

Dear Students,

Attached are flyers describing most of the capstone history courses offered in fall 2015.

New Capstone Seminar
HIST 4336
History of Histories
(Capstone)

Associate Professor, José Angel Hernández
Fall 2015

Tuesday & Thursdays: 2:30-4:00 p.m.



*Mayan
Scribes
Writing
Histories*

COURSE OVERVIEW: THIS SEMINAR STYLED CAPSTONE COURSE IS DESIGNED TO ACCOMPLISH THREE GOALS: HAVE STUDENTS WRITE AND PRESENT AN EXTENSIVE RESEARCH PAPER ON ANY HISTORIOGRAPHICAL TOPIC OF THEIR CHOICE; INTRODUCE STUDENTS TO A WIDE RANGE OF HISTORICAL METHODS, APPROACHES, AND TOPICS TO BE RESEARCHED; AND TO ATTEMPT TO UNDERSTAND WHY HISTORICAL INTERPRETATIONS CONSTANTLY CHANGE OVER TIME AND WHAT ACCOUNTS FOR THESE DIFFERING INTERPRETATIONS, ASSUMPTIONS, CONTRADICTIONS, AND ONGOING DEBATES WITHIN THE FIELD.

How did a nation valuing hierarchy and order come to cut off the head of one king and depose another?

In HIST 4347, we'll trace the roads to revolution and the forces of order and disorder that changed England forever and helped launch the American experiment.

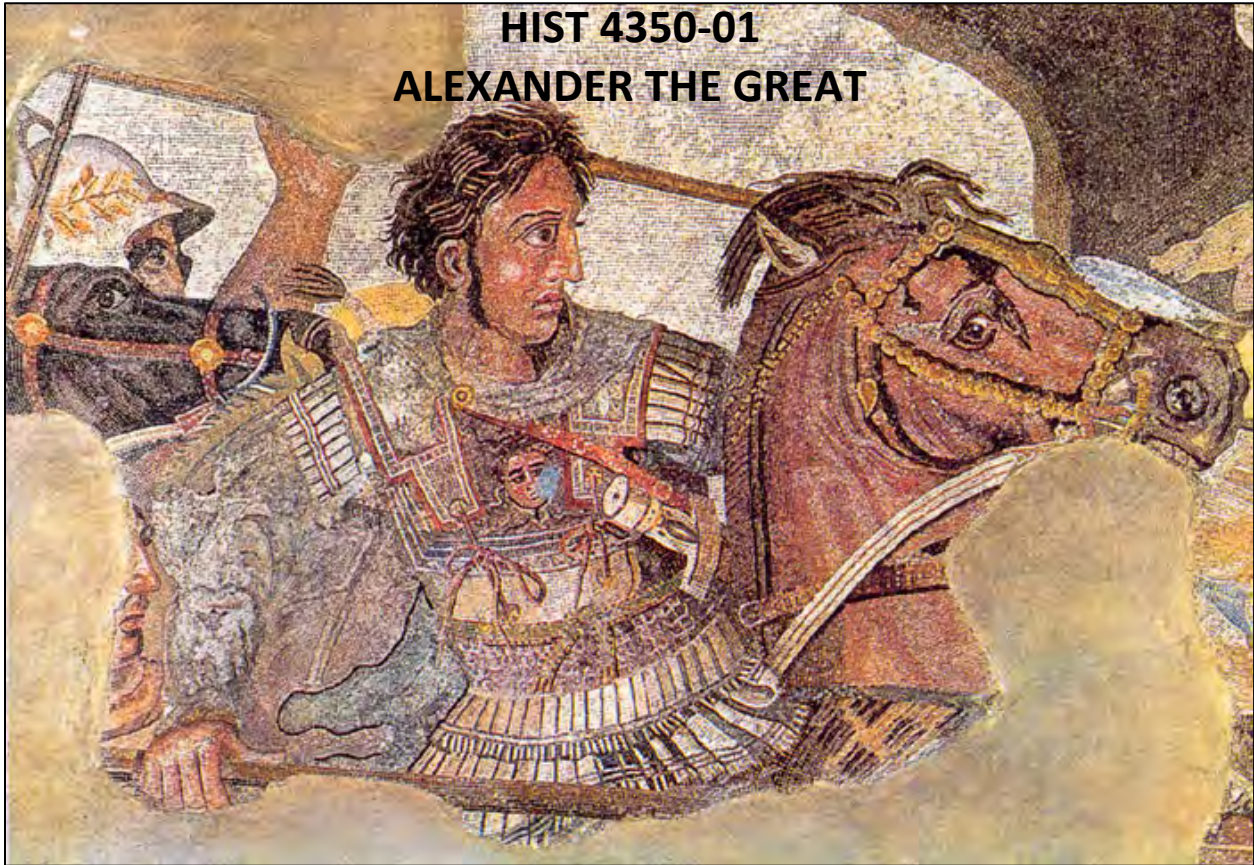
History 4347
Stuart England, 1603-1714
MW 2:30-4 p.m., Prof. Catherine Patterson



The seventeenth century saw the growth of England as a maritime and colonial power, the development of new fault lines in religion, the rise of new ideas about who had—or who should have—governing power, and the outbreak of two ‘revolutions’. This class examines the major themes and events in British history during this dramatic period, including the powers and pitfalls of monarchy, the causes of the English Revolution, and the development of a constitutional monarchy and the "modern" state. Students will develop skills in reading and analyzing primary documents from the 17th century and assessing the historical arguments made by modern historians. Discussion will form a major component of the class; written work will include short writing assignments and a longer paper based on research.

Fulfills the capstone requirement for History Majors

HIST 4350-01
ALEXANDER THE GREAT



Tu 1:00PM-4:00PM, AH 549

Frank L. Holt, Ph.D.

In this capstone course, we will explore the life and legend of the renowned Macedonian king shown in the mosaic above, riding to victory over the armies of the mighty Persian Empire. Before he was thirty years old, still too young to be a US Senator, Alexander already ruled the lands of twenty modern nations, including Greece, Turkey, Syria, Israel, Egypt, Iraq, Iran, Afghanistan, and Pakistan. His wealth was so great that a contemporary mason would have to lay bricks non-stop for 60,000 years just to equal Alexander's earnings from war. Who was this rich and powerful man who outshines all other military geniuses of world history, including Caesar and Napoleon? What was he trying to accomplish, and did he succeed? Was he an idealistic dreamer or a demented murderer? Did he think he was a god? Answers will come by reading and discussing ancient texts, by sifting through coins, tombs, and other artifacts, and by sampling interpretations embedded across the ages in art, literature, and even modern movies and advertising campaigns. Alexander has been called the most important figure in human history. This course will allow students to decide for themselves if this is true.



Hist4384: East Asian Women in Historical and Cross-Cultural Perspective

Wed./2:30-5:30pm/520AH

Xiaoping Cong, Ph.D.

This upper-division undergraduate research seminar provides historical and contemporary perspectives on East Asian women in their home countries and in the United States. One of the purposes of this course is to expose students to diverse historical and anthropological topics concerning East Asian women. This course also introduces theoretical debates on gender, colonialism, and post-colonialism, for the development of students' critical thinking. By studying theories as well as examining historical and ethnographic sources, students will explore how power works in each locality and on the worldwide scale as related to a particular political economy pertaining to each historical period. Moreover, the course intends to help students develop multi-cultural perspectives by comparing and contrasting gender issues which have emerged in different economic, social, and cultural environments. At the same time, the course is also community-oriented that requires students look into the experience of East Asian women in Houston area through conducting interviews and examining archival documents. The final research paper should be the combination of both theoretical examination and the case study.