

Spring 2023

History Graduate Course Descriptions

All courses in Dunford Hall 2604 except where indicated.

Subtitle	Course	Professor	Day & Time
Teaching World History	HIST 511	JP Dessel	T 4:05-7:05
The Profession of History	HIST 512	Luke Harlow	R 12:55-3:45
Hagiography and History	HIST 529	Felege-Selam Yirga	W 5:20-8:20
Readings in Modern European History	HIST 532	Vejas Liulevicius	T 12:55-3:45
History of Medicine	HIST 580	Susan Lawrence	M 12:40-3:50
Race and Empire in Modern European History	HIST 632	Margaret Andersen	F 9:10-12:10
Biography and Microhistory	HIST 642	Michael Woods	T 12:55-3:45

History 511: Teaching World History

Dr. Dessel

This course is designed to prepare graduate students to teach a course in world history. In this course, students will conceptualize world history and think about how to develop a coherent method of presentation of the topic.

History 512: The Profession of History

Dr. Harlow

This course prepares advanced Ph.D. students for professional careers in multiple fields of historical teaching, research, and public service. Half of the course will be devoted to training students in the most effective methods of teaching in colleges and universities, emphasizing lecture writing and delivery, discussion moderation, and syllabus construction. The other half of the course explores the professional circuits of publishing, conferences, grant-writing, peer-review, social media, and most importantly, the pursuit of employment both within and beyond academia.

History 529: Hagiography and History

Dr. Yirga

This course will consider the problems and possibilities of using hagiographies in historical research on the premodern world. The course will begin with the *Life of Antony*, considering as well as antecedents in ancient biographies and martyrdom accounts, and then progress to studies of hagiographies from throughout the Christian world through the late ancient and medieval period. Finally, we will turn to scholarship on the utility of hagiography for historical reconstruction in the various regions and periods that we examine, considering classic works by Delehaye, Patlagean, and Brown, among others.

History 532: Readings in Modern European History

Dr. Liulevicius

This graduate readings seminar surveys the rapidly growing historiography on Communism in Europe after the Second World War and after the death of Stalin in 1953. This was an era which saw the growth, decline, and then the seemingly sudden collapse of Communism's influence. Across Europe, Communism was variously a ruling

political system, or a key underground radical political movement, and an intellectual tradition with large cultural influence. Among a host of other themes, we will examine new works in the social, cultural, and political history of Eastern European regimes, trace Communism as an opposition movement during Franco's rule in Spain, the influence of Antonio Gramsci's ideas, and evaluate works that seek an answer to the problem of why Communism went into decline, leading to the fall of the Berlin Wall and the disintegration of the Soviet bloc and the USSR.

History 580: History of Medicine

Dr. Lawrence

This graduate readings course introduces students to the history of medicine as a historical field. Our readings range broadly across time and space. Almost all of the books chosen for discussion have won awards, many from the American Association for the History of Medicine, and so represent the best publications in this discipline over the past twenty years. A book list is available on request. Each student is expected to bring their own chronological, geographical, and thematic strengths in history to our discussions in order to explore how work in the history of medicine and health intersects with scholarly insights in other fields. Students will complete a historiographical paper on some aspect of the history of medicine and health that complements their area interests.

History 632: Race and Empire in Modern European History

Dr. Andersen

This research seminar is organized around the theme of race and empire in modern European history, broadly defined. Our common readings will introduce students to current research and methodological questions in this field. Students will identify a research topic that makes a significant contribution to this field of study. They will then research and write an article-length paper.

History 642: Biography and Microhistory

Dr. Woods

Small topics can illuminate big issues. In this research seminar, students working on all periods of US history will explore how biographical and microhistorical analysis can inform – even transform – broader questions and debates. The primary task is to conceptualize, research, draft, and revise an essay worthy of submission to an academic journal or presentation at a professional conference. In the first part of the course, students will survey varied approaches to biography and microhistory and examine how historians' methods have changed over time. Then, students will hone their skills in historical research and writing through a series of assignments that culminate in an article- or chapter-length research paper grounded in primary sources. Students are expected to read, digest, and actively discuss all assigned material; work independently on their research projects; and engage thoughtfully in peer review to help each other produce the best possible final papers. *Meets in Hoskins Library 215.*