HIST 201-001: Seminar: Pandemics in U.S. History

In the aftermath of a global COVID-19 pandemic, this course presents a unique opportunity to study historical epidemics and what they can teach us about how human beings experience and respond to disease outbreaks. We will explore how diseases like plague, smallpox, cholera, influenza, and COVID-19 became powerful biological forces that shaped the history of the United States and the world. By paying attention to both changes and continuities in human responses to pandemics, we will gain a deeper understanding of the challenges facing healthcare systems, the construction of public health systems, the advent of Germ Theory, and the development of modern biomedical approaches to disease prevention and treatment. We will also pay close attention to the ways in which illness shaped encounters between European and indigenous people and the intersection of disease, race, and gender.

HIST 201-002: Seminar: TBD

Introduces students to professional historical skills including research methods, citation, and writing via intensive investigation of a historical time period or theme.

HIST 250: African American History

Slavery, emancipation, labor, political, socioeconomic, and cultural history of African Americans since colonial times.
Credit not allowed for both ETST 250 and HIST 250.
HIST 303: Hellenistic World: Alexander to Cleopatra

This course will examine the Hellenistic age of Greek history from the death of Alexander the Great, in 323 BC, through Roman acquisition of Greece, until the age of Antony and Cleopatra in 31 BC and the emergence of the Roman Empire. Until only recently, this period of Greek history has been neglected by scholars who tend to prefer the development and zenith of Greece in the archaic and classical periods respectively. However, through the study of the political, cultural, religious and social developments during this time, this class will reveal a rich history well deserving of a closer look.

HIST 313: Law and Justice in Medieval Europe

Explores the changing practice of law in Europe from 800-1400. Using primary and secondary sources, introduces the emergence of legal professionals, courts, and documents. Examines the transformation of legal practices, such as trial by ordeal, torture, and trial by jury. Analyzes the goals of legal practice and the experiences of individuals in the court system.
HIST 324: Imperial Russia

Tsarist Russia from its beginnings to the November 1917 Revolution; emphasis on modern period.

HIST 331: The Soviet Union

The Soviet Union has been described as an evil empire, a utopian dream gone awry, a model of modernization, and a colonial enterprise. In this course we will take a multi-faceted approach, exploring the political, economic, cultural, institutional, and social forces that once constituted Soviet civilization. We will address the relationship of utopian ideology and state-sponsored violence; ethnic diversity and the key role of Bolshevik nationality policy in both the consolidation and ultimate collapse of the Soviet Union; the role of visual propaganda in a society with historically low literacy rates; the evolving status of women and the family in Soviet society; the importance of literature as a mode of resistance to political repression; and the degree to which the Soviet Union was actually a “socialist” state. Towards the end of the semester, we will consider how the roughly seven-decades-long Soviet experiment continues to affect the region now known as “Eurasia” and its relationship to the West.
**HIST 345: Civil War Era**

Between 1861 and 1865, the Civil War claimed over 620,000 American lives by some estimates. In this course, we strive to understand this cataclysmic conflict by situating the military history of the war within broader political, social, and economic contexts. In the process, we will learn about specific battles as well as the strategies and tactics that secured Union victory. We will also focus on the experience of everyday people such as freed slaves, women, and common soldiers in the Union and Confederate armies. Finally, we will examine how the Civil War has been remembered via monuments and the enduring controversies they inspire in the present day. Along the way, we will learn about the war as a medical event, how the war played out in the West, and Colorado’s limited but fascinating role in the Civil War. We will also pay special attention to the music of the period.

**HIST 347: United States 1876 -1917**

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 348: United States 1917 - 1945**

This course will cover some of the most significant events in world history through the lens of America’s past. It will investigate how the cultural conflicts of the Roaring ’20s foreshadowed the civil rights movements of postwar America. It will look at how the New Deal set the foundation for modern political history by reconceptualizing the role of the government in American life. It will also explore how American fought in two world wars and became a superpower in the aftermath of World War II.
HIST 351: American West to 1900

This class explores the American West as an exciting international meeting ground of diverse groups of people coming together in a beautiful yet challenging environment. We will explore the interactions of a multitude of different racial, ethnic, national, and religious groups in the region but also the huge changes brought by United States expansionism particularly in the form of mining, ranching, farming and the development of the railroads.

HIST 350: United States Foreign Relations since 1914

This course investigates the history of United States foreign policy since the start of its participation in World War I. For some scholars, that moment marked a significant shift in a turn toward an American state and foreign policy agenda that sought more economic, political, and diplomatic influence abroad. To be sure, American involvement in that conflict facilitated its ascendancy as an international power, a rise that culminated with its progression to superpower status in the aftermath of World War II. The decades following that war witnessed significant ebbs and flows in Americans' willingness and ability to influence global dynamics. The "hot" wars of the Cold War years, the erosion of the USSR in the early 1990s, American involvement in the Middle East, and the development of the War on Terror have all produced shifts in American policy and its execution. The nation currently stands at a crossroads as it deals with allies both old and new as well as grave concerns throughout the world. This course will help us consider how it got here and what we should understand about that process by looking at America's changing relationship with the world over time.

HIST 354: American Architectural History

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 363: Colorado History

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 357: The American Military Experience

Role of the Armed Forces in American society; Development of military traditions, institutions, and practices.

T, R, 11:00 - 12:15
Mike Mansfield

HIST 380A4: Pre-Modern Medicine and Public Health

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.

T, R, 12:30 - 1:45
Nicole Archambeau
HIST 410: Colonial Latin America

This class examines Latin American society from Pre-Columbian times through the independence movements of the early nineteenth century. The course is built around the following themes: the rise and conquest of indigenous civilizations, the evolution of colonial society, the birth of blended (syncretic) identities distinctive to Latin America, the place of Latin America in an expanding global economy, and the ambiguity of Latin American “independence.” Readings, lectures, and discussions will allow students to apply historical concepts—such as honor, gender, colonialism, nationalism, and the transition from a social order of castes to one of economic classes—to specific case studies. All CSU junior and seniors are welcome in this course.

T, R, 9:30 - 10:45  
Jared Orsi

HIST 412: Mexico

Social, economic, and political development of Mexican people from pre-Columbian times to present.

M,W,F 10:00-10:50  
Doug Yarrington

HIST 431: Ancient Israel

This course examines the history of Ancient Israel and the Near Eastern world of the Hebrew Bible/Old Testament, with a focus on the emergence of the kingdom of Israel and its subsequent political history down to the Babylonian exile and return; the social world and rhetoric of the Hebrew prophets; and the textualization of the ancient Israelite/Jewish historiographical tradition down to the Persian, Hellenistic, and early Roman periods.

M,W,F 11:00 - 11:50  
James Lindsay
HIST 433: Muhammad and the Origins of Islam

This course examines the historical context of the emergence of Islam, its origins in seventh-century Arabia, and the rapid Islamic imperial conquests of the Byzantine and Sassanian Near East and much of the Mediterranean world by the mid-eighth century. We will examine important themes in the formation of the classical Islamic religious, legal, and historiographical traditions down to the early tenth century. Since the majority of the population resisted conversion to Islam during this period, we will also examine how Jewish, Christian, and Zoroastrian subjects of the new Islamic empire were able to retain their distinctive religious identities while at the same time accommodating themselves to and interacting with the new Islamic imperial order in areas of politics, society, law, religion, marriage, burial practices, warfare, etc.

M.W.F
9:00-9:50
James Lindsay

HIST 450: Ancient China

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

M.W.F
1:00-1:50
John Didier

HIST 452: China in the Modern World, 1600-Present

Will the 21st century be the Chinese century? As China continues to play a critical role on the world stage and tensions between the U.S. and China continues to affect many people’s lives, it is crucial to learn more about China and the global world we live in. This course examines the social and cultural history of modern China from the late imperial time to today. It explores the end of the imperial rule, the Chinese revolution, the Communist Party, China during the World War Two, and the economic reforms that paved the way to China’s role in the world economy. Major themes include the state and society relations, environmental issues, gender relations, commercialization, and internationalization.

TBD
10:00-10:50
Hongyan Xiang
HIST 463: Science and Technology in Modern History

In this course, you will learn about and critique the notion of the scientific revolution as a purely European enterprise. Together, we will explore scientific and technological innovation in diverse places and times. Get ready to examine the interconnections between technological advances and scientific discovery as well as the development of specific disciplines—Biology, Chemistry, Physics, Engineering, Computer Science—that have come to be known as STEM. At its core, the course is about the nature of our understanding of reality (life, nature, the universe), the order of knowledge (why certain ways of knowing have gained a privileged position and others were cast aside or fell to a diminished status), and the current organization of the modern university system itself.

HIST 469: The Crusades

The purpose of this course is to better understand the series of events that occurred between 1000 and 1500 in Western Europe that are collectively known as “The Crusades.” We will employ a range of sources, including documents, material culture, architectural remains, images and modern scholarship to examine the origins of “Holy War,” explore the culture of the Crusader States founded in the Latin East, and assess the legacy of religious violence on our society today. While much of our focus will be devoted to understanding what the crusades were and what they reveal about medieval society, we will also use the crusades as a vehicle to gain a better appreciation for how history is made, honing our abilities to analyze sources and think critically about the past in the process.
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, in class assignments, stakeholder and community engagement and real-world service learning assignments all designed to give students the chance to practice doing public history.

In 1872, the U.S. Congress established Yellowstone National Park as “a public park or pleasuring-ground for the benefit and enjoyment of the people.” Today, the National Park System include 424 units, stretching from the Atlantic coast to the coral reefs surrounding Hawaii. This class explores the history of America’s National Parks from their creation through the struggles in managing them. Students will engage with and discuss historical documents and books in grappling with the historical questions what are the National Parks for? A seemingly simple question with a very difficult answer.
HIST 492-02: Capstone Seminar: True Crime

Over the past decade, a veritable deluge of podcasts, documentaries, and books have fed a quickly growing American appetite for stories about criminals and the crimes they commit. From Unsolved Mysteries to Serial, interest in true crime has transformed from fringe topic to mainstream entertainment. But a morbid fascination in true crime is an age-old American tradition, one that seeks out the aberrant both for titillation and a genuine curiosity about the fragility of the human condition. True crime is history, reliant on the historian’s methods of disciplined research and carefully crafted narratives. Through a broad reading of primary evidence and secondary analysis, this seminar will investigate criminals, crimes, and notions of true crime throughout history, especially in terms of race, class, gender, and sexuality. This is a chance for crime junkies and other historians to research their favorite murders, crimes, and the criminals who commit them, because someone always knows something.

HIST 492-01: Capstone Seminar Historiography of Alexander the Great

Alexander the Great is perhaps the best example of how a single individual, for all of the restrictions of his generation, can rapidly, fundamentally, and irrevocably change his world. Or is he? Since an objective narrative of his life and accomplishments does not exist and likely never has, the nature of our ancient sources lead modern portrayals of Alexander to be influenced by the author’s own time and perceptions more than objective historical truth. This course will examine the ancient and modern sources for Alexander and see how every generation has used him to understand the classical world as well as their own.