

**Department of History Fall 2022 Undergraduate
Upper-Division Course Descriptions:**

HIST 201: Facts and Fictions in the Middle Ages

Instructor: Dr. Archambeau

Meeting Times: Mondays, Wednesdays, and Fridays 11:00 AM- 11:50 AM

Blaze Your Trail: Environment, Gender, and Borderlands

In this course we will explore history as a field of study by looking at how people use and abuse the past. We will consider how to identify historical fictions and why it is important to do so. The course will primarily focus on medieval Europe, but also look at other time periods in order to see where our modern views of this time and place come from. We'll use primary and secondary sources to find out why people called it Dark Ages, and why we should reconsider that term.

HIST 300: Ancient Greece to 323 B.C.E.

Instructor: Dr. Heineman

Meeting Times: Tuesdays and Thursday 11:00 AM - 12:15 PM

Blaze Your Trail: Religion, War & Diplomacy, Empire

This course will examine the history of the 'Hellenes' from the Bronze Age until the death of Alexander the Great in 323 BC. This period coincides with the developments of many recognizable societal elements which have persisted to today, such as democracy, philosophy, and rationalism. In addition to significant political events which shaped Greece, and all of Western Society, this class will analyze the various social, philosophical, religious, and cultural developments in Ancient Greece.

HIST 301: Roman Republic**Instructor: Dr. Heineman****Meeting Times: Tuesdays and Thursdays 12:30 PM - 1:45 PM****Blaze Your Trail: Revolution, Empire, Colonization**

This course examines the development of Rome from a small Mediterranean village to a regional power beginning with Romulus and the first kings of Rome to the collapse of the Republic in the first century BC. In addition to the exploration of the political and economic structure of the Roman Republic, particular emphasis will be given to larger, underlying social, cultural, and religious currents of the time.

HIST 319: Early Modern France, 1500-1789**Instructor: Dr. Margolf****Meeting Times: Tuesdays and Thursdays 11:00 AM - 12:15 PM****Blaze Your Trail: Religion; War and Diplomacy; Women and Gender**

This course explores the history of France from the Renaissance to the French Revolution. We will study the political, social, economic, religious, and cultural developments that made France an absolutist state, a cultural leader, and an imperial power during the early modern period – and learn the truth about the Three Musketeers, the Man in the Iron Mask, and the Affair of the Poisons!

HIST 325: Ireland: Culture, Politics, Society and Nation**Instructor: Dr. Kreider****Meeting Times: Tuesdays and Thursdays 2:00 PM - 3:15 PM****Blaze Your Trail: Revolution; Empire, Colonialism, and Borderlands**

In this course we will examine the creation of modern Ireland from the 18th century to the present, including a brief discussion of the Celtic and Medieval periods. Major themes of analysis and discussion will include changing definitions of 'Irishness' and its representations, competing questions of identity and national membership and how these influenced the development of various nationalist movement in both the past and the present. Using a variety of secondary articles, primary sources, films and monographs, students in this course will analyze the role of women, gender, violence, emigration, and other social and geographical factors within Irish society, Ireland's evolution into a modern state, the rise and fall of the Celtic Tiger Economy, and its relationship with the United States, Britain, and the rest of Europe. Students will demonstrate the basic skills of historical inquiry, including a rudimentary knowledge of historiography, the geography of Ireland and the Irish diaspora, and major historical debates. Students will learn to communicate their positions in these debates and answer major questions in written form, both formal and informal, as well as verbally in class discussions. These include reading and analyzing primary documents, secondary sources, novels, oral histories, films, documentaries, and historical monographs. Students will also write a historical paper, in this case a critical comparative analysis of two films.

HIST 345: Civil War Era**Instructor: Dr. Everett****Meeting Times: Tuesdays and Thursdays 9:30 AM - 10:45 AM****Blaze Your Trail: War & Diplomacy, Race & Ethnicity, Revolution**

Explore the causes, course, and consequences of the Civil War and mid-nineteenth century history in the United States. This course covers the territorial, political, social, and economic issues that combined to inspire secession and rebellion in Southern states and traces the major military campaigns of the conflict. It also explores the social impact of the war, most prominently the role of African Americans and the abolition of slavery. The course concludes with a discussion of the Reconstruction era and how issues exposed by the Civil War both resolved and endure in the generations that followed, echoing to the present day through the struggle for interpretation of the war's memory and legacy.

HIST 347: United States, 1876-1917**Instructor: Dr. Sheflin****Meeting Times: Tuesdays and Thursdays 12:30 PM - 1:45 PM****Blaze Your Trail: War & Diplomacy**

This course will cover the era from the end of the Civil War to the end of World War I. The course will move chronologically as well as thematically, as we attempt to cover the social, economic, political, and cultural events that occurred during one of the more formative periods in American history. Some historians have labeled this time span the Era of Reform, others have called it the Age of American Imperialism, while still others have considered it the time of America's Incorporation. Americans fiercely debated the role of the federal government, America's place in the world, as well as what it meant to be and who could be considered an "American" - all questions that remain common in contemporary debates in this country.

HIST 349: United States Since 1945**Instructor: Dr. Carr Childers****Meeting Times: Mondays, Wednesdays, and Fridays 2:00 PM - 2:50 PM****Blaze Your Trail: Environment and Public/Digital**

Explores the history of the United States during the post-World War II era from the Truman era to the present. In particular, this class utilizes environmental, public, and digital history methods to examine the development of the Cold War military industrial complex, the growth and expansion of civil rights and reconciliation movements, and the rise of neoliberal economics and political extremism.

Book order note: I am assigning articles only in this class and will not be assigning a textbook that students will have to purchase.

HIST 351: American West to 1900**Instructor: Dr. Everett****Meeting Times: Tuesdays and Thursdays 2:00 PM - 3:15 PM****Blaze Your Trail: Race & Ethnicity; Empire, Colonialism, and Borderlands; Environment**

The human story in our home region of the American West forms the foundation of this course. Trace the development and flourishing of Native cultures, the competition posed by European explorers, and efforts to conquer and colonize the region by outsiders. In addition, discover how the United States attempted to transform the West into a distinctly American place in the 1900s through political, social, and economic institutions. This course extends up through the nineteenth century, demonstrating the transition of the West as a place claimed by Americans to a place controlled by Americans, and the consequences regionally and more broadly that shift in authority created, in particular for the Native inhabitants of the region.

HIST 353: U.S.-Mexico Borderlands

Instructor: Dr. Orsi

Meeting Times: Tuesdays and Thursdays 11:00 AM - 12:15 PM

Blaze Your Trail: Empire, Colonialism, and Borderlands

Between 1500 and 1821, the region that is now the U.S. Southwest and Mexican North lay at the furthest edge of several European empires, and yet it was intimately linked to events in faraway Spain, Britain, and France. Since then, a national border has bisected the region, separating a rich nation from a poor one, even as commerce, migration, and pollution – none of which stops at the international boundary – continue to connect both sides. In short, borders have historically both united and divided peoples, a paradox that has fundamentally shaped life for everyone in the region – and many outside it. This course will investigate the region's borders (physical and otherwise) in a variety of historical settings. Class meetings will give you and your classmates the opportunity to analyze readings, debate their meanings, and consider how they build on previous discussions. Readings draw heavily from the first-hand writings of people who lived the history they write about so that you can hear them speaking in their own words and on their own terms. Slides, websites, and films will supplement the readings. By the end of the term, you and your classmates will learn the general outlines of borderlands history. You will also be able to identify and deploy the methodology borderlands historians use in analyzing primary and secondary sources, constructing interpretations, and communicating those interpretations to others. Finally, you will strengthen your intellectual leadership abilities by collaborating with classmates and the instructor to seek solutions to historical problems through class discussions.

HIST 354: American Architectural History**Instructor: Dr. Thomas****Meeting Times: Mondays, Wednesdays, and Fridays 10:00 AM - 10:50AM****Blaze Your Trail: Environment**

See your world in a whole new way by learning to read history's biggest textbooks: buildings and landscapes. Through stylistic analysis, broad readings, and field trips, this course seeks to unlock the language of architecture and reveal how buildings have recorded the cultural, political, and economic circumstances in which they were constructed and to which they adapted.

HIST 355: American Environmental History**Instructor: Dr. Payne****Meeting Times: Mondays, Wednesdays, and Fridays 9:00 AM - 9:50 AM****Blaze Your Trail: Environment**

Environmental History is the study of how humans have interacted with, shaped, and been shaped by their physical environments. Environmental historians consider the active role that nature has played in human history. This course will combine lectures, active learning exercises, readings, discussion, and fieldwork to introduce students to the major themes, problems, and conceptual frameworks that comprise the field of U.S. Environmental History.

HIST 357: The American Military Experience

Instructor: Dr. Mansfield

Meeting Times: Mondays, Wednesdays, and Fridays 1:00 PM - 1:50 PM

Blaze Your Trail: War & Diplomacy

This course is a survey of the role of the Armed Forces in American society. This includes an examination into the development of military traditions, institutions, and practices.

HIST 358: American Women's History to 1800

Instructor: Dr. Little

Meeting Times: Tuesdays and Thursdays 2:00 PM - 3:15 PM

Blaze Your Trail: Women, Gender, & Sexuality; Race and Ethnicity; Empire, Colonialism, and Borderlands

We are told of the daring adventures of warriors, priests, merchants, and explorers – mostly men – but what do we know about women in early America? How can we study women’s history before the emergence of modern feminism? Native American, African, and European women’s productive and reproductive labor was crucial to the formation of all colonial North American societies. But who controlled this labor? Who stole it? Who gave it freely, and who escaped? Find out in HIST 358.

HIST 363: Colorado History**Instructor: Dr. Orsi****Meeting Times: Tuesdays and Thursdays 8:00 AM - 9:15 AM****Blaze Your Trail: None**

As Coloradans, we are interested in our state's history. The state university can be an important place for learning more about Colorado's past and present and its relationship to the nation and world. This course aims to provide Colorado residents, whether natives, newcomers, or visitors a deeper understanding of that history. One objective of the course is for you to master the content of Colorado's history. The course will divide this content into three overlapping chronological themes: Land, Labor, and Leisure. We will begin by exploring geography of Colorado and the ways in which natives and newcomers imagined and lived on the landscape from about 10,000 years ago through the Colorado gold rush era. Next we'll turn to the process by which Coloradans created an American state through their work in extractive industries that linked the state to national and global economies between the 1870s and World War II. Finally, we'll look at how Coloradans reoriented their extractive economy to one based on service; as they did, outdoor recreation, tourism, and nostalgic renditions of the state's laborious past came to define Colorado from the late nineteenth century down to the present. Throughout, the course will emphasize the reciprocal relationship between Colorado's environment and people, which shaped the state's history in all of its phases.

HIST 370: United States Through Film**Instructor: Dr. Brady****Meeting Times: Tuesdays and Thursdays 09:30 AM - 10:45 AM****Blaze Your Trail: None**

In this class, students will explore Hollywood's changing depictions of historical events across time. For example, we examine how (and why) Hollywood depictions of slavery and enslaved people have changed from over 100 years ago with *Birth of a Nation* to 2013 with *Twelve Years a Slave*. Or how can *The Great Train Robbery* (1903), *Shane* (1953), *Blazing Saddles* (1974) and *The Hateful Eight* (2015) all tell the story of the American West? The class will focus primarily on discussion of films, journal articles, books, film reviews and various primary sources. So come watch some movies with us!

HIST/ECON 379: Economic History of the United States**Instructor: Dr. Schaller****Meeting Times: Mondays, Wednesdays, and Fridays 9:00 AM - 9:50 AM****Blaze Your Trail: None**

This is a split course between the Department of Economics and the Department of History, students can register for either section: HIST 379 or ECON 379 for history credit. This course will cover the economic analysis of growth and welfare from beginning of industrialization to the present.

HIST 380A4: Premodern Western Medicine and Public Health**Instructor: Dr. Archambeau****Meeting Times: Mondays, Wednesdays, and Fridays 9:00 AM - 9:50 AM****Blaze Your Trail: Environment, Gender, and Borderlands**

We will consider the human experience of sickness and healing in the Mediterranean and Europe before 1800ce. We will explore how medical theories and practices shaped personal health, public health, sanitation, and hospital care. This class will have a special focus on how environment and epidemic disease changed the practice of public health.

HIST 392: Seminar in Historical Methods**Instructor: Dr. Childers****Meeting Times: Mondays, Wednesdays, and Fridays 1:00 PM - 1:50 PM****Blaze Your Trail: Environment**

Historical methods lie at the foundation of historical training and thought. From asking historical questions to writing historical narrative, this course introduces students to basic concepts and techniques of historical methodology. It acquaints students with common issues that present themselves in the interpretation, analysis, and presentation of the past. Students will improve their skills in planning, research, and composition processes, develop a better understanding of the discipline of history and a sharpened sense of what it means to think historically. Upon successful completion of this course, students will be able to better utilize library resources for research, appropriately cite sources, avoid plagiarism, and write analytical and evaluative essays – skills needed to for all upper history division courses and the capstone.

HIST 420: Africa: Precolonial States and Empires**Instructor: Dr. Sunseri****Meeting Times: Tuesdays and Thursdays 2:00 PM - 3:15 PM****Blaze Your Trail: Empire, Colonialism, & Borderlands**

This course surveys African societies, states, and empires before 1800. We examine human origins in Africa, the development of states and civilizations in the Nile region and Sudanic West Africa, the arrival of Islam and its effects on state formation, trade, and social development, and the impact of the Atlantic slave trade and social transformation after the fifteenth century. This course covers the entire continent, concentrating on North and West Africa in the first eight weeks, and eastern and southern Africa in the last seven weeks, including Ethiopia and Swahili civilization, the Zimbabwean states, the Khoisan in South Africa, and the beginning of Dutch settlement at the Cape. By surveying all regions of Africa, by the end of the semester you will have a strong knowledge of the diversity of the continent created by varied ecological zones, material environments, and social structures, and you will be able to critically assess modern representations (and misrepresentations) of the continent. I emphasize environmental and social themes in this course.

HIST 432: Sacred History in the Bible and the Qur'an,**Instructor: Dr. Lindsay****Meeting Times: Mondays, Wednesdays, and Fridays 1:00 PM - 1:50 PM****Blaze Your Trail: Religion**

This course examines competing conceptions of sacred history in the Jewish, Christian, and Islamic traditions. We will examine these issues through a comparative analysis of biblical figures that all three traditions venerate. We will also examine competing conceptions of Jesus in Christianity and Islam. In addition to relevant excerpts from the Hebrew Bible/Old Testament, New Testament, and Qur'an, students will be expected to analyze classical Jewish, Christian, and Islamic exegesis of these texts, for it is only through this interpretive literature that we can understand the historical development of traditional Jewish, Christian, and Islamic conceptions of sacred history.

HIST 450: Ancient China**Instructor: Dr. Didier****Meeting Times: Mondays, Wednesdays, and Fridays 11:00 AM - 11:50AM****Blaze your Trail: None**

This course will explore the development of civilizations in China from Neolithic times to 200 B.C.E.

HIST 455: Tokugawa and Modern Japan, 1600-Present**Instructor: Dr. Xiang****Meeting Times: Tuesdays and Thursdays 12:30 PM - 1:45 PM****Blaze your Trail: Empire, Colonialism & Borderlands; War and Diplomacy**

Japan is often presented to us as a land of vast cultural homogeneity where timeless and unique traditions – the martial arts, sumo, harmonic societal relations to name a few– coexist with cutting-edge, futuristic technological innovations. However, many of the so-called “traditional” elements of Japanese culture are nothing but modern inventions, forged by late nineteenth-century ideology and passed as uncontested truths vouched by respected historical precedent in order to foster a sense of “national” unity and identity. In this course we will focus on issues related to Japan’s historical developments in “feudalism,” Confucianism, constitutionalism, imperialism, liberalism, socialism, fascism, totalitarianism, militarism, democracy, capitalism, and post-modernism. Contemporary issues related to war, peace, and Japan’s international role will also be discussed.

HIST 456: East Asia in the Age of Empire, 1800-Present

Instructor: Dr. Alberts

Meeting Times: Mondays, Wednesdays, and Fridays 2:00 PM - 2:50 PM

Blaze your Trail: Empire, Colonialism & Borderlands

Rise of modern imperialism in East Asia, both from without (the "West") and from within (Japan), 1800-present.

HIST 460: Slavery in the Americas

Instructor: Dr. Gudmestad

Meeting Times: Mondays, Wednesdays, and Fridays, 2:00-2:50

Blaze your Trail: Race & Ethnicity

The African slave trade was the largest forced migration of people in human history. It was also one of the most consequential. This course will look at why slavery became associated with race, how slavery changed the historical trajectories of four continents, how enslaved people lived their lives, and how and why slavery ended in the Americas. You will become an expert in a particular aspect of slavery as you create a project to share with a public audience. Social Studies Teaching students will have the opportunity to do an assignment that is directly applicable to teaching, such as creating a lesson plan.

HIST 467: Modern Jewish History

Instructor: Dr. Yalen

Meeting Times: Mondays, Wednesdays, and Fridays 11:00 AM - 11:50AM

Blaze your Trail: Race & Ethnicity

This history course focuses on the political, social, cultural, and economic dimensions of modern Jewish history from both a regional and global perspective.

HIST 470: World Environmental History, 1500-Present

Instructor: Dr. Sheflin

Meeting Times: Tuesdays and Thursdays 9:30 AM - 10:45 AM

Blaze your Trail: Environment

This course will begin during the European Age of Exploration and carry forward to the recent past with a special focus on the interaction between humans and the environment during that period. Environmental history assumes that humans are a part of the natural world, that natural conditions have significantly impacted human history, and that the study of human-environmental interactions, or how humans have shaped and been shaped by nature, is an innovative and insightful lens through which we can reconsider the nation's past. By using that framing, we will investigate how we can better understand regional and global histories, challenges, and interconnections as they have developed over the last 500 years.

HIST 476: History of America's National Parks**Instructor: Dr. Childers****Meeting Times: Mondays, Wednesdays, and Fridays 10:00 AM - 10:50AM****Blaze Your Trail: Environment; Race and Ethnicity; Empire, Colonialism, and Borderlands**

This course will explore the history of America's National Parks from their nineteenth century roots through contemporary debates over recreational access and environmental preservation.

It will delve into topics such as Native rights, wilderness, commercial development, outdoor recreation, and property rights, to name but a few. All of which reflected American history from the early nineteenth century through the twenty-first century. Through using the parks to understand broader American history, and by attending to the rise of methodologies associated with the parks like public history, the course will add context to how we view the national parks today.

HIST 479: Practice of Public History**Instructor: Dr. Payne****Meeting Times: Mondays, Wednesdays, and Fridays 11:00 AM - 11:50AM****Blaze Your Trail: Public and Digital History Concentration**

Most simply defined, Public History is any kind of history that is produced for an audience beyond an exclusively academic one. There are many career opportunities for historians who wish to work with the public in settings outside of the classroom – this course will introduce students to the range of work historians do as public historians. This course will combine field trips, discussions with guest professionals, lectures, readings, class discussions, and assignments to introduce students to various types of Public History work. We will explore the theory, method, and practice of the primary areas of public history.

HIST 492-001: Capstone Seminar**As Seen on TV****Instructor: Dr. Brady****Meeting Times: Thursdays 2:00 PM -4:50 PM**

In 1947, there were approximately ten television broadcasting stations and seven thousand televisions sets in the U.S. By 1950, Americans had purchased over seven million televisions sets. Today, in what some media scholars have called “the Platinum Age of Television,” Americans watch an abundance of television on their phones, tablets, computers, and, yes, even on television sets. In this capstone, we will investigate the history and evolution of television as entertainment and as a form of communication. We will examine changes over time in various genres as well as exploring how representations of Americans and American life have evolved. In addition to weekly readings, viewings, and discussions, students will produce a primary source-based research project. The project can take the form of a traditional research paper, but students will also have the option to create a digital project instead. This capstone allows students to hone numerous skills while also exploring the history of one of the most powerful cultural forces in the past 70 years.

HIST 492-002: Capstone Seminar**The Great Patriotic War: The Soviet Experience in WWII****Instructor: Dr. Yalen****Meeting Times: Mondays 1:00PM - 2:50PM**

The Soviet defeat of Nazism catapulted the USSR to global superpower status and superseded the October Revolution of 1917 as an enduring source of collective identity for the Soviet people. Since the collapse of the Soviet Union in 1991, however, contested memories of the war have fueled regional conflicts, and Russian leader Vladimir Putin has exploited pride in the Soviet victory to promote Russian nationalism. This seminar explores the political, social, cultural, and economic dimensions of the Great Patriotic War, drawing on cutting-edge scholarship and a wealth of translated primary sources. We will spend the first half of the semester reading and discussing historiography of the war, and students will then pursue individual research projects developed in consultation with the instructor. Possible topics are infinite, but include the impact of Stalin's bloody purges in the late 1930s on his top military personnel and the USSR's war-readiness; the 1939 Hitler-Stalin Non-Aggression Pact; Nazi genocide and the "Holocaust by Bullets" on Soviet territory; the Siege of Leningrad; the evacuation of major industries and entire populations to Soviet Central Asia; the experiences of ordinary Red Army soldiers, both men and women, at the front; the fate of Soviet POWs and their families; the role of partisan resistance units in defeating Nazism; wartime culture, propaganda, and journalistic reportage; Stalin's persecution and deportation of ethnic minorities accused of collaboration with the Nazis; the Soviet role in the Nuremberg Trials; and the long-term impact of catastrophic demographic losses (roughly twenty-seven million citizens) on Soviet society. At the end of the semester, students will present highlights of their research with one another.

HIST 492-003: Capstone Seminar

How to Be an Emperor or Empress-Asia

Instructor: Dr. Didier

Meeting Times: Mondays, and Wednesdays 3:00 PM - 4:15 PM

Being a successful emperor or empress is a tricky business. Writing and speaking well are also tricky. While the cost of being a poor emperor / empress - often involving loss of one's throne, empire, or life - probably exceeds the cost of being an unattained writer or speaker, being either or both a poor empress / emperor of one's own life and an unaccomplished writer or speaker can wreak havoc on that life. Thus, here our ultimate purpose is to learn to be good emperors / empresses of our own lives and environments. To accomplish this end, we must come to understand both power and its utility. The latter, in this world, surely involves the complex use of the word, both written and spoken. So, we study Asian empresses and emperors, and we talk and write about them