

DEPARTMENT OF HISTORY

Graduate Course Descriptions – Spring 2023

Below you will find detailed descriptions of the graduate courses which the History Department will be offering in Spring 2023. Please refer to the [course catalog](#) for a complete list of courses and descriptions. 500-level courses are reading colloquia; 600-level courses, except for HIST 601 and HIST 694, are research seminars.

Permission numbers are **not** required to enroll in graduate courses except for HIST 694.

CONTENTS

HIST 563: Militarism in Latin America..... 1

HIST 570: The American Revolution 2

HIST 596AN: Colloquium on North American Borderlands 2

HIST 596EG: Enlightenment and Revolution 2

HIST 601: Theory and Historiography 3

HIST 641: Eastern Europe during the Reagan Administration..... 3

HIST 692C: Research Seminar in Environmental History 3

HIST 694: Practicum for Teaching Assistants..... 3

HIST 698D: Culminating Project..... 4

HIST 563: MILITARISM IN LATIN AMERICA

Dr. Fitzpatrick-Behrens | Th 1900-2145 | SH288

This seminar is designed to introduce students to the relationship among the military, the state, and society in Latin America. The Catholic Church and the military have been the most powerful and permanent institutions in Latin American countries and have sometimes been in direct competition for power and authority. In this class, we will focus on the military with reference to its competition with the Catholic Church. At times, Latin American militaries have identified themselves as a reformist institution whose role was to save society during periods of political corruption. Yet, military groups have also overthrown democratically elected governments and used violent repression against citizens. In fact, military forces in Latin America are better known for fighting what they designated “internal enemies” than for fighting against external enemies. This course will examine military reform and repression, counter-insurgency, U.S. intervention, and military conflict with the Catholic Church.

HIST 570: THE AMERICAN REVOLUTION

Dr. Kaja | W 1600-1845 | SH288

This graduate colloquium provides an introduction to the major writings on and debates surrounding the American Revolution. Themes include, but are not limited to:

- The diverse experiences of people of different races, genders, nationalities, and socio-economic backgrounds before, during, and after the war
- The colonial, imperial, and global dimensions of the Revolution
- The influence political and philosophical ideas had on the Revolution and the drafting of the US Constitution
- The role economic development played in shaping the course of the Revolution and the creation of the US Constitution
- The short- and long-term consequences of the Revolution for people living in North America

The class will allow students to formulate their own answers to important interpretive questions asked of the Revolution. Finally, since many of you are teachers or public historians, or are considering careers in those fields, we will also discuss how best to present the material we study to K-12 and college students, as well as public audiences.

HIST 596AN: COLLOQUIUM ON NORTH AMERICAN BORDERLANDS

Dr. Nuno | M 1900-2145 | TBA

This course will survey recent scholarship that utilizes borderlands frameworks in order to gain new understandings of colonial and modern North American history. The emerging field of Borderlands challenges and complicates nationalistic narratives that narrow intellectual queries to topics that ultimately buttress and explain the existence of the nation-state. Conversely, borderlands frameworks explore geopolitical and socio-cultural spaces where power is contested and negotiated. This class will explore colonial spaces where Indigenous, African, and European peoples engaged in economic, political, and social relationships while creating societies that experienced both change and continuity. For the nineteenth century, we will examine how borderland areas were affected by the emergence of strong nation-states and physical borders. Our twentieth century section will focus on urban borderlands and trans-national movements associated with immigration, flows of capital, and cross-cultural influence. Considering the specific historical moment we are currently living in, the class will emphasize how issues of public health, disease, and the enforcement of borders are interrelated.

HIST 596EG: ENLIGHTENMENT AND REVOLUTION

Dr. Goldner | T 1600-1845 | Online

Do ideas cause revolutions? Explore the relationship between intellectual and political change in this colloquium on the Enlightenment and the French Revolution. In the first part of the course, you'll engage with landmark texts from the period including Locke, Montesquieu, and Rousseau. In the second part, you'll explore how historians have debated the Enlightenment, the French Revolution, and the connection between them. Students who have previously taken History 596F (The French Revolution) are eligible to take History 596EG. Students who have taken History 541 (The Enlightenment), however, are not eligible.

HIST 601: THEORY AND HISTORIOGRAPHY

Dr. Horowitz | T 1900-2145 | TBA

History 601 explores the development of history as a discipline. Over time historians have moved from primarily focusing on political and military topics, to explore a much wider range of the human experience. In this class we will examine different genres of history by reading classic works by leading historians. We will also explore how theoretical approaches drawn from other disciplines have shaped the way historians think about their topics and analyze the past. There will be some attention to alternate approaches to presenting the past – including audio, video, and graphic formats.

HIST 641: EASTERN EUROPE DURING THE REAGAN ADMINISTRATION

Dr. O’Sullivan | W 1900-2145 | SH288

At the beginning of the 1980s, the Eastern bloc looked solid and stable. The Soviet Union had achieved nuclear parity with the United States, and expanded its influence on the world stage in Africa, Latin America and Afghanistan. Yet by the end of the decade, the cracks had widened so much that the entire Communist system was in turmoil. In Poland, labor activists formed the Solidarity union, defying the state-run trade union, and the Polish Communists resorted to declaring martial law in 1981. In Hungary, the change came from the top of the Communist party, with the commemoration of the failed 1956 revolution playing a decisive part. Why did people grow more and more dissatisfied with Communism? Studying documents from the Reagan Presidential Library, we will examine how this process unfolded and how societies changed dramatically. We will investigate the Reagan administration’s policies and how they influenced events in Eastern Europe. Students will work with primary documents and write a 15-page research paper on a select topic.

HIST 692C: RESEARCH SEMINAR IN ENVIRONMENTAL HISTORY

Dr. Zappia | M 1600-1845 | TBA

This course offers an overview of recent methodological trends in environmental history and guides students in their own research topics in this field. Students will learn how to navigate the unique interdisciplinary nature of environmental historical sources, entertain different types of methodologies, read and critique the research of other colleagues, and present their own original research in a public setting.

HIST 694: PRACTICUM FOR TEACHING ASSISTANTS

Staff | TBA | TBA

Working under the close supervision of departmental faculty and assigned to a specific undergraduate History course, students gain experience creating assignments, grading papers and exams, leading discussion and review sessions, and giving lectures. Students have the opportunity to discuss issues and problems in teaching. May be repeated once for credit. Contact the Graduate Coordinator or the History Office for a permission number.

HIST 698D: CULMINATING PROJECT

Dr. Neirick | T 1900-2145 | TBA

Prerequisites: HIST 601 and two graduate-level History research seminars. This culminating graduate course requires students to demonstrate their mastery of the historian's craft. Students will revise an existing research paper that they produced in one of their graduate research seminar classes and transform it into a piece that could be submitted as a conference paper, a scholarly writing sample, and/or an article for publication. Students will prepare a cogent twenty-minute oral presentation of their work. This course is to be taken in the student's final semester