

DEPARTMENT OF
HISTORY

GRADUATE
COURSE
DESCRIPTIONS

FALL 2012

FALL 2012
GRADUATE COURSE LISTINGS

I. Courses for PhD and MA Students

First Year Courses:

HIS 524/526	CORE SEMINAR	B. Larson J. Anderson	M 5:30-8:30	SBS N-303
	<p>History, Theory and Practice: This year-long course is your introduction to graduate study in history in general, and Stony Brook's Ph.D. Program in History in particular. It has three goals: 1) to familiarize you with the techniques and resources of historical research; 2) to provide an overview of the four thematic areas emphasized by our graduate program; and 3) to explore some important historiographical and theoretical concepts that inform historical writing. The first semester will combine a series of hands-on workshops in interpreting primary sources with selective reading of important and interesting scholarship that represents the four themes of our graduate curriculum, and also offers instructive examples of using sources. Requirements for the first semester include active participation in class discussion of assigned readings, three or four short writing/analytical exercises, and a preliminary research proposal. The second semester will be devoted to researching and writing a substantial research paper.</p>			

Field, Theme, & Research Courses

FIELD

HIS 502/ CEG 524	Intro to Late Modern Europe	L. Frohman	Th 5:30-8:30	SBS N-303
	<p>This course will provide students with an advanced introduction to the history and historiography of modern Europe from the French Revolution to the present. It will focus as much on the conceptual categories and historiographical debates that shape the writing of modern history as it will on the actual history of the period, and it will try to strike a balance between the needs of those of students who have previously studied the history of modern Europe and those of students who have no particular knowledge of the region. The course will begin with the French Revolution and then explore such issues as the process of industrial development and the debate over the Industrial Revolution; class, gender and citizenship in the 19th-century and their interaction with nationalism and imperialism; the legacy of World War I, the crisis of democratic politics, and the rise of Stalinism and National Socialism in the interwar years; politics and culture in the Cold War; and recent trends in the historiography of postwar Europe. MA/Ph.D. students register for HIS 502, MAT students register for CEG 524.</p>			

FIELD

HIS 521/ CEG 532	Intro to US History – Civil War	N. Landsman	W 5:30 – 8:30	SBS S-326
	<p>This is the first half of the graduate-level survey in American History focusing on the history and historiography of American society before the Civil War and on the larger histories of the Atlantic world and the American continent in the same era. We will pay particular attention to such major themes as the Colombian encounter, Native Americans, colonization, slavery and the Atlantic World, the American Revolution and Atlantic Revolutions, the creation of an American government, democratization, Civil War, emancipation and race. Oral and written reports, much reading, and class participation required.</p>			

FIELD

HIS 563/ CEG 563	Introduction to South Asian History	E. Beverley	Tu 2:30-5:30	SBS N-318
	<p>This course will provide an advanced introduction to South Asian history and historiography from the early modern period to the present. We will cover major works on key themes, including pre-colonial cultural relations, colonialism and imperialism, the politics of religious identity, anti-colonialism and nationalism, decolonization and partition, and postcolonial developments. Readings of classics of the field – drawn from various schools of historiography – will be supplemented with selections from relevant primary sources. This is not a survey course, and does not attempt to be comprehensive. No prior knowledge of South Asian history is prerequisite, however some background in history is necessary. The course will move through many critical themes and debates in South Asian history, and many of the readings are challenging. Students will have to be diligent in both preparation and attendance to keep up. While the course is not explicitly about how to teach South Asian history, we will spend a considerable amount of class time discussing pedagogical strategies. The main focus of the course, however, is to familiarize students with current academic research on medieval and modern South Asia, and to provide them with the tools to teach or do research in this field effectively. This course is designed for students in Continuing Education-G (CEG) who intend to teach South Asian and global history at the secondary level, but will also provide a solid foundation for MA/PhD students in History (HIS) for whose research and teaching a knowledge of South Asian history will be useful. Requirements include preparation and participation, teaching practicum or research presentation, a series of short response or feedback papers, and a final assignment (either a lesson plan or a bibliographic paper).</p>			

THEME:

HIS 532	Gender and Religion	S. Lipton	Th 2:30-5:30	SBS S-326
	<p>Modern western society generally conceives of religion as an internal, individual, and metaphysical concept (a question of faith and belief). In the European past, in non-western cultures, and in contemporary theory alike, religion was/is just as liable to be perceived as matter of law, identity, and community (that is, as “about” and intimately related to bodily and social practice). In this seminar we shall explore religious history and experience through the lens of the central somatic and social concept of gender. We shall address such questions as: how does gender (as a social and ideological construct) inform a given religion’s view of the world/God/cosmos? How does the gender system of a given society inform religious practice/form/doctrine in that society? How does gender contour the imagery and representation of religion? How does a person’s gender (as physical category and/or social construct) affect the experience or interpretation of religion? The seminar is designed to introduce you to a range of theoretical tools and approaches with which religion has been and might be analyzed, as well as recent and influential historiography that applies or questions these and other theoretical models.</p> <p>Each student will lead discussion of one of the course readings. In addition, you will write three brief review essays of assigned readings, and a final essay discussing how the course readings can be applied to your own field of study.</p>			

THEME:

HIS 543	Race, Sexuality & the Nation State	G. Frank	Tu 4:00-6:50	SBS S-326
	<p>With an emphasis on US history since the 19th century, this graduate course examines the intertwined histories of race, sexuality and the state. Drawing on historical and theoretical sources, we investigate sexuality and race alongside each other and thereby explore violent encounters, loving relationships, legal battles, political activism, commercial exchanges, class antagonisms, religious mores, gender politics, popular cultural representations, and intellectual debates. By exploring the intersection of race and sexuality in relation to the growth of the modern state, we take up other key themes including: governmentality, nationalism, transnational politics, imperialism, and the law.</p>			

RESEARCH:

HIS 601	Research Seminar on Soc/Cult History	H. Lebovics	M 5:30-8:30	SBS S-309
<p>This seminar provides students the opportunity to examine primary sources and interdisciplinary methodologies through common readings and the writing of a substantial research paper. Although the specific topic of the common readings will be determined each semester by the instructor, both primary and secondary texts will be analyzed according to the specific historical circumstances of their production and the demands they make upon us as historians. To further students' knowledge of the nature, possibilities and limitation of the historical archive, the following questions may be asked: What is a historical source? Are all texts potential documents? Why was a record or text produced, and by whom was it read? What were its modes of circulation? Who does it privilege and who exclude? How could different groups or communities of meaning-makers alter its use and importance? What were the social, cultural, political and intellectual contexts of its production? Students will contribute at least one document for general analysis over the course of the term. The second half of the course will be devoted to writing and reading drafts of student's research papers.</p> <p>Culture and State Power: At the outset, just to start with some common readings and discussion, we will read in and analyze three axes of historical inquiry:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Interactions of the local, the national, and the imperial 2. Cultural practices/institutions and the power of governments 3. Identity issues in history and history writing. 				

II. Courses for MAT & SPD Students

HIS 502/CEG 524	Intro to Late Modern Europe	L. Frohman	Th 5:30-8:30	SBS N-303
<p>This course will provide students with an advanced introduction to the history and historiography of modern Europe from the French Revolution to the present. It will focus as much on the conceptual categories and historiographical debates that shape the writing of modern history as it will on the actual history of the period, and it will try to strike a balance between the needs of those of students who have previously studied the history of modern Europe and those of students who have no particular knowledge of the region. The course will begin with the French Revolution and then explore such issues as the process of industrial development and the debate over the Industrial Revolution; class, gender and citizenship in the 19th-century and their interaction with nationalism and imperialism; the legacy of World War I, the crisis of democratic politics, and the rise of Stalinism and National Socialism in the interwar years; politics and culture in the Cold War; and recent trends in the historiography of postwar Europe. MA/Ph.D. students register for HIS 502, MAT students register for CEG 524.</p>				

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HIS 563/ CEG 563	Introduction to South Asian History	E. Beverley	Tu 2:30-5:30	SBS N-318
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III. Sneak Preview of Spring 2013 Courses (Subject to Change)

CORE

HISTORY

INSTRUCTOR

525/527 Core Seminar

TBA

FIELD

FIELD:

HIS 5xx/CEG5xx

TBA

FIELD:

HIS 5xx/CEG 5xx

TBA

FIELD:

HIS 5xx

TBA

THEME

THEME:

HIS 5xx

TBA

THEME:

HIS 5xx

TBA

THEME:

HIS 5xx

TBA

RESEARCH

RESEARCH:

HIS 601

TBA

PROSPECTUS:

HIS 695

MAT & SPD STUDENTS

HIS 5xx/CEG 5xx

TBA

CEG 5xx

TBA

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