

# Fall 2020

## History Graduate Course Descriptions

Subtitle	Course	Professor	Day & Time
Introduction to Graduate Studies	HIST 510	Denise Phillips	T 12:40-3:25
Religious Violence in the Middle Ages	HIST 530/630	Matthew Gillis	T 3:40-6:25
Medieval Latin (CLAS 435)	HIST 530	Maura Lafferty	TR 11:10-12:25
Latin Paleography & Book Culture in the Middle Ages I (472/572)	HIST 530	Maura Lafferty	TR 2:10-3:25
Global History of Communism	HIST 532	Vejas Liulevicius	M 12:20-3:20
Readings in 20 <sup>th</sup> Century German History	HIST 532	Monica Black	R 5:05-7:45
Historiography of the Atlantic World	HIST 541	Kristen Block	M 3:35-6:35
U.S Historiography to the Civil War	HIST 544	Luke Harlow	W 2:30-5:30
The Spanish Inquisition	HIST 561	Chad Black	T 6:30-9:10

### **History 510: Introduction to Graduate Studies**

#### **Dr. Phillips**

As the gateway course to your graduate study in the UT History Department, this class will teach you to be more self-conscious about the analytical choices you make while doing historical research, and also give you a chance to reflect on your decision to pursue a career in history. In large part, we will explore these issues by taking a careful look at the history of our own discipline. What has the pursuit of history involved in the past, and what has this pursuit meant to historians and to the broader culture? How has historical research developed as both a theoretical and practical activity?

### **History 530/630-001: Religious Violence in the Early Middle Ages**

#### **Dr. Gillis**

This class explores the complex links between religion and violence in the early medieval world. Part of the purpose of the course is to examine primary sources depicting various forms of religious violence – including earthly warfare and persecution as well as metaphorical forms of force and aggression – while considering modern scholarly interpretations of those topics. The goal of such readings will be to develop a rich historical and historiographical understanding of our subject. The course's other purpose will be to study modern, theoretical approaches to violence in order to help us develop new questions and approaches for our own research.

### **History 530-003: Latin Paleography & Book Culture in the Middle Ages I**

#### **Dr. Lafferty**

An introduction to the scripts and book culture of the Latin west through the twelfth century. *Taught with CLAS 472/572.*

(cont.)

## **History 532: Readings in the Global History of Communism**

**Dr. Liulevicius**

This graduate readings seminar introduces the vast historiography on a political movement that has shaped modern times. We consider concepts of the party, the roles of Marx, Engels, Lenin, Stalin, Mao, Pol Pot and others, and classic works such as Leszek Kołakowski's *Main Currents of Marxism*.

## **History 532: Readings in 20<sup>th</sup> Century German History**

**Dr. M. Black**

This readings course will look at major trends in the historiography of twentieth-century Germany. Themes may include (but will not be limited to) the history of everyday life; migration/borderlands; political extremism; comparative genocide; medical history; religious history; and environmental history.

## **History 541: Historiography of the Atlantic World**

**Dr. Block**

The history of the Atlantic World has come to represent a paradigm shift in the study of the early modern period during the past three decades. The field has especially transformed scholarship in subfields that tend to assume a "nation-state" perspective (i.e. The United States, Colombia, Cuba), but which become anachronistic for colonial periods defined by transnational geographies and cultures. Atlantic historians might primarily identify their scholarship as centered on Europe, Africa, colonial Latin America, colonial (North) America, the Caribbean, or on African Diasporic Studies – but they read widely for comparative purposes. Many (not all) scholars in the field hope to incorporate perspectives from both "above" and "below" – or use interdisciplinary methods borrowed from literary criticism, ethnography, cultural and social history, and economic history to understand the empires and subjected peoples in their purview. At its best, Atlantic History allows us to bring traditionally separate sub-fields into conversation with one another, to formulate new questions which might not even occur to others in more locally-bound fields. At worst, practitioners of Atlantic History can overlook excellent local or regional scholarship, and have tended to splinter into language group sub-fields as different factions try to define and dominate the shape of the field. As we read about the major themes in Atlantic History, we will also discuss the field's utility (especially vis-à-vis traditional, local, and/or global approaches), and its scholarly framing (geographically, chronologically, historiographically).

## **History 545: U.S. Historiography to the Civil War**

**Dr. Harlow**

Required for all Americanist graduate students. This readings seminar explores some of the major themes and significant historiographic debates in American history from the colonial period through the era of the Civil War. It serves as essential preparation for comprehensive exams, and furthermore provides significant background information for teaching the first half of the U.S. history survey.

## **History 561: The Spanish Inquisition**

**Dr. C. Black**

The Spanish Inquisition lives on in the popular imagination more than five hundred years after it was established in 1478. Monty Python taught us no one expected it. Mel Brooks turned it into a song. This dark humor worked to de-fang an institution associated with the worst impulses of religious intolerance and persecution. This course will look at the long history of the Spanish Inquisition on the Iberian peninsula and in the Americas to go beyond secret trails, torture, and autos-da-fe to understand why the Inquisition was established, its institutional role was in Spanish rule, and its legacies for the modern world.