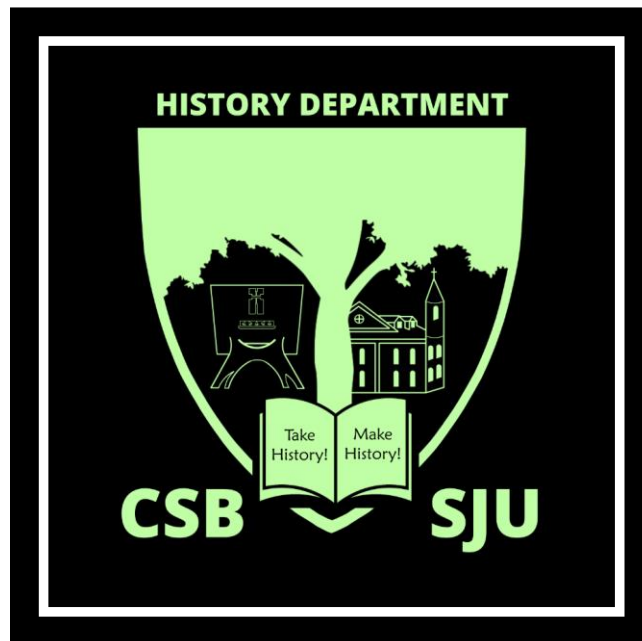


History Course Offerings Spring 2023



ASIA

HIST 115: The Truth About East Asia (HM, HE, TE1/2-Truth)

Dr. Elisheva Perelman, MWF 10:40am-1:35am, CSB

Why do we presume that East Asia is a monolith when so many of its component parts are at odds? This introductory course looks at the political, cultural, and social history of China, Japan, and the Koreas while analyzing our preconceptions about truth and history. Students will grapple with primary texts, literary works, films, and propaganda to see how narratives can change and shape international relations.



HIST 314: Missionary Positions: Christianity in East Asia (IC, TU, TI)

Dr. Elisheva Perelman, MWF 1:00pm-1:55pm, CSB

East Asia's unique application of Christian belief and ideology to its indigenous cultures and beliefs offer a fascinating complement and contrast to Christianity in other parts of the world and in various doctrine. This course will explore the theological and historical underpinnings of Christian practice and faith in China, Japan and the Korean peninsula in the modern period (1600 to present). This course is suitable for students of any major, including those who have not taken a previous history course.



LATIN AMERICA

HIST 323: Religion in Latin America (TU, TI, HM, IC)

Dr. Brian Larkin, TR, 1:05pm-2:25pm, CSB

The changing nature of religious cultures in Latin America from the pre-Columbian period to the present day. Includes the study of Indigenous religious practices the European “spiritual conquest” of the New World, the creation of syncretic forms of Catholicism, 19th-century conflicts between religion and secularism, the spread of Protestantism in the 20th century, and the advent and course of liberation theology in Latin America. Within a historical context, examines the role of religion in shaping sense of self, forms of community, and human interaction with the physical world.

This course is suitable for students of any major, including those who have not taken a previous history course.



UNITED STATES

HIST 152B: Liberty Empire & Faith (HM, CI)

Dr. Jonathan Merritt Nash, MWF 8:20am-9:15am, CSB

What is the American Experience? This question drives our exploration of the North American past from the early seventeenth century to the mid-nineteenth century. The historical themes of violence, empire, liberty, and faith guide our study. To help us understand these themes and the experiences of Americans, we will read and discuss historical monographs and primary documents. During the semester, students will have opportunities to strengthen their analytical reading, critical thinking, argumentative writing, and public speaking.

HIST 153: Growing Up in US History (CI, GE, IC)

Dr. Shannon Smith, MWF 9:30am-10:25am, CSB

This course explores the historical experience of growing up in the United States through the intersection of race and gender. We will analyze the ways that childhood, adolescence, and young adulthood have been constructed, the social and cultural institutions which shape the range of experiences, and the factors that influence individual identities. We will answer such questions as: How do a range of femininities, masculinities, and other gender expectations impact us as we grow to be adults? How and why have the concepts of “race” and “gender” developed, and how do those ideas differ by class, sexual identity, religion, region, education, and other cultural and social markers? How have the life stages of childhood and adolescence been commodified over time—through advertising, film and television, celebrity culture, novels, magazines, music, and social media—and how have young people responded by creating their own youth culture and attempting to change social expectations?



UNITED STATES cont'd

HIST 353: Civil War and Reconstruction in American Culture (ES, CS)

Dr. Shannon Smith, MWF 11:50am-12:45pm, CSB

This course will explore the causes of the American Civil War, the experiences of war for Union and Confederate soldiers, free and enslaved African Americans, and women at home, and the varied meanings and results of Reconstruction. This course will help explain many of the ongoing challenges in American society, including battles over race, gender, state and individual rights, region, and memory. Using primary sources, scholarly articles, films, novels, and images, we will consider why the Civil War continues to evoke an emotional response today. Although topics will include some military history, the course will focus primarily on the cultural, social, and political ramifications of events. This course is suitable for students of any major, including those who have not taken a previous history course.



EUROPE

HIST 142A: Old Regime to EU (HM, HE, TE1/2-Justice)

Dr. Gregory Schroeder, MWF 11:50am-12:45pm, CSB

This course examines major themes in European history since roughly 1750. Students will study the French Revolution and its legacy; the significance of class, gender, and religion for European society; nationalism and identity; world wars in the 20th century; imperialism and its aftermath; and the European Union.



HIST 328: Missionaries & Empire (TU, TI, GE)

Dr. Brittany Merritt Nash, TR 11:30am-12:50pm, CSB

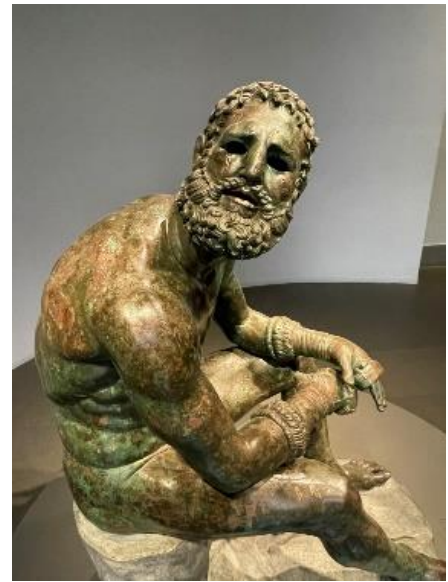
This course focuses on the relationship between missionaries and imperialism, focusing specifically on medical missionaries in Africa. Scholars have long debated the complicated relationship between missionaries and imperialism. Has the mission field been a place that aids imperial conquest, or one that resists it? What happens to religious belief in sites of colonial contact? In this course, we will explore these and other questions about the history of Christian missions, the history of medicine, and imperialism in Africa, including the effects of evangelism on anticolonial resistance movements and ideas of health and the body. This course is suitable for students of any major, including those who have not taken a previous history course.



HIST 330: Parties and Wars: Greece in the Classical Period (HE, HM, TE-Movement)

Dr. Jason Schlude, TR, 12:45pm-2:05pm, SJU

The Classical Period in Greece (c. 480-323 BCE) is a cornerstone for western history, and its legacy very much extends into our modern world. In this course, we will concentrate on investigating Greek society and culture at this vibrant time. In particular, we will explore the complexities of Greek identity, broadly defined. At the heart of this course will be the contention that identity was (and is) not a fixed and immutable concept. Rather Greeks constructed and negotiated key elements of their identity as part of a dynamic social process. With this in mind, this course will focus on evidence that illustrates how Greek identity was articulated and debated in a social context in general and in certain social spaces in particular. Such “spaces” of interest will include political debates, battlefields, theatrical productions of tragedies and comedies, funerals, philosophical dialogues, legal trials, drinking parties, and athletic events. In considering how Greek identity was worked out in various ways in these different social contexts, we will learn about a wide range of Greek social and cultural practices related to government, ethnicity, the military, family, gender, religion, death, humor, intellectualism, the body, and education. Humans today are social animals, and the ancient Greeks were no different. Appreciation of the Greeks’ intensely social orientation will lead us to new insights about them – and ourselves. This course is suitable for students of any major, including those who have not taken a previous history course.



HIST 337: The Age of Reformation (HM, TI, TU)

Dr. Elisabeth Wengler, TR 1:05pm-2:25pm, CSB

In the 16th and 17th centuries, Western Christianity was splintered by a religious revolution. This was not simply a revolution made by theologians; everyone from commoners to elites participated. Students will investigate the far-reaching impact of the Reformation by analyzing the circumstances that led to it, the revolutionary ideas that characterized it, and the agency of theologians, political leaders and ordinary people in its creation and establishment in Europe and in the “New World.” Through historical role-playing games, students will get inside the heads of early modern Europeans to understand how religion and religious identity intersected with politics, family, friendship, economics and finance, culture, immigration etc. This course is suitable for students of any major, including those who have not taken a previous history course.



HIST 349: Russia: Power, Resistance and Revolution (HE, HM, TE3-Truth)

Dr. Gregory Schroeder, MWF 9:30am-10:25am, CSB

This course examines the history of Russia from the 19th century to the present, that is, the imperial, Soviet, and post-Soviet eras. Throughout this period of intense social, political, and economic transition, fundamental questions have persisted: Is Russia part of or separate from the West? Will Russia be governed by traditional forms or power, or is reform possible? What role have resistance and revolution played in the evolving Russian experience? Topics of study may include the rule of the Romanov tsars, Russia revolutionaries, the revolutions of 1905 and 1917, the creation of the Soviet state under Lenin and Stalin, the gulag system, the Great Patriotic War (WWII), the struggle between reformer and hardliners after Stalin, the role of dissidents and protest, the collapse of the Soviet Union, the rise of Vladimir Putin, and the Russia-Ukraine crises in the post-Soviet era.



GLOBAL

HIST 278B: 20th Century World Environmental History (HE, HM, TF - Movement)

Dr. Derek Larson, MWF 10:20am-11:15am, SJU

This course explores the history of the 20th century world through an environmental lens, emphasizing relationships between humans and the natural world, the impacts of social/political/economic systems on nature, and the evolving use of natural resources in human societies. Movements of people, raw materials, capital, manufactured goods, and living material between ecosystems receive particular attention. The impacts of human action on the natural world, including resource extraction, large-scale construction, agriculture, transportation of species between ecosystems, warfare, migration, and the generation of pollutants will be followed through the century on scales ranging from regional to global. Students will develop an understanding of how humans have shaped the environments they inhabit both directly and indirectly, how nature influences culture over time, and how the environmental crises of the 21st century are rooted in historical events, decisions, and actions. The skills of historical analysis and argumentation will be practiced throughout the course as well.



HIST 279E: Global Health (HE, HM, TF- Truth)

Dr. Brittany Merritt Nash, MW (flex) 2:10pm-3:30pm, CSB

This course explores global health from a historical perspective. It examines global health challenges within a larger historical, cultural, political, and economic framework. This course will cover a wide range of health challenges from a variety of cultural and geographic contexts. We will examine a number of diseases – both infectious and noncommunicable – through case studies in different parts of the world. Topics include gender inequality, maternal and child health, humanitarian aid, and the bioethics of global health practices. The course emphasizes the numerous political, economic, structural and cultural forces that lead to the unequal distribution of disease globally.



GLOBAL cont'd

HIST 355: Slavery in the Atlantic World (ES, CS, QR)

Dr. Jonathan Merritt Nash, MWF 10:40am-11:35am, CSB

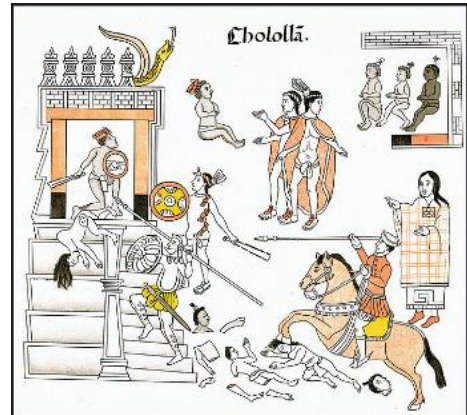
This course introduces students to Atlantic History, one of the most exciting fields of recent historical scholarship. When historians speak of an Atlantic World, they refer to the convergence of people, commodities, ideas and cultures from Europe, Africa, and the Americas in the three centuries after Christopher Columbus's initial 1492 voyage to the Americas. We will begin by exploring the methods of Atlantic historians and conclude by reflecting on the use of the "Atlantic World" as a historical concept. In between, we will study the meetings and migrations of Europeans, Americans, and Africans; transatlantic exchanges of commodities and cultures; how slave traders attempted to transform captured Africans into commodities; how enslaved people asserted their humanity; and revolutionary upheavals. While encountering the histories of the Atlantic World, students will have opportunities to strengthen their analytical reading, historical thinking, argumentative writing, and public speaking. This course is suitable for students of any major, including those who have not taken a previous history course.

MAJORS' COURSES

HIST 295E: Inventing the Conquest of Mexico (HM, HE, TE1/2-Truth)

Dr. Brian Larkin, TR 9:55am-11:15am, CSB

Students will examine the Spanish conquest of the Aztec Empire from 1517-1521 from multiple perspectives to develop a deeper understanding of the historian's craft. Texts will include firsthand accounts of the conquest by Hernán Cortés, the captain of the intrepid band of Spanish adventurers, by Bernal Díaz, a foot soldier in Cortés' army, and by anonymous Aztec Indians who lived through the fall of their empire. Students will also read later historians' interpretations of the conquest and its consequences for Mexico. Offered for A-F grading only.



HIST 395F: War Games: Remembering and Revising the Pacific War (HE, TE3-Truth)

Dr. Elisheva Perelman, MW (Flex) 2:10pm-3:30pm, CSB

This class is designed to introduce and hone advanced skills of historical analysis. We will focus our reading, writing, and discussion this semester on the concept of historiography. The term has several interconnected meanings: the philosophy of historical analysis, the study of the history of historical analysis, and the changing ways historians have written about a particular topic over time. We will explore these three meanings of historiography as we read about, write about, and discuss how historians have interpreted and debated Japanese involvement in the Second Sino-Japanese War, World War II, and its aftermath. Offered for A-F grading only.



HIST 399: Senior Thesis (CAPS, EL)

Dr. Shannon Smith, MW (Flex) 2:10pm-3:30pm, CSB

This course is the capstone for the major. Students develop independent projects in collaboration with History faculty and write substantial research papers based upon primary and secondary sources. Students give formal oral presentations of their research. This course draws upon and synthesizes the skills developed in HIST 200 and 395. Prerequisite: 395. Offered for A-F grading only.