

History

Course Offerings / Spring 2026



“History, despite its wrenching pain, cannot be unlived, but if faced with courage, need not be lived again.”

– Maya Angelou

HIST 101 and 102 World History (Multiple Sections)

Examination of global progress in major civilizations from prehistoric times to the present emphasizing the economic, social, cultural, intellectual, and political trends motivating human beings.

(4 Hours Credit)

Meets General Education: Social Configurations (SC)

Met General Education Prior to Fall 2024: IIA or IIB

HIST 201 and 202 History of the United States (Multiple Sections)

Survey of the political, economic, social, and cultural factors that have shaped the pattern of life in the United States. Particular problems examined in the light of their sources and historical development. HIST 201 goes through 1865 and HIST 202 from 1865 to the present.

(4 Hours Credit)

Meets General Education: Humanity in Context (HIC)

Met General Education Prior to Fall 2024: IIB



HIST 211 The Environment in History Dr. Emily Story



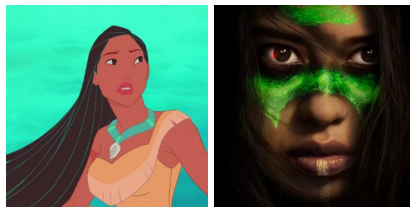
Examine historical relationships between human beings and the nonhuman world. Study ideas about nature, interactions between people and the environment, and the consequences of those ideas and interactions. Take a thematic approach, addressing dimensions of environmental history such as climate, animals, disease, capitalism, cities, and environmental justice in different contexts.

(4 Hours Credit)

Meets General Education: Social Configurations (SC), Environmental Sustainability (ES)

HIST 220 Native Americans and Film Dr. Céline Carayon

Explores representations of Native Americans and Native American history through films, both by non-Indian and by Indigenous movie-makers. Connects historical events and documents to movies, from classic "westerns" to new Indian cinema, engaging students in a reflection about the impact of popular



culture on society. Class meets for film viewings on Tuesdays, shorter discussion session on Thursdays.

(4 Hours Credit)

Meets General Education: Human Expression (HE)

HIST 224 Hitler and the Third Reich Dr. Richard Bowler

Examines the major causes, personalities, policies, events, and significance of the Third Reich. Focuses on Hitler and the rise of the Nazi Party, the instabilities and collapse of the Weimar Republic, Hitler's so-called "seizure of power," the Nazi racial state, World War II in Europe, the Holocaust, and the destruction and legacy of the Third Reich.

(4 Hours Credit)

Met General Education Prior to Fall 2024: IIB



HIST 250 America in the 1970s Dr. Dean Kotlowski

Archie Bunker, bell bottoms, *The Exorcist*, Nixon, *Grease*, and disco – the 1970s conjure memories of such personalities, fads, and other pop-cultural phenomena. Survey American history during the so-called "Me Decade" using films, documentaries, readings, discussions, lectures, and primary sources to explore political, diplomatic, economic, social, intellectual, and cultural trends.

(4 Hours Credit)

Meets General Education: Humanity in Context (HIC), Diversity and Inclusion (DI)

Met General Education Prior to Fall 2024: IIB



HIST 302 Colonial and Revolutionary America (1500-1789) Dr. Céline Carayon

Detailed study of early North America from colonial settlements on Native lands to the founding of the United States. Economic, political, social, cultural, and religious factors are emphasized. Consideration of English policy and the Revolution are included. Celebrating the 250th anniversary of the Declaration of Independence with a special emphasis on the Revolutionary era.

(4 Hours Credit)

Meets General Education: Humanity in Context (HIC)

Met General Education Prior to Fall 2024: IIB

HIST 309 Americans in the Gilded Age, 1865-1905

Dr. Tom Goyens

Explore American politics and society between Lincoln and Theodore Roosevelt. Cover the challenges of Reconstruction and subsequent race relations, industrial transformation and its discontents, everyday life of immigrants and native-born, science and religion, the depression of the 1890s, and continental and overseas imperialism.
(4 Hours Credit)

Meets General Education: Humanity in Context (HIC)

Met General Education Prior to Fall 2024: IIB



HIST 311 History of England and Great Britain, 1702 to the Present **Dr. Kristen Walton**

Survey of England and Great Britain from 1660 and the Restoration to the present, emphasizing institutional growth and development, the expansion of the empire and Britain's rise to a major world power.

(4 Hours Credit)

Met General Education Prior to Fall 2024: IIB

HIST 314 African American History to 1865

Dr. Aston Gonzalez

Explore African American history from the Colonial period until the end of the Civil War. Examine how people of African descent understood themselves to be part of local, regional, and global communities. Situate experiences within the economic, political, cultural, and intellectual systems that evolved over the course of more than three centuries. Major topics include free Black communities, resistance to anti-Black racism, enslavement, religious expression, cultural production, the antislavery movement, and institution-building.

(4 Hours Credit)

Meets General Education: Social Configurations (SC)

Met General Education Prior to Fall 2024: IIB



HIST 330 Proseminar in History (Multiple Sections)

Guides students in the production of a thesis-driven formal research paper. Conduct primary research; identify and obtain relevant, trustworthy sources; and analyze those materials. Learn and apply conventions of the historical discipline.

(4 Hours Credit)

Met General Education Prior to Fall 2024: IIB

HIST 343 History of India: 1857 to Present **Dr. Shruti Patel**

Study of political, social, and cultural history of India from the mid-19th century to the present. Emphasis on the period of British rule, growth of Indian nationalism, and the emergence of independent India and Pakistan.

(4 Hours Credit)

Met General Education Prior to Fall 2024: IIB

non-U.S./non-European course

HIST 371 Introduction to Classical Mythology **Dr. Kevin Birch**

Introduces the student to major figures in classical Greek and Roman mythology and demonstrates the interconnectedness of classical mythology and history from ancient times until the present. A general knowledge of classical mythology is indispensable for an understanding of social and political history of both the ancient and modern worlds. Also, without this knowledge, much of literature and art, past and present, would remain unintelligible.

(4 Hours Credit)

Met General Education Prior to Fall 2024: IIB

HIST 423/523 Imperial Russia **Dr. Gregory Ference**

Study of the Russia empire from Peter the Great to the 1917 revolution, focusing on the political, economic, and social developments; Russia's expansion; and the conditions that led to revolution.

(4 Hours Credit/3 Hours Credit for Graduate Course)

Met General Education Prior to Fall 2024: IIB



HIST 430 Research Seminar Capstone: Socialites and Samurai in Kamakura Japan Dr. Michael McCarty

The Kamakura period (1185-1333) saw one of the most fundamental transformations in Japanese history: from the elegant world of the aristocratic courtier commemorated in works like the *Tale of Genji* to the harsh military rule of the emerging samurai warriors. But underneath these simple narratives of mythic change, the complexity and contradictions of Japanese society in this period have been constantly reevaluated and debated by historians. This capstone course examines how medieval Japan emerged through units on political and military history, art and material culture, gender and family, and religion, ultimately guiding each student through an in-depth research project mining the plentiful and evocative, but controversial, textual sources of Kamakura Japan.

(Required C or better.)

(4 Hours Credit)

Meets General Education: Experiential Learning (EL)

Met General Education Prior to Fall 2024: IIB

non-U.S./non-European course



HIST 477/577 Military History of the Modern World Dr. Bart Talbert

Examines the military history of the modern world from 1500 AD to the present. The focus is on the strategy and tactics used by modern armies, how these affected the lives of populations, and how new developments in these fields have influenced the history of the modern world.

(4 Hours Credit/3 Hours Credit for Graduate Course)

HIST 604 Seminar in European History Dr. Belen Vicens

This course explores the legal and constitutional innovations of the European Middle Ages, which laid the foundational principles of modern liberal democracies, including the idea of individual rights, due process, and representative assemblies. Focusing on the legal, political, social, and cultural transformations that facilitated these innovations, the course examines the critical period from the 11th to the 14th centuries, which was marked by two key, interconnected trends: the formation of states and the

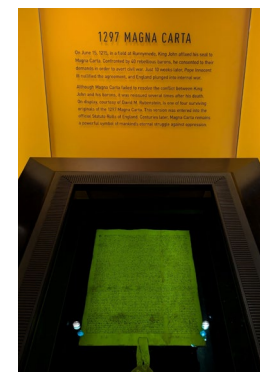
transition from custom to law. During this period, custom – characterized by its communal, informal, and oral traditions – began to give way to written laws, codified and adjudicated by professional judges and lawyers in courtrooms. In the new world of law, custom had to be modified to play by the rules of Roman law, and this prompted a creative tension that gave rise to competing narratives connecting law with authority and legitimacy. Central to our inquiry is the rediscovery of Roman law, its influence on the development of church and state law, the role of emerging universities, and the impact of literacy on culture. Across Western Europe, monarchies and aristocracies, as well as urban communities to a lesser degree at first, jockeyed for power, strategically employing narratives centered on custom and law to assert control over legal and judicial authority. By the late Middle Ages, monarchs had generally established their primacy as heads of state, transitioning from opposition to cooperation with the aristocracy, seeking to integrate these influential members of society within the state apparatus. In the context of state formation, analyze scholarly debates on power, authority, feudalism, and the nature of the state, while paying particular attention to the evolving relationships between the church and states. Explore the roles of Jewish and Muslim communities in the broader medieval legal and political landscape. This course includes a field trip to Washington, DC.

(3 Hours Credit)

HIST 606 Seminar in 20th Century America: Black Power Dr. Joseph Venosa

From Oakland, CA, to Cambridge, MD, the mid-to-late 1960s saw the emergence of a new and dynamic strand of activism in the midst of the civil rights era. Now often called the “Black Power Movement,” this cultural, political, and economic movement saw new ideas emerge that tied together the African American civil rights struggle with broader developments happening across the world, particularly in Africa, the Middle East, and Asia. This graduate seminar examines the movement in all its major intellectual and cultural forms as well as analyzes both the domestic and international ramifications of the movement that developed during the era in question as well as in the following decades.

(3 Hours Credit)



ANTH 100 Cultural Anthropology and Linguistics
Dr. Christine Vassallo-Oby

Introduction to the study of human culture and communication across a wide range of traditional and modern societies, with an emphasis on participant-observation ethnographic fieldwork.

(4 Hours Credit)

Meets General Education: Diversity and Inclusion (DI)

Met General Education Prior to Fall 2024: IIIB or IIIC

**ANTH 200/HONR311 Topics in Anthropology: Ancestry and Ethnicity:
The Role of Genes and Culture in Identity**

Dr. Elizabeth Ragan

Many people are turning to genetic ancestry tests to find out “who they are,” and advances in paleogenetics are providing revolutionary evidence about the relationships between those who lived in the past ... and their connection to us today. It’s easy – perhaps too easy – to reduce identity to biological ancestry, but humans are profoundly biocultural beings, and “family” is also about who we collaborate with and can rely on. Examine how we construct our concepts of kinship, the genetic evidence that has challenged past assumptions, and consider how we might best think about these deeply meaningful social categories.

(4 Hours Credit)

Met General Education Prior to Fall 2024: IIIB or IIIC



ANTH 215 Religion, Magic, and Witchcraft
Dr. Elizabeth Ragan



This is an introduction to the anthropology of religion, which considers not only text-based world religions such as Christianity, Islam, and Buddhism, but more widespread practices such as shamanism, ancestor worship, and beliefs in witches. Why do humans believe in the supernatural, and how do such beliefs shape our behavior?

(4 Hours Credit)

Meets General Education Prior to Fall 2024: IIIB or IIIC

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