most dramatic stages set against the backdrop of a flying Jolly Roger. In this course, we will explore the myths and realities of pirates in order to critically analyze the nature of crime and punishment in the early modern Atlantic world. By the end of the semester, students will

be able to explain the deep connections between the rise of capitalism in this part of the globe and the expansion of maritime banditry. Welcome aboard!

## 400s

### **HIME 400: Mesopotamian History**

**Dr. Dessel**

The Ancient Near East is often referred to the “cradle of civilization,” where human societies first developed farming, herding, villages and urbanism. This course will explore the history, archaeology and culture of Mesopotamia (modern Iraq) from the earliest settled villages (fifth millennium B.C.E.) to the end of Neo-Assyrian and Babylonian Empires in the 6th century B.C.E. We will discuss the literary and artistic achievements of the Sumerians, Assyrians and Babylonians, as well as more thematic issues such as the development of state-level societies, the emergence of social and political institutions, literacy, imperialism, and intersocietal interactions.

---

*If you encounter a registration flag when registering for a 499 section, contact Mary Beckley with your student ID number and the section CRN.*

### **HIST 499: Civil War Medicine**

**Dr. Lawrence**

We will begin this capstone research seminar by reading several recent works on health and medical care during the Civil War. We will examine several historians’ arguments and delve into the kinds of sources that they used for their work. Understanding how doctors and nurses treated sick and injured soldiers in the context of what they believed and what they knew can be challenging. For that we will turn to a range of primary sources. Students will investigate one of the topics we discuss in more depth in a substantial research paper due at the end of the semester. *Restricted to History majors.*

### **HIST 499: The Medieval Game of Thrones**

**Dr. Gillis**

Taking some cues from George R.R. Martin’s popular *Game of Thrones/A Song of Ice and Fire* series, this course examines the struggle to survive and thrive in the treacherous political environment of Merovingian Francia (c. 500-751 CE). This key historical period witnessed the transformation of Roman world into a medieval one. It was an era of dazzling and dastardly queens and kings, bishops and clerics, monks and nuns, nobles and commoners, whose conflicts are richly documented in the surviving sources. The stories of their feuds abound in murder and treachery – events which their authors narrated in moral terms and grisly detail to distinguish the good from the wicked after the conflicts had ended. Following George Martin’s approach of telling his story from the perspective of individual characters, we will sift through the rhetoric and polemics of Merovingian sources to unearth the experiences and motivations of individuals taking part in the Merovingian Game of Thrones. Our purpose collectively will be to understand these political struggles from multiple, contradictory perspectives before their final outcomes transformed the individual participants into saints or sinners.

*Restricted to History majors.*

---

### **HIUS 450: America and the World**

**Dr. Norrell**

This course will examine the emergence of American nationalism, expansionism, and imperialism from 1898 forward, and at the same time will explore the countervailing forces of isolationism and pacifism in the US during the same period. The course will dwell at length on the impact of the two world wars of the twentieth

century, with a special focus on American relationships with England and Germany. It will pay particular attention to how the historical understandings about the origins of World War I and the creation of the Versailles Treaty shaped both American and German attitudes toward international engagement for the two decades after 1919. A main focus will be the great uneasiness that most Americans felt about international involvement right up to their entry in World War II. The course will then deconstruct the origins and course of the Cold War and explore the impact of nuclear threats and de-colonization on American and European thinking in the post-World-War-Two world.