## Spring 2020

### History Undergraduate Course Descriptions

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

- Most History courses are writing-emphasis; see the UTK Undergraduate Catalog for more information.
- 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.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Course Name</th>
<th>Course 200s</th>
<th>Professor</th>
<th>Day &amp; Time</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Development/Western Civilization to 1715</td>
<td>HIEU 241</td>
<td>Sara Ritchey</td>
<td>TR 11:10-12:25</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Development/Western Civilization to 1715</td>
<td>HIEU 241</td>
<td>Elizabeth Eubanks</td>
<td>MWF 8:00, 9:05, 10:10</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Development/Western Civilization 1715-Present</td>
<td>HIEU 242</td>
<td>Monica Black</td>
<td>MW 9:05-9:55</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Development/Western Civilization 1715-Present</td>
<td>HIEU 242</td>
<td>Marina Maccari-Clayton</td>
<td>TR 11:10-12:25</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Development/Western Civilization 1715-Present</td>
<td>HIEU 242</td>
<td>Patricia Rutenberg</td>
<td>MW 10:10-11:00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Development/Western Civilization 1715-Present</td>
<td>HIEU 242</td>
<td>Max Matherne</td>
<td>MW 11:15, 1:25, 3:35</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Development/Western Civilization 1715-Present</td>
<td>HIEU 242</td>
<td>Bob Hutton</td>
<td>TR 12:40-1:55</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Honors: Development/Western Civilization 1715-Present</td>
<td>HIEU 248</td>
<td>Patricia Rutenberg</td>
<td>MW 11:15-12:05</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Honors: Development/Western Civilization 1715-Present</td>
<td>HIEU 248</td>
<td>Robert Norrell</td>
<td>MW 10:10-11:00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Modern Latin American &amp; Caribbean Studies</td>
<td>HILA 256</td>
<td>Chad Black</td>
<td>TR 11:10-12:25</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>History/World Civilization to 1500</td>
<td>HIST 261</td>
<td>Alison Vacca</td>
<td>TR 9:40-10:55</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>History/World Civilization to 1500</td>
<td>HIST 261</td>
<td>Can Bahadır Yüce</td>
<td>MW 9:05, 10:10, 11:15</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>History/World Civilization to 1500</td>
<td>HIST 261</td>
<td>Nicole Hamonic</td>
<td>TR 3:40-4:55</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>History/World Civilization 1500-Present</td>
<td>HIST 262</td>
<td>Kristen Block</td>
<td>TR 8:10-9:25</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>History/World Civilization 1500-Present</td>
<td>HIST 262</td>
<td>Marina Maccari-Clayton</td>
<td>TR 2:10, 3:40</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>History/World Civilization 1500-Present</td>
<td>HIST 262</td>
<td>Berke Torunoglu</td>
<td>TR 11:10, 12:40</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Honors: History/World Civilization 1500-Present</td>
<td>HIST 268</td>
<td>Susan Lawrence</td>
<td>TR 2:10-3:25</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>African-American Business History</td>
<td>HIST 299</td>
<td>Brandon Winford</td>
<td>MW 11:15-12:05</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>History of Failure and Failure in History</td>
<td>HIST 299</td>
<td>Victor Petrov</td>
<td>TR 12:40-1:55</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Early American Food History</td>
<td>HIST 299</td>
<td>Christopher Magra</td>
<td>MW 10:10-11:00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>The Blues and Black America</td>
<td>HIST 299</td>
<td>Robert Bland</td>
<td>MW 9:05-9:55</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>United States 1877-Present (in 30 Pop Songs)</td>
<td>HIUS 222</td>
<td>Tore Olsson</td>
<td>MW 9:05-9:55</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Course Name</th>
<th>Course 300s</th>
<th>Professor</th>
<th>Day &amp; Time</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>History of Africa Since 1880</td>
<td>HIAF 372</td>
<td>Nicole Eggers</td>
<td>TR 12:40-1:55</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>History of China to 1600</td>
<td>HIAS 389</td>
<td>Charles Safft</td>
<td>MW 11:15-12:05</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Early Middle Ages</td>
<td>HIEU 311</td>
<td>Matthew Gillis</td>
<td>TR 9:40-10:55</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Deviance and Persecution in the Christian West</td>
<td>HIEU 323</td>
<td>Robert Bast</td>
<td>TR 2:10-3:25</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>History of the Cold War</td>
<td>HIEU 333</td>
<td>Victor Petrov</td>
<td>TR 3:40-4:55</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Revolution in Modern European History</td>
<td>HIEU 340</td>
<td>Margaret Andersen</td>
<td>TR 11:10-12:25</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Latin American History at the Movies</td>
<td>HILA 370</td>
<td>Chad Black</td>
<td>T 3:40-6:20</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Displacement, Immigration &amp; Genocide in the Middle East</td>
<td>HIME 384</td>
<td>Berke Torunoglu</td>
<td>TR 2:10-3:25</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Medicine in Western Society</td>
<td>HIST 373</td>
<td>Susan Lawrence</td>
<td>TR 11:10-12:25</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>The American Revolution</td>
<td>HIUS 351</td>
<td>Christopher Magra</td>
<td>MW 8:00-8:50</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Early American Republic</td>
<td>HIUS 352</td>
<td>William Mercer</td>
<td>TR 3:40-4:55</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>U.S. Civil War and Reconstruction</td>
<td>HIUS 353</td>
<td>Luke Harlow</td>
<td>TR 9:40-10:55</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>U.S. History 1933-Present</td>
<td>HIUS 355</td>
<td>Bob Hutton</td>
<td>TR 2:10-3:25</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>African-American Experience Civil War to the Present</td>
<td>HIUS 380</td>
<td>Brandon Winford</td>
<td>MW 2:30-3:35</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>American Legal History</td>
<td>HIUS 383</td>
<td>William Mercer</td>
<td>TR 12:40-1:55</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
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<tr>
<th>Course Name</th>
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<th>Professor</th>
<th>Day &amp; Time</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>History of the Samurai</td>
<td>HIAS 490</td>
<td>Laura Nenzi</td>
<td>TR 9:40-10:55</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Honors: Senior Thesis II</td>
<td>HIST 408</td>
<td>Denise Phillips</td>
<td>W 3:35-6:35</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
HIEU 242: Development of Western Civilization 1715 to the Present
Dr. M. Black
This course focuses on the history of Europe and its interactions with other parts of the globe since around 1750. Though the course deals with an era that may seem distant in many ways from ours, the history we will discuss in class presents us with a number of important questions that continue to challenge societies including US society today. What is power? What is the proper role of the state in our lives? What is the role of religion in society? How does ethnic or racial conflict begin, and what nourishes it? What are the effects of war on society? Can societies heal after conflict? Does science represent an undiluted good for humanity? What is the best way to live?

HILA 256: History of Modern Latin America
Dr. C. Black
This course traces the principal economic, social and political transformations in Latin America from the Wars of Independence to the present in order to understand the roots of ethnic conflict, social inequality and political instability in modern Latin America. Why is there so much poverty in Latin America? What has been the role of the United States in the region? How does the military maintain such power in politics? Why is Latin music so damn good? These and other questions will be addressed in lectures, readings, films and discussions. The class will use a comparative framework to address topics such as the consolidation of nation states and their insertion in the world economy after Independence; changes in land use and labor organization; political movements for liberalism, populism, and revolution; popular culture; industrialization and class politics; military regimes and subsequent redemocratization; U.S. policy and intervention; and the emergence of contemporary social movements in the context of neoliberal economies. Same as LAC 252.

HIST 261: History of World Civilization to 1500
Can Bahadır Yüce
This course surveys world history from the origins of humankind through the fifteenth century CE. We will explore the period in which human populations adapted to their environment, invented the major elements we associate with culture, developed a variety of political structures and means of communication. Examining these social and cultural transformations, we will look at the birth of the city, the creation of states, the emergence of intellectual thought, and the spread of religions. When does world history begin? Why did ancient peoples develop writing systems? In what ways did they interact with each other? How did cultural developments in early history shape societies? We will seek answers to such questions and think about the roots of our world.

HIST 268: History of World Civilization, 1500-Present (Honors)
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: 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. *Restricted to History majors.*

HIST 299: History of Failure and Failure in History  
Dr. Petrov  
History is often a series of failures, but we mostly hear the stories of victories. But what does it mean to fail in history and what can failure reveal about a period or a place? This course will investigate a wide number of failures in history, while at the same time introducing students to historical concepts and methodologies of approaching sources and the big questions in the discipline. We will cover utopian (or dystopian?) projects in religion, politics, technology, social movements, and personal cases, in order to see what a failure can show us about the underlying assumptions of the societies and structures within which it was tried out. From communists to millenarian sects, from environmental crises to engineering projects, from futurists to primitivists, every project that failed had an afterlife that is just as telling as all the successful schemes of history. *Restricted to History majors.*

HIST 299: Early American Food History  
Dr. Magra  
What didn't people eat in Early America? Did everyone eat the same things? Where did they get their food from? This course is designed to answer these questions in chronological order from Native America to English America, the American Revolution, and a little beyond. We are also going to deconstruct food history to better understand the fundamentals of historical reading and writing. They say a spoonful of sugar makes the medicine go down. We will see if studying the history of sugar and pecans and other foods helps us come to terms with forming a thesis and using evidence to make a compelling case. *Restricted to History majors.*

HIST 299: The Blues and Black America  
Dr. Bland  
In this course, students will explore the basics of historical thinking though a two-tiered exploration of blues music and African American History. A cornerstone of American popular music, the blues also have a particularly important relationship to the fields of black history and black studies. Put another way, it is not a coincidence that the rise of black studies departments and the explosion of American cultural history overlapped with a resurgent interest among the greater public in the legacy of the blues. In this course, students will be introduced to the historiographical debates around using vernacular sources, examine questions of authenticity and appropriation, especially as these questions relate to twentieth-century “race music,” and, finally, begin practicing the craft of social and cultural history. *Restricted to History majors.*
HIAS 372: History of Africa 1800 to the Present
Dr. Eggers
This course will provide an introduction to the social and cultural history of Africa south of the Sahara from the eve of European colonization up to the present. Given the sheer physical enormity of the continent and the vast diversity of its peoples and their historical experiences, we cannot hope to complete a comprehensive study of African history during this period of time. Instead, we will use a variety of case studies and perspectives to highlight larger historical processes that were – and still are - at work across the continent. At the center of our investigations will be the strategies and actions of African individuals and communities, who actively and creatively participated in and shaped their own histories. This focus on African agency allows us to look beyond the structures and machinations of powerful colonial and post-colonial states. While we will certainly acknowledge and explore the very real and often oppressive and violent ways in which those states and the people who represented them have exercised power within African people’s lives, we will do so while bearing in mind that such power was often fragile and incomplete, and never exercised upon unresponsive and indistinguishable African populations. The course will be interdisciplinary in approach, utilizing a variety of sources – monographs, autobiographies, primary sources, novels, music and art, film etc. – to explore this history. Course is reading and writing intensive, with regular exams and short papers. Same as AFST 372.

HIAS 389: History of China to 1600
Dr. Sanft
This course surveys the history of China from the Neolithic period until the fall of the Ming dynasty in 1644. We will examine cultural change and development within China, the emergence and development of the Chinese empire, major trends in Chinese philosophy and religion, and China’s interactions with other parts of the world. In addition to standard historical materials, students will encounter a variety of works from Chinese literature, philosophy, and visual culture. No prior knowledge of Chinese language or history is expected.

HIEU 311: Early Middle Ages
Dr. Gillis
This course examines the history of the peoples of Europe and the Mediterranean world from 500 to 1000 CE. During the semester there will be lectures, as well as discussions of primary sources in key areas of early medieval history. Texts for discussion include a wide variety of sources found in your course books and published individually (all available for purchase in the bookstore or on the course Blackboard site). In addition to providing students the opportunity to gain a broad familiarity with European history from the sixth through the tenth centuries, this course is designed to help participants improve numerous important skills, including: critical thinking, essay writing, reading and analyzing sophisticated materials, and developing and supporting intellectual arguments. Same as MRST 309.

HIEU 323: Deviance and Persecution in the Christian West
Dr. Bast
Beginning in the early Middle Ages, ecclesiastical and temporal authorities in much of Western Europe initiated periodic waves of persecution aimed at groups or individuals thought to deviate from norms of conduct and belief promoted by the Christian Church. This course will explore the social contexts in which these persecutions developed, the intellectual traditions that legitimized them, and the experiences both of those who suffered and those who initiated persecution.

HIEU 333: History of the Cold War
Dr. Petrov
The Cold War was the defining geopolitical struggle of the second half of the 20th century, bringing the world to the brink of destruction while engendering a variety of movements and events throughout the globe. This course will investigate the struggle between the USA and USSR, capitalism and communism, as it played out on a global stage. What is it that the Cold War wrought in the newly decolonized states? What societies did it create on both sides of the Iron Curtain? What
were its internal logics and its afterlives? The course will focus not just on Europe and high politics, but on the struggle in a global perspective as well as its impact on societies, philosophies, economics and more besides.

**HIEU 340: Revolution in Modern European History: France & Russia**  
**Dr. Andersen**  
This course is an in-depth study of two major revolutions that transformed Europe in the modern era: the French Revolution and the Russian Revolution. One goal of the course will be to draw comparisons between the two revolutions. We will consider how both revolutions held out the promise of a more equal and just society, progress and advancement, and a better future. Yet, both revolutions were also marked by violence, terror, and repression. Among the themes we will consider are questions of empire building, debates about rights and inequality, changes in popular culture, the status of women, the place of religion in revolutionary societies, and the use of terror.

**HILA 370: Latin America at the Movies**  
**Dr. C. Black**  
Film has long been popular in Latin American. It what was most certainly the first demonstration of "moving pictures" south of the Rio Bravo, the Lumière brothers showed then Mexican President Porfirio Diaz films in Chapultepec Castle in 1896. As moving picture technology spread through out the world, including Latin America, it radically altered how individuals and groups in the region perceived of themselves, and were represented by others. Film (and later television) has been a source of enjoyment, a powerful propaganda tool, a medium of artistic expression, and driving force of national identity. In this class we will focus on the history of Modern Latin America as urbanization, population increase, migrations, revolutions, drug wars, and economic development both defined the region's struggles and became subjects of domestic film production and foreign consumption. *Same as LAC 370.*

**HIME 384: Displacement, Immigration, and Genocide in the Modern Middle East**  
**Dr. Torunoglu**  
The purpose of this course is to examine how states in the Middle East tolerated, displaced and extirpated populations living in and around the region, with a specific emphasis on the migration of these displaced populations to the United States. Focusing on the correlation of state violence and displacement, the students will be acquainted with the terminology, historiography and politicized debates on the study of immigration and genocide in the region from the early nineteenth century to the present day. The seminar is thematically and chronologically structured providing both breadth and depth on the subject matter. Beginning with an introduction to the theories and terminologies that will be used in the rest of the semester, the readings then focus on different ethno-religious communities that were displaced due to state violence or wars.

Prior knowledge of Middle Eastern political history is not required. Every week, the instructor will provide an overview of the episode covered in the weekly readings.

By the end of this seminar the participants will be able to:

- Identify the social theories and their applications on displacement,
- Track the genesis of immigration and genocide in the region,
- Categorize Middle Eastern immigration patterns from the region to US
- Ascertain a general overview of individual experiences of select ethno-religious groups of the region,
- Conduct further research on displacement in comparison with other geographical regions or within the Middle East.
HIST 373: Historical Issues -- Medicine in Western Society
Dr. Lawrence
In this course, we explore the changing intellectual, economic, institutional and cultural relationships that have characterized medicine in the Western world from antiquity to the present. We consider the education of practitioners, locations of healing, and expectations that people had of medicine as ideas about the body and illness shifted with new discoveries and theories about health and disease. We examine the roles both of prominent individuals (Harvey, Pasteur, Ehrlich) and of general trends (industrialization, technology) in shaping medical practice and the medical professions.

HIUS 351: The Global Dimensions of the American Revolution
Dr. Magra
The American Revolution rocked the world. This course exposes students to some of the most exciting and dynamic debates among historians about one of the most transformative events in human history. You will understand the ways in which people around the globe have been connected in the past. You will study the impact of those connections. You will learn how global events helped bring about the split between the North American colonies and the British Empire in the late eighteenth century. You will also learn how this split impacted people around world.

HIUS 352: The Early American Republic
Dr. Mercer
This course will explore the history of the U.S. from its constitutional founding through the eve of the Civil War. The class is structured around five different sections. First, we will survey the largely political development of the new nation. Second, we return to these years and add nuance to the political discussion by exploring its social, cultural, religious, economic, and legal development. Third, we assess the meaning and impact of “Jacksonian Democracy.” Fourth, we will compare the increasingly different economic and cultural paths taken by the North and South and the controversies regarding slavery that affected this divergence. Finally, we will assess how this slavery issue ultimately exploded into the unraveling of the Union in the 1850’s following the Mexican American War.

HIUS 353: U.S. Civil War and Reconstruction
Dr. Harlow
The American Civil War is arguably the central transformative moment in American history. It brought the death of American slavery, which included the emancipation of four million enslaved African Americans, and preserved the national union. Furthermore, it was central to the making of the modern American nation state—and it is increasingly understood more broadly by historians as central to the making of the modern world. The Civil War cost more than 750,000 soldiers and civilians their lives. The war was the bloodiest in the nation’s history, and it left a lingering impact long after the fighting ceased. This course examines the origins of the sectional crisis, studies the American Civil War itself, and explores the period of Reconstruction. It furthermore assesses the aftermath, legacy, and meaning of the Civil War and Reconstruction.

HIUS 355: U.S. History 1933 to the Present
Dr. Hutton
History 355: United States, 1933-present is a general survey of the most recent fourth or fifth portion of the history of the United States. This is the period in which the US became the undisputedly most powerful nation-state in the world, but only after overcoming challenges unprecedented in national and world history. Becoming a world power did not, however, solve all of the country’s old problems. In fact, sometimes these changes exacerbated them or concealed them unnecessarily. The World War II era and what followed involved fulfilling old promises for Americans for whom they had not previously been fulfilled. The theme of this class is rights and how the demand for these rights shaped the politics of the “American century.”
HIUS 380: The African American Experience from the Civil War to the Present  
Dr. Winford  
This course is designed to introduce students to African and African American life and culture after 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 black social, religious, economic, and intellectual development. The focus of this course will be on the challenges faced by the newly freed slaves as they merged into a white society that was not prepared to incorporate them. Students should remember that black history must be studied within the context of United States history. Hence, some time will be spent discussing American history to highlight the black experience. Same as AFST 380.

HIUS 383: American Legal History  
Dr. Mercer  
What is law? Where is it created? How can the study of law help us understand the development of American history and society? In this course, we will study the development of law in America to better understand our history. An underlying assumption of this course is that law is not simply created by formal legislatures and interpreted by the Supreme Court, but as something we continually re-create to structure our society, to include some and exclude others, and to maintain and obscure power.

HIAS 490: History of the Samurai: Fact, Fiction, Fantasy  
Dr. Nenzi  
A history of Japan’s warriors, their governments, preoccupations, culture, and (purported) ideals from the ninth century to the present. Themes include the samurai’s evolving place in society; warrior culture; identity politics; the invention of bushido; samurai movies; and the politicization of the samurai past—including amnesia, whitewashing, and the manipulation of historical memory. The course is run seminar-style: informed participation in discussion is mandatory and constitutes a large portion of the final grade. Knowledge of Japanese history and/or Japanese language skills are welcome but not required. Honors by contract not available.

HIST 408: Honors Senior Thesis  
Dr. Phillips  
Organization and writing of the senior honors thesis. Required of students working for honors in history. Department permission required.

HIST 499: Food and Drink in the Modern South  
Dr. Olsson  
This capstone research seminar will have students explore the political, economic, social, and cultural meanings of food and drink in the post-Civil War United States South. We will explore issues such as race and labor, environmental consequences of agriculture, capitalism and marketing, and the global careers of southern foods from Coca-Cola to KFC. Restricted to History majors.

HIST 499: Apocalypticism in Late-Medieval and Reformation Europe  
Dr. Bast  
This is a course about the end of history—or rather about how late-medieval and early modern Europeans imagined that end. We will explore the long tradition of Christian eschatology as well as particular manifestations of that tradition in specific apocalyptic movements. What we learn about those movements in the Christian culture of the 14th-16th centuries will serve as the foundation for student research projects. Restricted to History majors.
HIST 499: Writing Biography
Dr. Norrell
Biography is perhaps the most popular form of history for most readers interested in the past. But biography is a genre that has often been dismissed as insufficiently intellectual. Still, historians sometimes undertake to interpret lives that are of large importance in the culture. Biographies about controversial characters sometimes shape intellectual currents. This course is designed to introduce senior history majors to the process of research and writing in history by examining the writing of biography. Students will read in common two biographies, discuss them in class, and write a review of each major biography. The common readings are designed to encourage critical thinking about the kinds of questions biographers ask, the kinds of evidence they use, and the larger purposes that biography serves in the broad field of historical literature. The initial readings are intended to direct the student’s understanding of what might be an appropriate topic for individual research. The student will choose a subject, read the existing biographies of that subject and the available primary materials about that life, and then write a biography of about twenty pages on that person. *Restricted to History majors.*

HIUS 436: Gender and Sexuality in U.S. History
Dr. Sacco
This course will survey the history of gender and sexuality in U.S. history. We will look at how people have understood, articulated, and acted on their sexual and emotional desires in the context of the social constraints and opportunities in which they lived. And how, in turn, those choices affected their own and others’ lives in a dynamic social process of change and consistency over time. We will examine why certain ideas dominate social relations – buffering claims to social power – by being understood as “natural,” “normal,” or common-sense. We will read primary and secondary sources to see how ideas about sexuality and gender shaped American society. *Same as AMST 436, WGS 436.*

HIUS 444: History of the South
Dr. Harlow
This course explores the history of the American South from the colonial era to the recent past. Students will consider the role of regionalism in American history, especially the idea of the “South” as distinctive from the United States as a whole. Students will consider the multivalent meaning of the “South” as a cultural marker, and question the notion of monolithic southern identity. We will explore the rise and fall of the slavery system, the Civil War era, the origins of Jim Crow segregation, the impact of the New Deal and World War II, the freedom struggle of the civil rights movement, the emergence of the “Sun Belt,” and southern political realignment in the late twentieth century. All along the way, we will also consider questions about southern identity and cultural patterns (including foodways and folkways).

HIUS 484: Introduction to Public History
Dr. Rutenberg
This course will introduce history majors and minors to the profession of public history by presenting current and relevant scholarship on memory and public spaces, with an emphasis on ways that the American experience of race has been recorded, or obscured, by local historical sites. It will also introduce students to the professional practices of public historians, who conduct original research and enrich public knowledge of the past through effective communication. The course will include experiential learning through student internships at historical societies, museums, preservation groups, and historical editing projects.