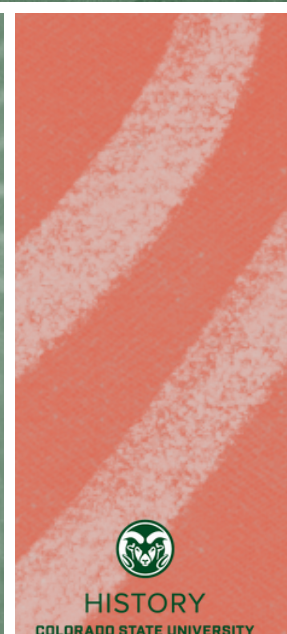


Fall 2024

History Course Catalog

Upper-division history course offerings



HISTORY
COLORADO STATE UNIVERSITY

Blaze Your Trail: Revolution, Empire, Colonization

HIST 301-001: Roman Republic

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.



MWF
10-10:50

Kristin
Heineman

HIST 302-001: Roman Empire

This course will examine the history of the Roman Empire from the beginnings of the Augustan principate (31 BC), through the Roman peace of the first and second centuries, the turmoil of the third century, the restoration of the empire under Christian rulership in the fourth century, and the fall of the western empire in the fifth century. We will explore the major political events of the period and their chronological framework and will also examine broader social and cultural questions that relate to Rome and the Mediterranean world.



Online

Kristin
Heineman

Blaze Your Trails: War and Diplomacy, Empire and Colonialism, Borderlands and Religion

HIST 311-001: Medieval England

This course will examine the history of England from 500 to 1500, tracing its evolution from a loose association of Celtic tribes to a uniform kingdom. It will employ a range of sources, including documents, archeological remains, material culture and modern scholarship, in order to examine the influence of repeated invasions, the formation of its political structure, and the emergence of its unique legal system. It will also explore the ongoing tensions resulting from internal and external colonization and the process by which religious uniformity was established under the Roman Catholic Church. 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.



T,R,
11-12:15

Erin
Jordan



HIST 313-001: Law and Justice in Medieval Europe

In readings about local disputes and the laws that guided Western Christendom, we will explore how written law codes and the legal profession transformed over the course of the Middle Ages. The class will also cover the rare legal structure of juries in England that were eventually adopted in many places around the globe.

T,R,
8-9:15

Nicole
Archambeau

Blaze Your Trails: Revolution, War and Diplomacy, Women and Gender



HIST 318-001: The Age of Enlightenment

What do Adam Smith, Voltaire, Immanuel Kant, Mary Wollstonecraft, and Catherine the Great of Russia have in common? They all show up in HIST 318 -- and you can meet them there! Learn about the leading figures of western Europe's "Age of Enlightenment," as well as the political, social, economic, and cultural history of the eighteenth century.

T,R,
2-3:15

Diane
Margolf

Blaze Your Trails: Empire, Colonialism and Borderlands, Race and Ethnicity, Environment



HIST 340-001: Colonial Borderlands, 1492-1800

Encounters among Africans, Europeans, and Indigenous peoples in North America and their social, cultural, and environmental consequences. Using cutting-edge scholarship and primary sources, this course examines European global empires and African and Native resistance through attempts to tame the environment and to control natural and agricultural resources, gender and sexuality, and human labor.

MWF
1-1:50

Ann
Little



HIST 344-001: Antebellum America

MWF
2-2:50

David
Korostyshevsky

Have you ever wondered how America became the nation we live in today? In this course, we will explore the central problems in the political, social, and economic history of a young United States in its formative early decades, roughly speaking, 1800-1860. As we study specific events like cholera outbreaks and the Mexican War, we will examine the changing status of women, the effects of immigration, and the experience of Native Americans. We will also gain a deeper appreciation of the fundamental significance of slavery, abolitionism, and the complex causes of the Civil War in this period. Ultimately, we will use the methods and approaches that professional historians use to “do” history to analyze complex scholarly perspectives, study primary historical documents, and understand the significance of historical events to present-day debates and controversies.



T,R,
11-12:15

Derek
Everett

HIST 345-002: Civil War Era

How did the United States survive its greatest challenge? This course explores the crises that threatened to destroy the Union in the mid-nineteenth century, and the military campaigns that ultimately held it together. It also illuminates the war's impact on diverse people across the country, both near to and far from the battlefields, and the postwar efforts to restore stability to the traumatized country. Lectures, assigned readings, and research papers will also illustrate the war's legacy, reverberating into our own times.



MWF
10-10:50

Tracy
Brady

HIST 348-001: United States, 1917-1945

During the years from 1917 to 1945 some of the most momentous events in the history of the world occurred. In this class we will explore the meaning of both World War I and World War II – on the home front and the battlefield. Both wars were watershed events in the history of the U.S. We will also examine the period of the Roaring Twenties – a complex time filled with multi-faceted social, political, and economic conditions. The KKK's membership peaks throughout the nation at the same time the Harlem Renaissance blooms. Flappers dance until dawn at speakeasies while John Scopes is convicted for teaching evolution in Tennessee. The Great Depression and the New Deal transformed the nation in a multitude of ways as well. We will also read some amazing books as well as watch several excellent films.

HIST 349-001: United States since 1945

At the end of World War II, the United States faced a hopeful future. What followed was an era strong on promises but ambiguous on accomplishments: various civil rights movements, the Cold War, the Space Race. Against a backdrop of unprecedented power and affluence, Americans fought to expression their individual identities. Amidst the bold promises and their imperfect fulfillment, this course will interrogate rhetoric and reality in the second half of the twentieth and early twenty-first centuries. Students will probe the debate between the two master narratives of postwar history—the Cold War and mass consumption—through a broad reading of the evolving secondary scholarship and, especially, primary sources, including popular culture (especially film, television, and music) and material culture. At the same time, students will interrogate the challenges of researching and interpreting the very recent past and the assess the usefulness of the field.



MWF
1-1:50

Adam
Thomas

HIST 350-001: United States Foreign Relations since 1914

This course is an introduction to the history of American foreign policy since the beginning of 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 and that culminated with its progression to superpower status in the aftermath of World War II. The decades following that conflict 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 can understand by looking at America's changing relationship with the world over time.



T, R
9:30-10:45

Douglas
Sheflin

HIST 351-002: American West to 1900

The American West was one of the places with the earliest and greatest cultural diversity in the US, from diverse western Indigenous peoples, displaced eastern Indigenous people, and immigrants from all over the world, including white Americans. We will explore the meeting ground of all these peoples and study their interactions with one another as well as the landscape. We will read award winning historical monographs, examine primary sources, and practice research, writing, and discussion skills.



MWF
1-1:50

Tracy
Brady

Blaze Your Trails: Environment, Women and Gender

HIST 354-001: American Architectural History

This course is foremost a history class that uses the built environment as its primary text. It investigates architecture as artifact and treats buildings, neighborhoods, and cities as texts recording the cultural, political, and economic circumstances in which they were constructed. Yet like all texts, familiarity with the language is necessary for comprehension. This course seeks to unlock that language. As such, this is not a design class. Instead, it will focus on the development and analysis of American architecture. Through studying the language of architecture, historians can “read” buildings and landscapes, offering a more vibrant and informed interpretation of history than the written record alone can provide.



MWF
10-10:50

Adam
Thomas

HIST 355-001: American Environmental History

This course is an introduction to the study of environmental history with a specific focus on the United States from the colonial period to the present. It 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. It will help us to think in new ways about events that we have long known something about, whether English colonization of New England, the Civil War, the New Deal, or climate change. In doing so, we will better appreciate how thinking about how humans have interacted with their environments will help us to better understand the past and present as well as think about future challenges.



T,R,
2-3:15

Douglas
Sheflin

Blaze Your Trails: War and Diplomacy

HIST 357-001 American Military Experience

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.



T,R,
12:30-1:45

Mike
Mansfield



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.

T,R,
9:30-10:45

Jared
Orsi



HIST 367-001: African American History since 1865

Provides students the opportunity to examine the historical significance of African Americans from the Reconstruction era through the present day. The course seeks to have students develop a deeper understanding of the experiences and contributions of African Americans to the growth and development of the United States. The class will examine various topics, including segregation, politics, culture, and social movements. We will explore these topics and themes using various primary and secondary sources. Students will be asked to engage in classroom discussions and analytical writing assignments.

MWF
11-11:50

Alex
Pittman



HIST 372-001: US History and Television

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 class, 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 and why representations of Americans and American life have evolved, with a particular focus on race, gender, and sexuality. In addition to weekly readings, viewings, and discussions, students will produce a primary source-based research project. This class allows students to hone their skills while also exploring the history of one of the most powerful cultural forces in the past 70 years.

T,R
12:30-1:45

Tracy
Brady



HIST 392-001: Seminar in Historical Methods

Through the theme of food history, we will explore what makes History a unique discipline. We'll analyze historical arguments to better understand the use of primary and secondary sources and the development of historical questions. We'll practice the methods of analysis that let us enter the historical conversation. And we'll develop writing skills for evidence-based research proposals and projects.

T,R,
11-12:15

Nicole
Archambeau



HIST 392-002: Painful Pasts: What is Historical Trauma and How Does It Affect the Present?

From Civil War monuments to slavery reparations to land back movements, Americans continue to grapple with the hurts of long ago. There is little consensus, however, on what role difficult past events should play in the present, or if they should be remembered at all. This course will examine the concept of historical trauma. It will look at the ways in which trauma becomes lodged in individual and collective psyches and how it is passed on over generations, changing, festering, and sometimes healing as it does. The course will be discussion and project based. We will also practice standard historical methodologies such as citation as well as crafting arguments and supporting them with evidence.

T,R,
12:30-1:45

Jared
Orsi



HIST 414-001: Revolutions in Latin America

Revolutions—sudden, dramatic transformations of social, economic and political structures, accomplished in part by popular mobilization—have played a crucial role in the history of Latin America. We'll begin the class by studying some theories of revolution and then move on to three case studies from the Cold War: Cuba, Chile and Nicaragua. By the end of the course, students should have an enhanced appreciation of the connection between history and theory as well as issues relating to the social and political struggles of the non-Western world.

M,W
3-4:15

Doug
Yarrington

HIST 435-001: Jihad in Islamic History

Some history courses focus on a broad region over decades, even centuries. This course examines the history of a very small and contested region over a span of more than 3,000 years. Issues we will investigate include: the importance of physical geography, material culture, the Bible, and other ancient texts for understanding the history of ancient Canaan (biblical Israel & Judah) in the context of the ancient Near East; competing conceptions of the Holy Land in the Jewish (Eretz HaKodesh), Christian (Terra Sancta), and Islamic (al-Ard al-Muqaddasa) traditions in antiquity and the middle ages; competing conceptions of the Holy Land in the context of the modern Middle East.



T,R,
9:30-10:45

James
Lindsay

HIST 452-001: China in the Modern World

This course examines the social and cultural history of modern China from the late imperial to modern times. Major topics include the state and society of the late imperial society, the formation of a modern national state, relationships between society and government, economic development and environmental crises, changes in kinship and family life, gender roles, and changing relationships between elite and popular culture.



T,R
12:30-1:45

Hong
Xiang

HIST 475-001: Methods in Digital History

This course introduces students to the theory and practice of doing historical research in a digital environment. By the end of this course students will have acquired a solid understanding of the framework of thought behind digital history, compiling and cleaning data, creating and interpreting digital visualizations, and digitally exhibiting historical interpretations. In this class, students will analyze multiple documents to look for rhetorical patterns, build and analyze complex chronologies, gather and process spatial data, create digital maps and story maps, and run network analyses. None of these activities require students to write any computer code. This course is part of the Department of History graduate program suite of methods courses and counts as an elective in the Master of Arts program. It serves students in the Liberal Arts Plan A (thesis) and Plan B (non-thesis) tracks and the Public History – CRM/Historic Preservation Plan B (non-thesis) specialization.



T,R
3:30-4:45

Leisl
Carr Childers



HIST 480A8-001: Sport and Social Protest in America

MWF
9-9:50

Mike
Mansfield

Introduction to athletes who used their social significance to fight for equity and justice. Examine the role that gender, and racial stereotypes play in shaping public perceptions of the modern athlete, and the debate as to whether or not sport is the proper venue to carry on the fight for social justice.”



HIST 492-001: Capstone Seminar “To be Extraordinary in China”

M
1-3:50

John
Didier

Being extraordinary in any historical time or geo-cultural-political context requires learning, skill, understanding of one’s local socio-cultural-political-economic context, and the will to be extraordinary. Historically many such extraordinary people became political and/or military leaders. Others became leaders of other sorts, e.g., in technological, economic, musical, artistic, or other pursuits. The former are often well-represented historically, the latter usually not so much. Thus, in our study of the extraordinary in historical China ca. 600-1988, we will tend to rely on relatively well-sourced accounts of those who became political and/or military leaders, but in their study we also encounter many other extraordinary individuals (and events) whose deeds, accomplishments, roles, or facets we note and appreciate (whether positively, neutrally, or critically). In our modern literate world, being extraordinary in any facet of our global activities requires perhaps not supreme ability in the literary and spoken arts but at least solid and convincing competence in both. Thus, our tasks in this class include not only studying and understanding the historically extraordinary but also the extraordinary human skills and arts of writing and speaking well.



HIST 492-002: Capstone Seminar: The Story of Our Own Backyard: Interpreting Colorado

T, R,
12:30-3:20

Derek
Everett

Is Colorado just one of many giant, invisible rectangles in the American West, or is it a tangible community and identity? This capstone explores the unique stories of the Centennial State, as well as the roles it has played in regional, national, and international history. We will investigate how the state's history has been interpreted in broad and specific ways, evolving to respond to changing trends in historiography and the wider world, for audiences ranging from scholars to schoolchildren to the public at large. In addition, we will spend a significant portion of the course focusing on the Sand Creek Massacre, perhaps the most consequential event ever to take place in what is now the state of Colorado, and the ways in which the massacre's interpretation has evolved over the years. Students will take advantage of the many archives and libraries, as well as digital resources, available in the region to compose a primary source-based research paper on an aspect of Colorado history, broadly defined, of their choosing. This course will enable students to demonstrate their skills in scholarly and public history alike, while gaining a better understanding and appreciation of our own backyard.



HIST 492-003: Capstone Seminar: Historiography of Alexander the Great

TR
9:30-12:20

Kristin
Heinemen

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.