UH History Department Course Offerings Spring 2022

Undergraduate Classes



HIST 2303: The Historian's Craft **Prof. José Angel Hernández Tues & Thurs, 5:30-6:45 PM**

This course is an introduction to historical research, writing, and thinking. You will learn the fundamental tools that historians use in their work ranging from the collection of sources, to the creation of a bibliography, historiography, & the proper use of citations. We will evaluate the many archival, and methodological issues in the field.



HIST 2311: Western Civilization to 1450 Prof. Catherine Patterson T/TH 8:30-10am

From the Code of Hammurabi in ancient Mesopotamia to the invention of the printing press in the heart of Europe, civilization in the west has communicated ideas of law, government, and culture in ways that have helped shape our world. In HIST 2311. explore the origins and development of western society, its attainments and its tragedies, from ancient through the European Renaissance. Fulfills the Language, Philosophy, and Culture core requirement.





HIST 2321: The Study of Early Civilizations Prof. Frank Holt Online Asynchronous

This Core Course (Category: Language, Philosophy, & Culture) examines the cultural and historical interplay between the ancient and modern worlds. Topics include gender, family, sports, language, money, politics, war, heroes, and other modern reflections of ancient ideas, objects, and activities. For example, what would an ancient Greek think of our modern version of the Olympic Games? How did the Egyptians, Greeks, and Romans name their children and what does this reveal about their societies? What do our names say about us? Why have Egyptian mummies become such villains in our modern culture? How does childhood today compare to the ancient experience, and what can the history of toys and games show us? This course demands regular and substantive interaction. Graded assignments include 6 History Labs, 13 quizzes, 2 essay exams, and a Core paper. There are 6 Q&A sessions scheduled in order to address all student questions and comments.



HIST 2322: Study of Modern Civilizations Muslim World after the Sack of Baghdad (1258-1875) Prof. E. Cihan Yuksel M/W 1-2:30pm

This course surveys the history of the Islamic world, particularly the Middle East, after the Mongol sack of Baghdad in 1258. Despite its title combining various societies and states under the general title of "Muslim World", the course emphasizes the diversity and substantial cultural differences between religiously, ethnically, and linguistically diverse Muslim and non-Muslim communities who shared the same region. This period is essential to understand and analyze current events taking place in these regions. The Mongol sack of Baghdad transformed the political, cultural, and social outlook of the region. Yet communities 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 (Reconquista), 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.

HIST 2327: Chicano/a History to 1910 Prof. Raúl A. Ramos MW 10-11am – Hybrid Fridays

Historical memory and identity are central to understanding citizenship and belonging and, more broadly, the place of Latinos/as in contemporary America. Current politics has brought new relevance and weight to teaching and representing the nineteenth century history of northern Latin America, American imperial expansion, and the constructed nature of borders. Teaching and invoking the historical processes at play during the creation of the contemporary borderline itself serves as a counter-narrative to dominant discourses around illegality and building a border fence. Recent literature on American expansion and the American West suggests a variety of themes and events that can reframe contemporary debates. This course seeks to present a more complex and situational conceptualization of national identities.



HIST 2328: Chicano History since 1910 Prof. Guadalupe San Miguel MW 1-2:30pm 1705 N Main

RA LOPEZ CANO-JESSE STRUENTES

Come learn the history of the largest Lantinx group in the U.S. This class will address the major social, political, and cultural trends and issues in this group's development from 1900 to the present.

HIST 2349: Latina/o Jewish History Prof. Mark Allan Goldberg T/TH 2:30-4pm

This course explores the history of understudied communities of Jewish Latinxs, linking U.S. and Latin American history. Students will examine questions about diaspora, immigration, and identity in the United States and about race, ethnicity, and how we think about American history. In addition, students will analyze Latinx Jewish experiences through popular culture, such as music, graphic narratives, food, and art. This



HIST 2368: Introduction to African Studies Prof. Kairn Klieman

This course introduces students to the geography, history, politics, economics, arts, and cultures of sub-Saharan Africa with focus on historical events that contributed to modern-day realities, the diversity of African peoples and cultures, Africa's place in the world, and African diasporas of the past and present.

Core Category: Language, Philosophy, & Culture



HIST 2371: Latin America, 1492-1820 Prof. N.L.A. Gharala T/TH 10-11:30am

This course provides an overview of Spanish and Portuguese colonies in the Americas. We begin with an introduction to societies in the Americas, West Africa, and Iberia and conclude in 1820. The course moves chronologically, but emphasis is placed on thematic continuity and change throughout time and space. We will focus on several broad geographic areas within Latin America: the Andean zone, New Spain, the Caribbean, and Brazil. Uniting these regions are a set of common historical themes which we will explore, including labor and production, sexuality, gender, trade and exchange, religion, and politics. <u>3 credit hours. Core-Language, Philosophy & Culture.</u>

HIST 2372: Latin American History Since 1820 Prof. Natalia Milanesio T/TH 5:30-7pm

This course examines the history of modern Latin America by analyzing key processes in the development of the region: the formation of modern states after independence, the end to slavery, the consolidation of populist regimes, the expansion of revolutionary movements, the establishment of military dictatorships, the return to democracy, and the current expansion of neo-liberal reforms and globalization. Lectures and readings explore crucial aspects of modern Latin America including the Mexican Revolution, Peronism, and guerrilla warfare; investigate key historical actors such as Emiliano Zapata, Fidel Castro, Che Guevara, Eva Perón, Augusto Sandino, and Augusto Pinochet,; and reflect on the role of different racial, social, and ethnic groups in the construction of modern history. The course also examines a variety of conceptual categories in a historical perspective, including nationalism, postcolonialism, populism, liberalism, socialism, imperialism, neoliberalism, and globalization.





HIST 3308: History of the American West Prof. Raúl A. Ramos MW 1-2:30pm This course is designed to provide a broad overview of the history of the American West. Rather than limiting the scope of the course to a geographic West, we will consider sets of processes and ideologies that take root over time in the region and beyond. These include conquest and colonization, migration, ethnic and racial formations, nation-state building, gender construction, market capitalism and mineral extraction and varieties of interactions with the environment. Special attention will be given to the role of gender and ethnicity as identities that shaped the West. Ultimately, the American West appears not as an isolated, exceptional place, but rather as a significant arena of convergence and contestation of national and transnational peoples, cultures, ideas, and markets.

HIST 3311: Civil War and Reconstruction Prof. Steven Deyle T/TH 2:30-4pm

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.





History Magazine Writing and Editing

HIST 3323-01 (24892) MW 1:00-2:30, Spring 2022

Counts toward: Creative Work Minor

This class offers students the opportunity to:

- Become a published author
- Learn to write history for a popular magazine audience, conduct research, edit copy, select images, and write photo captions
- Create articles for 2022 & 2023 issues of *Houston History* magazine about the University of Houston's history, moving from story formation to preparing for publication
- Develop skills for the workplace

For information contact: Dr. Debbie Z. Harwell, dzharwel@central.uh.edu



HIST 3325: The Mexican American Civil Rights Movement in the 20th Century Prof. Guadalupe San Miguel T/TH 11:30-1pm

Enroll in this class and learn about the historical development of the civil rights movement of Mexican Americans, the largest Latinx group in the country. This class will examine the origins, development, and impact of the Mexican American civil rights movement in the 20th and 21st century. HIST 3328 Colonial North America (1450-1765) Prof. Matthew Clavin MW 2:30-4pm

To understand the cultural complexity of the United States, you must start at the beginning.





HIST 3352: Modern France since 1870 Prof. Sarah Fishman MW 2:30-4pm

Why did the French build a 1000-foot iron tower in the middle of Paris? Do they really hate Americans? What's with all the revolutions??? The course uses memoirs, a novel, film, music and art to study the history of, according to Alexis de Tocqueville, "the most brilliant and the most dangerous of all European nations, and the best qualified to become, in the eyes of other people, an object of admiration, or hatred, of compassion, or alarm, --never of indifference."

HIST 3357: Germany from 1790-1918 Prof. Hannah Decker T/TH 1-2:30pm

The course concludes with World War I, still called "The Great War." Ultimately, Germany lost the war and was blamed by the Western Allies for starting it. Was this accurate? This is one of the questions our course will address.

The course begins at the conclusion of the 18th century as the great general Napoleon Bonaparte conquered and occupied the Germanspeaking lands, and also brought to them many of the ideals of the French Revolution. When Napoleon was finally defeated in 1815, all of Europe desperately tried to undo the nationalism that the French Revolution had aroused. This ideology was seen as a grave challenge and danger by all the conservative monarchical rulers because nationalism was linked with French Revolutionary democracy. The rulers strenuously tried to undo the attempt by the lower and middle classes to assert themselves as active and voting participants of the nation-state. Later in the century, however, nationalism was cynically and brilliantly employed by a conservative German politician, Otto von Bismarck, to unite Germany under the autocratic ruler of an Emperor (Kaiser.) This circumstance severely retarded German progress in becoming a successful modern democracy. Their first attempt ended in failure, and they did not succeed until 1949, 78 years after Bismarck had created an authoritarian state. History 3357 will study the career and influence of this ambitious, dynamic, and powerful nobleman, pictured left in Prussian military dress.



HIST 3362: The Rise and Fall of the Soviet Union Prof. Alexey Golubev T/TH 10-11:30am The history of the Soviet Union provides a unique perspective on the human civilization and its predicaments in the twentieth century and offers non-conventional ways of thinking about the global challenges that we face these days. The course will introduce you to the major events and turning points of Soviet history and some of its most important historical actors, as well as will provide an insight into ordinary people's lives before, during, and after socialism.







HIST 3367: Japan Since 1600 Prof. Xiaoping Cong MW 4-5:30pm 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.



HIST 3369: Colonial Mexico Prof. N.L.A. Gharala T/TH 1-2:30pm 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. This course uses tools from the field of digital humanities to encourage collaboration in and outside the classroom. 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. 3 credit hours. Writing in the Disciplines.

HIST 3370: 20thcentury Revolutions in Latin America Prof. Adela Cedillo T/TH 11:30am-1pm



This course uses historical analysis and comparative politics to understand the origins and consequences of revolutionary violence in Latin America, from the 1910 Mexican Revolution through the civil wars in Central America in the 1980s and 1990s. The course will shed light on the structural factors that caused sharp class, gender, and race divisions and how different sectors—inspired by an array of ideologies from liberalism to socialism—organized to promote radical transformations. We will analyze the key role peasants, industrial workers, liberal arts professionals, students, and progressive clergymen played in insurgent collective violence and the conditions that galvanized women, children, and the youth to become central actors in these conflicts. Case studies include: the revolutions in Mexico, Bolivia, Cuba, and Nicaragua, the revolutionary attempts of the Cold War period, and the Zapatista rebellion of 1994.

HIST 3378: The Modern Middle East Prof. Al-Sowayel T/TH 10-11am

In this course, we will examine the disintegration of the Ottoman empire; imperialism and decolonization; the new nation states; Zionism and Arab nationalism; Arabs and Israelis; oil.





HIST 3384: Palestine and the Making of the Arab-Israeli Conflict Prof. Abdel Razzaq Takriti T/Th 1-2:30pm

HIST 3389: China Since 1600 Prof. Xiaoping Cong MW 1-2:30pm

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.



Anonymous, Canton Factories (c. 1780)





HIST 3390: Middle East: Pictures and Words Prof. Al-Sowayel T/TH 11:30am-1pm This course is an analytical examination of the historical role of the visual and literary arts in contemporary Muslim and Arab societies using regional films, novels, and non-fiction works.

HIST 3394: Selected Topics in US History How Disasters Shaped the American City Prof. Josiah Rector MW 2:30-4pm

In the 21st century, a series of high-profile environmental disasters have rocked American cities. We have seen the two most expensive tropical hurricanes on record (Katrina in 2005 and Harvey in 2017), the poisoning of water supplies in cities like Flint, Michigan (2014-2019), and wildfires that have incinerated towns like Paradise, California (2018) and turned the skies over San Francisco orange (2020). However, urban environmental disasters are not a new problem. Fires, floods, earthquakes, tornadoes, disease epidemics (and occasionally pandemics), industrial disasters, and toxic contamination events have been hazards of urban life for millennia, and cities in the U.S. have been no exception. This course will place these 21st century disasters in a long-term perspective, with a focus on U.S. cities from the Gilded Age to the present. Some of the questions we will answer include: How did urban residents, government officials, engineers, planners, and others respond to environmental disasters in the 19th and 20th centuries, and what can we learn from their efforts in the 21st? What is the relationship between disasters, power, and inequality? How is this history relevant to contemporary debates about the future of the American city on a warming planet?



HIST 3395: Alexander the Great Prof. Frank Holt Online Asynchronous

He has been called the most important figure in human history.

Here is your chance to decide for yourself.

This course explores the extraordinary life and legacy of Alexander the Great of Macedonia. He reigned as king from the time he was twenty, had conquered most of the world he knew to exist by the time he was thirty, came to be seen as a living god and then died before he was thirtythree. His short life cast a shadow so long that it has eclipsed over a hundred generations of famous generals from Caesar and Charlemagne to Napoleon and Washington. His life morphed quickly into legend, so how well can know him as an historical figure? What was he really trying to accomplish? Did he succeed? Was he an idealistic dreamer or a demented despot? Did he really believe that he was divine? Come investigate these questions with one of the world's leading authorities on the subject. The journey, of course, will be epic!



HIST 4340: Philosophies of History (CAPSTONE) Prof. David McNally MW 4-5:30pm Does history have a meaning? Does it tend toward justice, or is it merely a litany of violence and domination? In this course, we will engage these debates in relation to a primary event—the Haitian Revolution of 1791, which saw the abolition of slavery and the creation of the world's first independent Black republic and a primary text, C.L.R. James's class, The Black Jacobins: Toussaint L'Ouverture and the San Domingo Revolution. We will proceed to discuss this historic event and James's text in relation to liberal, Marxist, Feminist, and post-structural philosophies of history. We will analyze the Haitian struggle for freedom in relation to anti-colonialism, human rights, anti-racism, socialism, feminism, and the meaning of freedom and universal emancipation. (Image: C.L.R. James in his study)

HIST 4336: History of Histories (Historiography CAPSTONE) Prof. José Angel Hernández MW 5:30-7pm

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. philosophical 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. As well, the course introduces students to an overview of the most influential texts (although there are many and debatable) of historical practice by exploring several of its most important thinkers; by analyzing some central questions in the writing of history; and, also, to examine a variety of schools that have influenced the ways in which history is and has been written. We will examine a series of arguments, methods, controversies, as well as the range of social theories and schools of thought which have influenced historiography over the past centuries. The course does not pretend to be all inclusive or comprehensive; then again, such claims constitute one of the central problems in the writing of historiography.



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

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

History 4347 – Century of Revolution: Stuart England, 1603-1714 Spring 2022 Tuesdays, 2:30-5:30 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 major themes and events in British history during this dramatic period, including changing ideas of royal authority and popular participation, the causes of the English Revolution, and the development of constitutional monarchy. Students will develop skills in reading and analyzing primary source documents from the 17th century as well as in assessing historical arguments made by modern historians. Coursework will include 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

WGSS 4350/H 4301 Issues in Feminist Research (CAPSTONE) Into the Archives: Theories and Methods for Documenting Women, Gender, and Sexuality Prof. Leandra Zarnow W 2:30-5:30pm

How are women, gender, and sexuality documented or absent in archives? Who gets to decide what events, individuals, and groups are important in narratives about our past and present? Who gets to use archives and to what end? What meaning is attached to the historical texts and objects gathered and recorded? Whose history matters? What is a "useable past"? How does our digital age pose new challenges to preserving the past and creating an archive of now?

Completing individual and collaborative research, we will explore these questions as we think about how we document and frame women's and LGBT lives in the past and present. This hands-on course will include many guests as well as field trips on and off-campus as we consider what it is to do feminist historical research here in Houston and around the globe.



HIST 4365: Women in Latin America (CAPSTONE) Prof. Natalia Milanesio T/TH 4-5:30pm

What does it mean to be a woman or a man in Latin America? Who defines womanhood and manhood and why? How have these meanings changed over time? What is machismo? In order to answer these questions, this class examines the historical transformation of women's and men's roles in Latin America by looking at politics, sexuality, motherhood, domesticity, the economy, art, and popular culture. This class effectively incorporates the examination of masculinity, men's roles, and the history of transgender men and women. It is also interested in the examination of sexual minorities and their fights for rights. As a capstone, this class teaches students how to conduct historical research, use databases, prepare a research proposal, work with a variety of sources, and write a research paper.



HIST 4379: Sex and Violence in the Old South Prof. Steven Deyle

This course uses a gender studies approach to examine concepts such as gentility, civility, and honor, along with the exalted but helpless position of the southern belle. The course will also discuss riverboat gamblers, the raping of slaves by the masters, plantation justice, slave breeding and slave insurrection. The course explores the role of men and women, white, black, and native American in the context of slave society. Additionally, the course analyzes gender definitions, violence, social roles and socially normed behavior.

Graduate Classes



HIST 6395: Power and Provinces in the Roman Empire

Prof. Kristina Neumann

Tuesdays 5:30-8:30pm

This reading seminar examines the making and maintaining of the Roman Empire, the only time the entire Mediterranean was brought under a single political power. Through secondary scholarship, we will discuss the broader themes/theories of "empire" (e.g., imperialism, identity, globalization), the logistics and weaknesses of building and maintaining Roman rule (e.g., politics, economy, urbanization, frontiers), and the nittygritties of how imperial power played out on a local/regional level in the ancient Roman world. We will also tackle comparative imperialism, examining on how both ancient and modern empires have been compared to Rome's. Our primary sources - texts and material culture - will represent the voices of the imperial rulers and of the provincial peoples, as well as provide an opportunity to consider the challenges of reconstructing the ancient past. In addition to examining great themes and evidence, each person will act as ambassador for a single provincial territory and the experience of a regional people of the Roman Empire (including those in Europe, the Middle East, and North Africa). Your final research paper will be flexible in topic depending on your course plan and research interests (e.g., ancient topic; imperial theme; modern historiography/political perspectives; comparative imperialism; cultural heritage).

This seminar can count for European or World History credit.

HIST 6332: Historiography of the Medieval and Early Modern Islamic World Prof. E. Cihan Yuksel W 2:30-5:30pm

This course introduces students to the medieval and early modern historiography of the Muslim world. It aims to provide students with a basic background in the field's major themes and questions such as primary sources, sovereignty, diversity, gunpowder empires, and connected histories.



HIST 6370: Advanced Research and Writing Seminar Prof. Alexey Golubev TH 2:30-5:30pm

The purpose of this course is to provide you with an opportunity to practice and improve your academic writing. During this course you will prepare an article that can be submitted for consideration to an academic journal in your field, or a chapter for your thesis or dissertation. To assist you in the writing process, in addition to classes that will focus on the discussion of your draft texts, we will be reading books published by our very own faculty members and meeting with them to discuss their writing and publishing techniques, experience, and tips. Finally, you will take part in the organization of the conference How Science Became Popular: Epistemic Governance and Scientific Citizenship in the Twentieth Century that U of Houston Department of History will host on March 25–26, 2022.



HIST 6387: Historical Archives Management Dr. Mark Young M 5:30-8:30pm

The selection, retention, acquisition, and management of historical records, including the records generated by contemporary organizations and corporations as well as by organizations and individuals in the past.

This course is taught by Dr. Mark Young, an archivist and historian in the Conrad N. Hilton College of Hotel and Restaurant Management. Dr. Young has more than 15 years of experience as an archivist and historian, including positions at the Lyndon Baines Johnson Presidential Library and the Dolph Briscoe Center at The University of Texas at Austin. He worked on the Houston Oral History Project, a joint program with the city of Houston and the University of Houston. Young joined the Hilton College faculty as archivist and historian in 2008. Since then, he has consulted on historical hospitality inquiries for *The New York Times, Wall Street Journal, McLean's* and other publications requesting information on hospitality. He also worked with producers of AMC's "Mad Men" to provide biographical information on Conrad N. Hilton for the series.



HIST 6393: Readings Seminar in US History – America and the World Prof. John Sbardellati W 5:30-8:30pm HIST 6397: Selected Topics in History "Africa(ns) in the United States: Histories and Representations" Prof. Kairn Klieman M 2:30-5:30pm

This course is designed to introduce graduate students to the history of Africa and Africans in the United States. All too often enslavement and abolition are the primary foci of African content that appear in early American history courses, and /or the importance of interactions between African Americans and Africans are sidelined in 20th century US history courses. We will work to rectify this tendency by reading works that deal with shifting African/African American identities and cultures in the 18th and 19th centuries, African technological contributions to the U.S. economy, African cultural retentions, and the nature and impacts of ongoing interactions between Africans and African Americans throughout the 20th century. A special focus will be placed on the varied and changing images of Africa that White Americans vs. African Americans embraced/produced through time, and how those ideas and images are being challenged in museum, film, and K-12 textbooks today. The course can be taken for credit in the fields of U.S. history, Public History, Transnational History, and World history minors.

