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Core American History Requirement
# Language, Philosophy, and Culture Classes

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History 2311

Western Civilization to 1450

Prof. Catherine Patterson
cpatters@uh.edu

TTh, 11:30 a.m. – 1:00 p.m.

From the Code of Hammurabi in ancient Mesopotamia to the printing press in the heart of Europe, civilization in the west has communicated ideas of law and government, society and culture, values and beliefs in ways that have helped shape our world. In HIST 2311, explore the origins and early development of western society, its attainments and its tragedies, from the ancient Fertile Crescent to the European Renaissance, while developing your skills in critical thinking, communication, and writing.

This course fulfills the UH Core Language, Philosophy, and Culture (LPC) requirement and 3 hours of the civilizations survey requirement for history majors.
This course will examine global history from 1500 to the present. It will survey how the globe became connected or ‘global’ at an accelerated pace from the sixteenth century and how this globalization transformed societies. It will examine how historians have debated imperialism, colonialism, and globalization and challenges to these trends within differing societies. Key themes will include migration, trade, imperialism, war, race and caste hierarchies, industrial societies and transformations in ecologies, and societies after global capitalism in the European, Atlantic, and the Indian Ocean worlds.

History 2314

Global Civilization since 1500

Professor N. L. A. Gharala

nlgharala@uh.edu

Mondays and Wednesdays 10:00AM - 11:00AM in AH208, Hyflex

This course provides a global overview of the interactions among selected cultural traditions beginning around 1500 CE. Students will gain knowledge of how these traditions coalesced and influenced each other, using primary sources from around the world. Key themes will include human migration, trade, colonialism, social movements, and the exchange of ideas. While the rise and fall of empires will structure part of the content, this course explores the dynamics of a wide range of societies and polities. This is a Hyflex course. There will be scheduled class meetings for lectures and discussion, as well as online instruction and independent coursework outside of class. 3 credit hours. Core Language, Philosophy & Culture.

Panels of a Namban screen showing Portuguese ships arriving at a port in Japan. Attributed to Kanō Naizen (1570-1616) and held in the Kobe City Museum.
This course examines the emergence of several major civilizations in the ancient world, beginning with the dawn of cities in Mesopotamia and ending with the fall of Rome. Our major focus will be on the Mediterranean and the Near East, but we will keep an eye on other ancient contemporary world civilizations and how they compare. You will not only learn the outline of each civilization’s rise and fall but will also explore both the writings and the artifacts each civilization left behind through our primary source analysis. We will look at the influence each of these cultures continues to have on our modern world by tracing their contributions to political structures, religion, and culture. By the end of this course, you will have the tools to:

• define and discuss the different civilizations of the ancient world.

• analyze ancient texts and artifacts regarding their content and context.

• evaluate the legacy of the ancient world in modern society.
This course surveys the history of the Islamic world after the Mongol sack of Baghdad in 1258 through the eighteenth century. This period is essential to understand and analyze the contribution of this civilization to the world heritage. The Mongol sack of Baghdad transformed the political, cultural, and social outlook of the entire Muslim commonwealth. Yet most Muslim societies survived the devastation and in fact underwent a new age of political growth, cultural and artistic vibrancy, and economic power (if not superiority). While the borders of the Muslim commonwealth shrank with the loss of the Iberian Peninsula, the subsequent rise of new Muslim empires from the Balkans to the Indian subcontinent began the age of so-called “Gunpowder” empires. This course questions the common declinist approach placing the beginning of a general decay for Muslim societies during the second half of the sixteenth century. Muslim societies also responded to eighteenth-century European expansion, colonization, and economic penetration with a vigorous reform agenda. It ends at the turn of the nineteenth-century with the rise of nationalism and nation states, new ideologies that drastically influenced the region’s cultural and political dynamics. Despite its title combining various societies and states under the general title of Islamic history, the course also emphasizes the diversity and substantial cultural differences between religiously, ethnically, and linguistically diverse Muslim and non-Muslim communities who shared the same region. The main themes that will be revisited in this course are empires, sovereignty, and slavery.
This introductory course on African Studies reflects on the social, cultural, political and economic diversity of the African continent. It introduces students to major currents in African Studies through an interdisciplinary lens. By engaging disciplines such as history, politics, and economies alongside studies on culture, gender, and religion students gain a wider perspective on Africa and its people. This study will equip students with foundational tools to navigate more complex issues in an increasingly global world that range from international politics to artistic production. Additionally, it exposes students to the history of the field formation to contextualize dominant western narratives about the African continent. Its aim is to prepare students to critically engage Africa and some of the most pressing concerns facing Africa(ns) at home or abroad.

Questions?
Email: Dr. Tshepo Masango Chéry
tmchery@uh.edu
# Writing in the Discipline Classes

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Historians tell stories about the past. To do that, they need witnesses, records, archives, and the ability to weave together a compelling narrative. Most important, they need creativity and historical imagination. This course explores the craft of historical research, the tools of the historian’s trade, and fascinating historical representations of people and events in books, film, murals, and music. We will look at public and community-based history as well as scholarly research, thinking about the social responsibilities of the historian. While developing critical research skills, we will also spend time discussing whose stories tend to get told and how we might make history more accountable to all groups in our society.

A mural in Galveston, Texas tells the story of Juneteenth 1865. Created by the Juneteenth Legacy Project, a community group, the mural offers the public a radically new perspective on a major historical event.
This is the second of a two-part course series that examines the historical development of the ethnic Mexican community within the context of United States history. More specifically, this course addresses the major social, economic, political, and cultural trends and issues in this group’s development during the entire span of the 20th century.
History 3351: Work and Family Life in Modern Europe

Tuesday-Thursday 1:00-2:30

108 AH

Dr. Sarah Fishman/Dr. Karl Ittmann

Core Credit: Writing in the Discipline (WID)

This class explores how families lived and worked from the Industrial Revolution through the 1960s. What impact did factories have on men, women and children? How did they fight back? What was it like to live through two World Wars in thirty years? Why did the postwar welfare state, baby boom and consumerism result in a generation gap, feminism and the Sexual Revolution of the 1960s?
History 3369

Colonial Mexico

Professor N. L. A. Gharala

nlgharala@uh.edu

Asynchronous Online

This upper-division course follows the evolution of Mexican society from the Spanish conquest in 1521 until the wars for independence of 1810. Central themes include labor, law, gender, race, and religion. Students will use primary and secondary sources from the course to write a final paper. We will study the centrality of colonial Mexico for global economies and imperial finance. This course stresses the power of the colonial Mexican treasury and its reliance on the labor of Afrodescendant and Indigenous people. This is an asynchronous course. There is no scheduled meeting time, but there are assignments and tests with due dates. 3 credit hours. Writing in the Disciplines.

Folding Screen with Indian Wedding and Flying Pole (Biombo con desposorio indígena y palo volador) made by an anonymous artist around 1690. Now held in the Los Angeles County Museum of Art
# Capstone Classes

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History 4348

Society and Culture in Early Modern England, 1500-1700

Prof. Catherine Patterson

2:30-5:30 p.m

Divided values. Changing cultural norms. Growing economic gap between rich and poor.

This may sound like today, but it describes the society that gave rise to people like William Shakespeare, Queen Elizabeth I, and Isaac Newton.

England in Shakespeare’s time experienced religious and cultural divides unleashed by the Protestant Reformation as well as social and economic stresses brought on by commercial growth and an increasingly mobile population. Learn about how these changes affected individuals and families as well as the English nation as a whole, and about the foundational impact they had on the early origins of our own country, as English ways moved across oceans. The seminar-style course will cover topics like birth, marriage, and death; sexuality, gender, and patriarchy; popular culture and elite culture; magic and witchcraft; religion and society; crime, law, and order; and economic change and commercial growth. It will also focus on advancing students’ skills in critically reading and analyzing primary documents, assessing historical arguments made by modern historians, conducting historical research, and writing. Coursework includes weekly discussion of readings, tutorials on the research and writing process, short writing assignments, and a substantial research paper.

This is a capstone course, fulfilling the capstone requirement for History Majors
CAPSTONE IN US HISTORY

SUBJ: WOMEN IN THE CIVIL RIGHTS MOVEMENT

Course Description: People of African descent in America experienced a long history of fighting for freedom. Due to that long history we must think of the freedom struggle of the twentieth century as the Modern-Day Civil Rights Movement. Women, like men, participated fully in this freedom struggle, and African American women had the support of women and men of other ethnicities. This course is designed to draw attention to the lives of women and the specific role/roles that they played in the Modern-Day Civil Rights Movement.

The Modern-Day Civil Rights Movement of the twentieth century, sometimes referred to as the Second Reconstruction, addressed issues that Radical Republicans attempted to accomplish for African Americans to gain first-class citizenship after the Civil War. For instance, the Civil Rights Act of 1964 may not have been necessary if America had abided by the Civil Rights Act of 1875. Furthermore, African Americans and their allies worked diligently to eliminate the devastating impact of *Plessy v. Ferguson* of 1896. The 1954 *Brown* decision marked a historical turning point in school desegregation and illustrated the life’s work of Charles Hamilton Houston’s deliberate efforts to recruit and train at Howard University a force of attorneys for the Modern-Day Civil Rights Movement. Thus, Thurgood Marshall argued against segregated public schools before the Supreme Court in a summary of cases with others from the 1940s. A woman, Constance Baker Motley, clerked for Thurgood Marshall and became a noted figure in the struggle. This is only one example.

This capstone course is designed to help students learn more about the civil rights movement of the twentieth century, and it is also a course for students to learn and apply the fundamentals of research and writing history.

Learning Outcomes:

❖ Students will attain, through lectures, class discussions, readings, and audio-visual material, and demonstrate, through assignments and a lengthy research paper, knowledge of the historical significance of women and their allies to the Modern-Day Civil Rights Movement and the placement of that struggle in the context of the American historical experience.

❖ Class discussions of primary sources and secondary works of history will help students to read and to think critically. Several award-winning publications included in the syllabus will inspire students in their writing. Audio-visual material will reinforce assistance with development of critical thinking.

❖ Writing assignments will enable students to improve the process of critical analyses and writing skills.

Required Texts: Students will read and be guided by material from the following books:


Hist 4387
Capstone in Latin American History
“Caribbean Emigration and Labor in the Twentieth Century”
Dr. Philip Howard
TTH 2:30-4:00 pm

One of the most important characteristics of the people of the Caribbean has been the desire to leave their homes to move outside and within the Caribbean to seek better lives for themselves and for their families in another country. This course examines the socioeconomic, political and cultural experiences of Caribbean immigrants and laborers from the middle of the nineteenth century to the present. The course will explore those social and economic variables that encouraged people from the Anglophone, Francophone, and Spanish Caribbean to leave home for West Africa, England, France, the United States, as well as to other Caribbean and Latin American countries. We will examine their lives as immigrant workers in their new countries. This course fulfills the capstone requirement for History majors.
Capstone in Public History  
Writing & Editing for a History Magazine  
HIST 4390-1 (23399)  

Hyflex, Meet MW 11:00-12:00, AH 205

This class offers students the opportunity to:

- Become a published author
- Learn to write history for a popular audience, conduct research, edit copy, select images, and write photo captions
- Work as part of an editorial board to create an issue of Houston History magazine, moving from story formation to final preparations for publication

Counts Toward Capstone Requirement and Creative Work Minor

In 2026, Houston’s East End will mark two important milestones: the bicentennial of Harrisburg’s founding and the centennial of Milby High School. Although both are integral to our region, they remain largely absent from the historical record. Harrisburg predates Houston and may have superseded it if not for a twist of fate. It sits on the Houston Ship Channel, which is the heart of Houston’s economy. Milby opened as a segregated white school during a period of explosive population growth, but the community’s demographics have changed dramatically since then. You will uncover and preserve this history through your writing.  
Prerequisite ENGL 1302, Junior standing or higher.

For information contact: Dr. Debbie Z. Harwell, dzharwel@central.uh.edu
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Discover the Wonders of Ancient Africa!
Understand Africa’s Role in the Ancient World!
Be amazed, be enlightened!

HIST 2366: African Civilizations to 1750
Spring 2024
Tu/Th 11:30-1:00
Dr. Kairn A. Klieman
This introductory course on African Studies reflects on the social, cultural, political and economic diversity of the African continent. It introduces students to major currents in African Studies through an interdisciplinary lens. By engaging disciplines such as history, politics, and economies alongside studies on culture, gender, and religion students gain a wider perspective on Africa and its people. This study will equip students with foundational tools to navigate more complex issues in an increasingly global world that range from international politics to artistic production. Additionally, it exposes students to the history of the field formation to contextualize dominant western narratives about the African continent. Its aim is to prepare students to critically engage Africa and some of the most pressing concerns facing Africa(ns) at home or abroad.

Questions?
Email: Dr. Tshepo Masango Chéry
tmchery@uh.edu
HIST 3397 Selected Topics
African Women and Politics
MW 11-12pm

Tee Jones, “Our Voices Lifted”

The course will explore the strategies women used to obtain and exercise power as economic actors and political arbiters during the past century. In this class, we will examine the ways African women imagined and enacted freedom alongside their male counterparts in different contexts that have lasting implications for the contemporary state and civil society across the continent. This course challenges political histories that interrogate how African women contested as well as transformed gendered metanarratives that privileged male historical actors amid African colonialism well into the independence era.

Questions?
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tmchery@uh.edu
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This course surveys the history of the Islamic world after the Mongol sack of Baghdad in 1258 through the eighteenth century. This period is essential to understand and analyze the contribution of this civilization to the world heritage. The Mongol sack of Baghdad transformed the political, cultural, and social outlook of the entire Muslim commonwealth. Yet most Muslim societies survived the devastation and in fact underwent a new age of political growth, cultural and artistic vibrancy, and economic power (if not superiority). While the borders of the Muslim commonwealth shrank with the loss of the Iberian Peninsula, the subsequent rise of new Muslim empires from the Balkans to the Indian subcontinent began the age of so-called “Gunpowder” empires. This course questions the common declinist approach placing the beginning of a general decay for Muslim societies during the second half of the sixteenth century. Muslim societies also responded to eighteenth-century European expansion, colonialization, and economic penetration with a vigorous reform agenda. It ends at the turn of the nineteenth-century with the rise of nationalism and nation states, new ideologies that drastically influenced the region’s cultural and political dynamics. Despite its title combining various societies and states under the general title of Islamic history, the course also emphasizes the diversity and substantial cultural differences between religiously, ethnically, and linguistically diverse Muslim and non-Muslim communities who shared the same region. The main themes that will be revisited in this course are empires, sovereignty, and slavery.
History 3367

Japan Since 1600

Spring 2024

xcong@uh.edu

Mon. & Wed. 4:00-5:30pm
Course Location: Online or TBA

This is a survey course on the general history of modern Japan. The course will begin with Japan from the Tokugawa period and Meiji Reformation, and then continue to analyze Japan in WWII and the postwar period up to the present. The emphasis of the course will be on the major political, social, and economic transformations of the time. It reviews the cultural changes in an age when Japan faced challenges from the West and examines Japan's rise in militarism and the country's major transformation in the postwar period. It also examines the remaining issues of the war and the political and economic challenges Japan faces in contemporary times. The course is a combination of lectures, slid-shows, films, readings, discussions, and student presentations. No language prerequisite.
History 3389

China Since 1600

Spring 2024

xcong@uh.edu

Mon. & Wed. 1:00-2:30pm
Course Location: Online or TBA

This is one section of a survey course on the general history of modern East Asia and Chinese history. The course mainly covers China from about 1600 CE to the present. It introduces the early-modern times of the country with an emphasis on the major political, social, and economic transformations of the time. It also reviews the cultural changes in an age when China faced challenges from the West. The course will be a combination of lectures, slides show, films, readings, discussions, and student presentations. No language prerequisite.
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History 2311
Western Civilization to 1450
Prof. Catherine Patterson
cpatters@uh.edu
TTh, 11:30 a.m. – 1:00 p.m.

From the Code of Hammurabi in ancient Mesopotamia to the printing press in the heart of Europe, civilization in the west has communicated ideas of law and government, society and culture, values and beliefs in ways that have helped shape our world. In HIST 2311, explore the origins and early development of western society, its attainments and its tragedies, from the ancient Fertile Crescent to the European Renaissance, while developing your skills in critical thinking, communication, and writing.

This course fulfills the UH Core Language, Philosophy, and Culture (LPC) requirement and 3 hours of the civilizations survey requirement for history majors.
This course examines the emergence of several major civilizations in the ancient world, beginning with the dawn of cities in Mesopotamia and ending with the fall of Rome. Our major focus will be on the Mediterranean and the Near East, but we will keep an eye on other ancient contemporary world civilizations and how they compare. You will not only learn the outline of each civilization’s rise and fall but will also explore both the writings and the artifacts each civilization left behind through our primary source analysis. We will look at the influence each of these cultures continues to have on our modern world by tracing their contributions to political structures, religion, and culture. By the end of this course, you will have the tools to:

• define and discuss the different civilizations of the ancient world.

• analyze ancient texts and artifacts regarding their content and context.

• evaluate the legacy of the ancient world in modern society.
History 3351: Work and Family Life in Modern Europe

Tuesday-Thursday 1:00-2:30

108 AH

Dr. Sarah Fishman/Dr. Karl Ittmann

Core Credit: Writing in the Discipline (WID)

This class explores how families lived and worked from the Industrial Revolution through the 1960s. What impact did factories have on men, women and children? How did they fight back? What was it like to live through two World Wars in thirty years? Why did the postwar welfare state, baby boom and consumerism result in a generation gap, feminism and the Sexual Revolution of the 1960s?
Spring 2024  Mo/We 10–11.30 am  Dr. Alexey Golubev

HIST 3362  THE SOVIET UNION

Alexander Rodchenko. Swordswomen at a sports parade in Moscow's Red Square, 1936.
History 4348

Society and Culture in Early Modern England, 1500-1700

Prof. Catherine Patterson

2:30-5:30 p.m

Divided values. Changing cultural norms. Growing economic gap between rich and poor.

This may sound like today, but it describes the society that gave rise to people like William Shakespeare, Queen Elizabeth I, and Isaac Newton.

England in Shakespeare’s time experienced religious and cultural divides unleashed by the Protestant Reformation as well as social and economic stresses brought on by commercial growth and an increasingly mobile population. Learn about how these changes affected individuals and families as well as the English nation as a whole, and about the foundational impact they had on the early origins of our own country, as English ways moved across oceans. The seminar-style course will cover topics like birth, marriage, and death; sexuality, gender, and patriarchy; popular culture and elite culture; magic and witchcraft; religion and society; crime, law, and order; and economic change and commercial growth. It will also focus on advancing students’ skills in critically reading and analyzing primary documents, assessing historical arguments made by modern historians, conducting historical research, and writing. Coursework includes weekly discussion of readings, tutorials on the research and writing process, short writing assignments, and a substantial research paper.

This is a capstone course, fulfilling the capstone requirement for History Majors
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HIST 2314 Global Civilization Since 1500

This course will examine global history from 1500 to the present. It will survey how the globe became connected or ‘global’ at an accelerated pace from the sixteenth century and how this globalization transformed societies. It will examine how historians have debated imperialism, colonialism, and globalization and challenges to these trends within differing societies. Key themes will include migration, trade, imperialism, war, race and caste hierarchies, industrial societies and transformations in ecologies, and societies after global capitalism in the European, Atlantic, and the Indian Ocean worlds.

[Image: Frederik De Wit’s 1654 *Dutch Sea Atlas*. Image courtesy of the Harvard Map Collection]
History 2314

Global Civilization since 1500

Professor N. L. A. Gharala

nlgharala@uh.edu

Mondays and Wednesdays 10:00AM - 11:00AM in AH208, Hyflex

This course provides a global overview of the interactions among selected cultural traditions beginning around 1500 CE. Students will gain knowledge of how these traditions coalesced and influenced each other, using primary sources from around the world. Key themes will include human migration, trade, colonialism, social movements, and the exchange of ideas. While the rise and fall of empires will structure part of the content, this course explores the dynamics of a wide range of societies and polities. This is a Hyflex course. There will be scheduled class meetings for lectures and discussion, as well as online instruction and independent coursework outside of class. 3 credit hours. Core Language, Philosophy & Culture.

Panels of a Namban screen showing Portuguese ships arriving at a port in Japan. Attributed to Kanô Naizen (1570-1616) and held in the Kobe City Museum.
History 3319-01

“Plagues and Pestilence: Epidemics in World History”

Professor James A. Schafer, Jr.
jschafer@uh.edu

Spring 2024, Mondays and Wednesdays, 10:00-11:30 a.m.
Agnes Arnold Hall Room 302 (AH 302)

In this course, we examine the causes and effects of a variety of epidemics in human history, from the Plague of Athens in Ancient Greece, to the Black Death in late medieval Europe, to smallpox in the colonial Americas, to HIV/AIDS in the Global South, to emerging epidemics of the last several decades. The course covers several themes: the biology of pathogens and their vectors and hosts; the demographic effects of major epidemics; the intellectual development of public health and epidemiology; the social, political, and economic factors that predispose certain groups to fall prey to epidemic disease and the consequences of epidemics for social structures, political systems, and economic growth; and the cultural representation of epidemics. This course emphasizes longitudinal change in human history, but uses specific examples from different periods and places as case studies of broader historical phenomena.

Title artwork from Thomas Dekker, A Rod for Run-awayes, a London pamphlet published in 1625, a plague year.
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HIST 2367: History of Mexico
Spring 2024

Mondays and Wednesdays: 4-5:30
Agnes Arnold Hall, 304

- Course Description: The purpose of this course is to survey the history of Mexico by examining the history, culture, sociology, ethnography, and major historical events of that country. Opposing viewpoints and historiographical debates will set the tone for most of our discussions and a number of themes will guide our semester together include the centrality of Indigenous peoples in the history of Mexico; Indigenous colonization before and after 1519; questioning narratives of conquest; and also historiographical interpretations of the past by both insiders and outsiders; and the processes and problems of nation-building.
This course is designed to introduce students to Caribbean history with the use of documentaries and film from the Anglophone, Francophone, and the Spanish Caribbean nations’ cinemas. The documentaries and films selected will explore certain aspects of pre-Columbian indigenous societies, the salient characteristics of plantation colonial societies, and the abolition of African slavery. We will use film from Jamaica, Cuba, Martinique and other nations to examine how the categories of race, color, class and gender have been portrayed and which have influenced the daily lives of the people during the nineteenth and twentieth centuries. Films from the region’s cinemas will help us better understand the ideologies of protest and resistance to colonialism were developed and expressed. Movements dedicated to revolution and independence will also be examined with selected films from specific island nations.
History 3369

Colonial Mexico

Professor N. L. A. Gharala

nlgharala@uh.edu

Asynchronous Online

This upper-division course follows the evolution of Mexican society from the Spanish conquest in 1521 until the wars for independence of 1810. Central themes include labor, law, gender, race, and religion. Students will use primary and secondary sources from the course to write a final paper. We will study the centrality of colonial Mexico for global economies and imperial finance. This course stresses the power of the colonial Mexican treasury and its reliance on the labor of Afrodescendant and Indigenous people. This is an asynchronous course. There is no scheduled meeting time, but there are assignments and tests with due dates. 3 credit hours. Writing in the Disciplines.

Folding Screen with Indian Wedding and Flying Pole (Biombo con desposorio indígena y palo volador) made by an anonymous artist around 1690. Now held in the Los Angeles County Museum of Art
One of the most important characteristics of the people of the Caribbean has been the desire to leave their homes to move outside and within the Caribbean to seek better lives for themselves and for their families in another country. This course examines the socioeconomic, political and cultural experiences of Caribbean immigrants and laborers from the middle of the nineteenth century to the present. The course will explore those social and economic variables that encouraged people from the Anglophone, Francophone, and Spanish Caribbean to leave home for West Africa, England, France, the United States, as well as to other Caribbean and Latin American countries. We will examine their lives as immigrant workers in their new countries. This course fulfills the capstone requirement for History majors.
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This survey course introduces the history, politics and societies of the Arab and Muslim World. We look at the great transformations of the past 1500 years to see how these have shaped current affairs. What historical variables and events best explain today’s challenges and opportunities? We consider the impact of colonization, imperialism and nationhood on the current social and political structures. In addition to these important factors we examine the role of Islam in the development of the region as well as the economic and political consequences of oil. We identify the challenges and the hopes of this diverse region of the world.
Course Description
This course studies the history of the Ottoman Empire from its rise in the late thirteenth century to the mid-sixteenth century. The course analyses the transformation of the Ottoman principality into a leading world empire and Mediterranean power. Institutions which were pillars of the Islamic societies for centuries (i.e. vakif or pious endowments) are discussed, as well as the impact of the steppe tradition and Byzantine legacy. The recurrent dynamics of Ottoman history such as centralization and decentralization are treated. Institutions that contributed to the longevity of the empire are treated. The empire's role in the larger context of world history is particularly emphasized, in addition to the dynamics of empire-building process.
HIST 3390: Middle East Pictures and Words
Tuesday/Thursday 11:30 Spring 2024
S202
Professor Dina Alsowayel
dina@chasesource.com

What does a country’s film industry tell us? How do art, history and politics interact? What is the role of artistic expression, how does it vary across countries? Why? Movies can play a central role in a country’s cultural life, how does that work with its political mission? Second, many of these movies have received international acclaim, what makes them so appealing to broad audiences? These are the kinds of questions that frame this course centered on films from the Arab and Muslim World in the 21st century. We look at cinema analytically and critically. This course is comparative in nature and has a significant writing component.

Students will obtain a familiarity with social and political issues that characterize the Arab and Muslim world today. Using film as a vehicle we explore the contemporary challenges of the Muslim world.
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<td>Colonial America, 1492-1765</td>
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Course Description: The purpose of this course is to provide an in-depth exploration of the rich and complex history of Mexican Americans from the early 16th century to the Mexican Revolution in 1910. Students will delve into the transformative periods of conquest, colonization, independence, and revolution, examining how these historical events shaped the Mexican American experience. Through a combination of lectures, readings, discussions, and primary source analysis, students will gain a comprehensive understanding of Mexican American history during these critical centuries. This course encourages students to critically analyze historical events and their impact on present-day Mexican American communities.
This is the second of a two-part course series that examines the historical development of the ethnic Mexican community within the context of United States history. More specifically, this course addresses the major social, economic, political, and cultural trends and issues in this group’s development during the entire span of the 20th century.
History 3311

Civil War and Reconstruction, 1850-1877

Professor Steven Deyle

shdeyle@uh.edu

Tuesday and Thursday, 2:30-4:00

Agnes Arnold 304

This course traces the origins and aftermath of the American Civil War. The class examines the two societies that clashed in the war, focusing on the similarities and differences between them. We then discuss the war itself: exploring the reasons for its outbreak, importance of new technologies, the conflict between military strategy and political needs, and the war's effect upon everyday Americans. The course concludes with an examination of the attempt to reconstruct the country following the war and forge a new nation in the wake of America's bloodiest conflict. For questions about the course work and requirements, contact Professor Deyle.
The course explores the multicultural history of colonial America with a focus on the founding, development, and maturation of Britain’s thirteen North American colonies, which would become the United States.
African American History to 1865

HIST 3330 illustrates the importance of African Americans to the development of the United States up to 1865. The key questions address social, political, and economic issues and the lives of black people in America. Notedly, cultural contributions are linked to survival mechanisms and other meaningful historical inquiries.

Learning Outcomes:
❖ Students will attain, through lectures, discussion and reading, and demonstrate, through exams and historical activities, knowledge about the historical significance of African Americans to the development of North America up to the Civil War.
❖ Class discussions of primary sources and secondary works of history will help students to read and to think critically.
❖ Writing assignments will enable students to improve their writing skills.

REQUIRED READINGS


Solomon Northup, *Twelve Years a Slave* (Mineola, N. Y., 1970 [originally published in 1853]).

Pictured left is 19th century African American concert singer, Elizabeth Taylor Greenfield, who toured America and Europe billed as The Black Swan while on the right is a poster featuring Blind Tom who earned large sums of money for the white families who managed his work through early 20th century, roughly 1908. Did you know that Black people were entertainers during this early era?
CAPSTONE IN US HISTORY

SUBJ: WOMEN IN THE CIVIL RIGHTS MOVEMENT

Course Description: People of African descent in America experienced a long history of fighting for freedom. Due to that long history we must think of the freedom struggle of the twentieth century as the Modern-Day Civil Rights Movement. Women, like men, participated fully in this freedom struggle, and African American women had the support of women and men of other ethnicities. This course is designed to draw attention to the lives of women and the specific role/roles that they played in the Modern-Day Civil Rights Movement.

The Modern-Day Civil Rights Movement of the twentieth century, sometimes referred to as the Second Reconstruction, addressed issues that Radical Republicans attempted to accomplish for African Americans to gain first-class citizenship after the Civil War. For instance, the Civil Rights Act of 1964 may not have been necessary if America had abided by the Civil Rights Act of 1875. Furthermore, African Americans and their allies worked diligently to eliminate the devastating impact of Plessy v. Ferguson of 1896. The 1954 Brown decision marked a historical turning point in school desegregation and illustrated the life’s work of Charles Hamilton Houston’s deliberate efforts to recruit and train at Howard University a force of attorneys for the Modern-Day Civil Rights Movement. Thus, Thurgood Marshall argued against segregated public schools before the Supreme Court in a summary of cases with others from the 1940s. A woman, Constance Baker Motley, clerked for Thurgood Marshall and became a noted figure in the struggle. This is only one example.

This capstone course is designed to help students learn more about the civil rights movement of the twentieth century, and it is also a course for students to learn and apply the fundamentals of research and writing history.

Learning Outcomes:

❖ Students will attain, through lectures, class discussions, readings, and audio-visual material, and demonstrate, through assignments and a lengthy research paper, knowledge of the historical significance of women and their allies to the Modern-Day Civil Rights Movement and the placement of that struggle in the context of the American historical experience.
❖ Class discussions of primary sources and secondary works of history will help students to read and to think critically. Several award-winning publications included in the syllabus will inspire students in their writing. Audio-visual material will reinforce assistance with development of critical thinking.
❖ Writing assignments will enable students to improve the process of critical analyses and writing skills.

Required Texts: Students will read and be guided by material from the following books:
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<th>Subject</th>
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<th>Section</th>
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<td>Early Modern England</td>
<td>23391</td>
<td>1</td>
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HIST 2327: Chican@ History to 1910

Spring 2024

Tuesdays & Thursdays: 4-5:30
Agnes Arnold Hall, 304

Course Description: The purpose of this course is to provide an in-depth exploration of the rich and complex history of Mexican Americans from the early 16th century to the Mexican Revolution in 1910. Students will delve into the transformative periods of conquest, colonization, independence, and revolution, examining how these historical events shaped the Mexican American experience. Through a combination of lectures, readings, discussions, and primary source analysis, students will gain a comprehensive understanding of Mexican American history during these critical centuries. This course encourages students to critically analyze historical events and their impact on present-day Mexican American communities.
This is the second of a two-part course series that examines the historical development of the ethnic Mexican community within the context of United States history. More specifically, this course addresses the major social, economic, political, and cultural trends and issues in this group’s development during the entire span of the 20th century.
African American History to 1865

HIST 3330 illustrates the importance of African Americans to the development of the United States up to 1865. The key questions address social, political, and economic issues and the lives of black people in America. Notedly, cultural contributions are linked to survival mechanisms and other meaningful historical inquiries.

Learning Outcomes:

❖ Students will attain, through lectures, discussion and reading, and demonstrate, through exams and historical activities, knowledge about the historical significance of African Americans to the development of North America up to the Civil War.
❖ Class discussions of primary sources and secondary works of history will help students to read and to think critically.
❖ Writing assignments will enable students to improve their writing skills.

REQUIRED READINGS


Solomon Northup, Twelve Years a Slave (Mineola, N. Y., 1970 [originally published in 1853]).

Pictured left is 19th century African American concert singer, Elizabeth Taylor Greenfield, who toured America and Europe billed as The Black Swan while on the right is a poster featuring Blind Tom who earned large sums of money for the white families who managed his work through early 20th century, roughly 1908. Did you know that Black people were entertainers during this early era?
History 3369
Colonial Mexico
Professor N. L. A. Gharala
nlgharala@uh.edu
Asynchronous Online

This upper-division course follows the evolution of Mexican society from the Spanish conquest in 1521 until the wars for independence of 1810. Central themes include labor, law, gender, race, and religion. Students will use primary and secondary sources from the course to write a final paper. We will study the centrality of colonial Mexico for global economies and imperial finance. This course stresses the power of the colonial Mexican treasury and its reliance on the labor of Afrodescendant and Indigenous people. This is an asynchronous course. There is no scheduled meeting time, but there are assignments and tests with due dates. 3 credit hours. Writing in the Disciplines.

*Folding Screen with Indian Wedding and Flying Pole (Biombo con desposorio indígena y palo volador)*
made by an anonymous artist around 1690. Now held in the Los Angeles County Museum of Art
Divided values. Changing cultural norms. Growing economic gap between rich and poor.

This may sound like today, but it describes the society that gave rise to people like William Shakespeare, Queen Elizabeth I, and Isaac Newton.

England in Shakespeare’s time experienced religious and cultural divides unleashed by the Protestant Reformation as well as social and economic stresses brought on by commercial growth and an increasingly mobile population. Learn about how these changes affected individuals and families as well as the English nation as a whole, and about the foundational impact they had on the early origins of our own country, as English ways moved across oceans. The seminar-style course will cover topics like birth, marriage, and death; sexuality, gender, and patriarchy; popular culture and elite culture; magic and witchcraft; religion and society; crime, law, and order; and economic change and commercial growth. It will also focus on advancing students’ skills in critically reading and analyzing primary documents, assessing historical arguments made by modern historians, conducting historical research, and writing. Coursework includes weekly discussion of readings, tutorials on the research and writing process, short writing assignments, and a substantial research paper.

This is a capstone course, fulfilling the capstone requirement for History Majors.
### Professional Track: Public History Courses

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<th>Subject</th>
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Alexander Rodchenko. Swordswomen at a sports parade in Moscow's Red Square, 1936.
Capstone in Public History
Writing & Editing for a History Magazine
HIST 4390-1 (23399)

Hyflex, Meet MW 11:00-12:00, AH 205

This class offers students the opportunity to:

- Become a published author
- Learn to write history for a popular audience, conduct research, edit copy, select images, and write photo captions
- Work as part of an editorial board to create an issue of Houston History magazine, moving from story formation to final preparations for publication

Counts Toward Capstone Requirement and Creative Work Minor

In 2026, Houston’s East End will mark two important milestones: the bicentennial of Harrisburg’s founding and the centennial of Milby High School. Although both are integral to our region, they remain largely absent from the historical record. Harrisburg predates Houston and may have superseded it if not for a twist of fate. It sits on the Houston Ship Channel, which is the heart of Houston’s economy. Milby opened as a segregated white school during a period of explosive population growth, but the community’s demographics have changed dramatically since then. You will uncover and preserve this history through your writing.

Prerequisite ENGL 1302, Junior standing or higher.

For information contact: Dr. Debbie Z. Harwell, dzharwel@central.uh.edu
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<td>Plagues and Pestilence</td>
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In this course, we examine the causes and effects of a variety of epidemics in human history, from the Plague of Athens in Ancient Greece, to the Black Death in late medieval Europe, to smallpox in the colonial Americas, to HIV/AIDS in the Global South, to emerging epidemics of the last several decades. The course covers several themes: the biology of pathogens and their vectors and hosts; the demographic effects of major epidemics; the intellectual development of public health and epidemiology; the social, political, and economic factors that predispose certain groups to fall prey to epidemic disease and the consequences of epidemics for social structures, political systems, and economic growth; and the cultural representation of epidemics. This course emphasizes longitudinal change in human history, but uses specific examples from different periods and places as case studies of broader historical phenomena.