

Graduate Course Descriptions – Spring 2021

Below you will find descriptions for some exciting courses which we are offering in Spring semester. Please refer to the [course catalog](#) for a complete list of History course descriptions. Carefully read the descriptions below to discover courses which are interesting to you and relevant for your degree. All graduate courses are restricted and you must contact the instructor for admission to the course and a permission number. Please email the professor and wait patiently for a response.

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HIST 541: MOD EUR HIST / The Enlightenment

Class No. 13062

ONLINE: W 1900-2145

Professor: Goldner, Erik H erik.goldner@csun.edu

The philosopher Kant once defined being “enlightened” as “thinking for yourself.” Explore the eighteenth-century phenomenon called the Enlightenment by reading authors like Kant, Rousseau, and Voltaire who questioned tradition and authority by trying to think for themselves. After engaging with great books from the period in the first half of the course, investigate how historians have thought about the Enlightenment. Is it best understood as a unified movement that advocated solutions to problems? Or is it better thought of as a number of open-ended debates in which the questions are more important than the answers? Does the Enlightenment still matter today? If so, why? Grapple with questions like these through reading and discussion, short written responses, and two medium-length papers that analyze Enlightenment primary and secondary sources.

HIST 570: AMERICAN REV

Class No. 13066

ONLINE: T 1900-2145

Professor: Kaja, Jeffrey D jeffrey.kaja@csun.edu

Description TBA

HIST 574: COLLOQ RECENT US / Colloquium Recent United States History

Class No. 20640

ONLINE: R 1600-1845

Professor: Sides, Joshua A jsides@csun.edu

Prerequisite: Graduate standing or instructor consent. Directed readings surveying major political, social, cultural and economic trends since World War II. Topics include American foreign policy, civil rights and voter suppression, criminal justice, health care, sexual identity/rights, and abortion, among others.

HIST 596RM: RSCH METHODS / Research Methods

Class No. 13132

ONLINE: T 1600-1845

Professor: Kim, Jessica M jessica.kim@csun.edu

This 596 course is designed as a graduate level introduction to the field of public history. We will read about the theories and practices of public historians, how they understand their craft, and how they present complex historical issues to the public. We will also focus on the ethics of practicing public history and examine the ways in which public historians balance professional approaches to history with community interests and memories of the past. To this end, the course will include conversations with practitioners in the field from museums and cultural institutions. As a final project, students will design public history projects that integrate the approaches, theories, and ethics of public history. By the end of the class, students will have an understanding of different subfields of public history, how public historians practice their craft, the ethical standards of public history, and professional opportunities in the field.

HIST 641: SEM MOD EUR HIST / Seminar Modern European History: Memory Culture

Class No. 13064

ONLINE: M 1900-2145

Professor: O'Sullivan, Donal B donal.osullivan@csun.edu

What do societies remember about the past? How do communities construct a historic narrative and why? What is the interplay of forgetting or (mis-)remembering? When do these accounts develop into physical monuments and what is their purpose? When do they cease to be relevant? When do statues fall? At what point do societies change the commonly held notion of their own history? The seminar will investigate these questions based on examples from European and American history. Hopefully, the detailed analysis will enhance our understanding of the process of history and memory. Students will have the opportunity for in-class presentations. You will also have the opportunity to present a draft of your final paper in a model conference setting, including peer discussants.