

GRADUATE COURSE DESCRIPTIONS - Spring 2019 – version 2

Below you will find descriptions for the graduate courses which we are offering in Spring semester. All graduate classes are restricted and you must contact the instructor for admission to the course and a permission number.

NEW DESCRIPTION History 586 | Gender, Law, and Religion in American History | Thursdays 1900-2145 | SH288 | Dr. Joyce L. Broussard

The focus of this colloquium is on the interplay of gender, law, and religion in American history as well as on the nation's hellfire fascination with sin and evil from the colonial period to modern times. Special attention, moreover, will be paid to the impact of gender, religion, sin, and salvation on American law, particularly as it impacts any individual's civil, human, or reproductive rights. Among the topics to be explored are the following: nuns as slaveholding mistresses and same-sex male friendships in colonial and early America; the "Mormon Question" and nineteenth century variations on gender roles and the law; female evangelicals and eugenics; "muscular Christianity," interracial marriage, pedophiles, and priests; and God and gays, along with other issues. Students will read and discuss (in class) appropriate scholarly literature; write precis on selected books; and produce a historiographic essay on an approved selected topic.

History 596F | The French Revolution | Thursdays 1600-1845 | SH279 | Dr. Erik Goldner

What was revolutionary about the French Revolution? Historians have offered widely varying answers to this question over the past two centuries. Many have seen it as a profound rupture that gave birth to the modern world. Others have suggested it accelerated changes that had long been at work, interpreting it as an episode more of continuity than change. Many have framed the Revolution as progressive in nature. Others have argued that the destruction it unleashed ultimately slowed progress. This course introduces graduate and advanced undergraduate students to the historiography of the French Revolution through a combination of classic and cutting-edge scholarly works. By reading, discussing, and writing about this scholarship, students will arrive at their own answers to the question of what was revolutionary about the French Revolution.

NEW DESCRIPTION History 630 | Research Seminar in World History: China and the World/ The World and China, 1820-1990 | Wednesday 1900-2145 | SH288 | Dr. Horowitz

In this seminar we will investigate encounters between China and the wider world during the nineteenth and twentieth centuries. The emphasis will be on exploring personal encounters and individual lives lived between China and other parts of the world (usually, the English speaking world), and the efforts to translate or interpret China across cultural divides between 1820 and 1990. In carefully examining individual experiences, we will seek to shed light on broader patterns of historical development

This is a research seminar, and while there will be reading and discussion in the first half of the course, the bulk of the course material will be about student research. The goal is to produce a major research paper based on primary sources, that could be used in the culminating experience.

Appropriate research topics will include:

- The experiences of foreign missionaries, merchants and diplomats in China from 1800 onward
- Foreign migrants and refugees in China from 1914-1950
- Chinese migrants in other parts of the world
- Representations of China in the English speaking world, often in the form of travel accounts.
- Chinese representations of other countries.

Students will be encouraged to develop projects that will utilize archival materials available in Oviatt Library; especially in the Old China Hands Archive in the Department of Special Collections, and the China, Trade, Politics, & Culture database.

While there is no specific prerequisite for this course, some prior coursework or other engagement with China will be helpful. For those who don't, some advance reading will be expected.

Students interested in the class should contact Dr. Horowitz at richard.horowitz@csun.edu.

History 660 | Popular Culture in Latin America | Mondays 1600-1845 | SH288 | Dr. Juarez-Dappe

This seminar will address the evolution of popular culture in Latin America during the nineteenth and twentieth centuries. Broadly defined as those artistic, religious, culinary, and athletic expressions of everyday life, we will examine popular culture manifestations as historical documents that represent the voices from the society producing them. Discussions will revolve around the political, social, and cultural contexts in which specific forms of popular culture emerged as well as their impact on issues of race, gender, identity, and class. During the first half of the semester, our focus will be on key readings that will introduce a range of theoretical approaches exploring the intersection between everyday life, specific expressions of popular culture (food, fashion, and music), and broader historical processes. We will also look into one case study, zombies and Haitian history, to exemplify how popular culture can be placed at the center of the analysis to illustrate a wide array of historical processes. During the second half of the semester, students will write a research paper that explores one form of popular culture and relies on primary source materials. Possible themes include, but are not limited to, public festivals, sports, food, religious practices, music, fashion, print media, film, and television.