HISTORY DEPARTMENT
UNDERGRADUATE COURSE DESCRIPTIONS
FALL 2017

The following course descriptions are presented as a guide for students and academic advisors. Although major alterations are unlikely, instructors reserve the right to make changes in content and requirements.

Foundation Courses

US HISTORY
HIS 100 (8401) (3crs) American Political and Social History I
Pastore, Christopher (cpastore@albany.edu)
Mon, Wed 11:30am-12:25pm
LC 04

Emphasizing trans-Atlantic patterns of movement, migration, and exchange, this course surveys American history from approximately 1492 to the end of the Civil War. We will examine encounters between the Old World and New as well as the impact of European colonization on the native peoples of North America. We also examine American religion, the significance of slavery in American history, the American Revolution, early industrialization, westward expansion, and the political tensions that tore America in two.

*Note: Students registering for this course must FIRST register for one of the discussion sections below.

Discussion Sections for HIS 100 (8401)

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HIS 100 (10007) (3crs)  
American Political and Social History I  
Wittern-Keller, L. (lwitternkeller@albany.edu)

Mon, Wed 9:20am-10:25am
LC 22

This introductory course covers the area now known as the United States progressing chronologically from colonial rule under the Dutch and the English empires, to the colonies’ break with England, establishment of the republic, sectional strife within the federal republic, and the Civil War. We will address the political, economic, and social developments of the new nation, paying particular attention to the following course themes: religion, national unity, racially-based ideology, technology, and constitutional issues. We will also consider the tools of the historians’ trade and how the nation constructs its historical remembrance. Discussion sections will be devoted to analysis of historical documentaries.

*Note: Students registering for this course must FIRST register for one of the discussion sections below.

Discussion Sections for HIS 100 (10007)

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HIS 101 (7865) (3crs)  American Political and Social History I
Smith-Howard, Kendra (ksmith-howard@albany.edu)
Mon, Wed 10:25am-11:20am
LC 21

This course examines the social, economic and political development of the United States from the end of the Civil War to the present. It also engages students in the practice of doing history: analyzing primary documents, crafting arguments, and writing clearly and concisely. Through lectures, films, readings, and discussion, we will explore topics as varied as the racial politics of the U.S. West and U.S. South during Reconstruction, the transformative effects of American imperialism and the World Wars on the American state and economy, the rise of consumer culture, and social movements in the post-WW II era. Students will be assessed on their participation in course discussion, short writing assignments, and examinations. All students must sign up for a discussion group and for the lecture session.

*Note: Students registering for this course must FIRST register for one of the discussion sections below.

Discussion Sections for HIS 101 (7865)

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HIS 101 (10024) (3crs)  American Political and Social History II
Wittern-Keller, Laura (lwittern@albany.edu)
FULLY ONLINE COURSE

This introductory course will look at how the United States attempted to put itself back together again after the Civil War, the Gilded Age era of the 1890s, the beginnings of imperialism with the Spanish-American War and the building of the Panama Canal at the turn of the twentieth century, then we'll turn our attention to the astonishing levels of immigration and the rapid rise of urbanization and industrialization at the same time, the economic and social problems of the Great Depression, the New Deal, World War II, the post-war world, the Cold War, the 1950s and the social rebellion of the 1960s, a terrible economic downturn in the 1970s, and the turn toward conservatism in the 1980s. The course finishes by looking at the presidencies of Bill Clinton and George W. Bush. As a fully online course, there are no class lectures. Instead, students will use text and chapter readings, explanatory PowerPoint slideshows, and lots of fabulous documentaries. There are many opportunities to affect the course grade: students will watch and respond to documentaries, keep a historical journal, and take weekly quizzes, a midterm and a final exam. Assistance will always be available through email.

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American Political and Social History II
Kozakiewicz, Laurie (lkozakiewicz@albany.edu)
Mon, Wed 11:30am-12:25pm
LC 19

This course introduces students to the political, economic, social, and cultural changes that have revolutionized American life from the end of the Civil War to the present. Themes covered include the growing influence of the federal government at home and abroad, the impact of immigration and industrialization on American society, and the emergence of a mass consumption society. We also consider how differences of gender, race, and ethnicity affect people's ability to be equal partners in America's growth. Course requirements include short papers analyzing primary documents, a midterm and a final exam.

*Note: Students registering for this course must FIRST register for one of the discussion sections below.

**Discussion Sections for HIS 101 (8962)**

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* European History

History of European Civilization I
Korobeynikov, Dmitry (dkorobeynikov@albany.edu)
Mon, Wed 1:40pm-2:35pm
LC 06

Survey of the political, economic, social, and cultural history of the West from its origins to the 18th century. Only one version of AHIS 130 may be taken for credit.

*Note: Students registering for this course must FIRST register for one of the discussion sections below.

**Discussion Sections for HIS 130(8363)**

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WORLD HISTORY
HIS 144 (8619) (3crs) Latin American Since the Aztecs
Schwaller, John (JSchwaller@albany.edu)
Mon, Wed 9:20am-10:15am
SS 256

Survey of the diverse pre-Columbian and New World societies and cultures of Spanish and Portuguese America from the pre-conquest period to the present. Broadly interdisciplinary introduction to the historical development of Latin American society, culture, politics, and economics with a special emphasis on elements such as race, gender, and class.

*Note: Students registering for this course must FIRST register for one of the discussion sections below.

Discussion Sections for HIS 144 (8619)

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HIS 158 (8366) (3crs) The World in the Twentieth Century
Aso, Michitake (maso@albany.edu)
Mon, Wed 12:35pm-1:30pm
LC 005

The twentieth century witnessed tremendous social, political, cultural and economic change and the course explores these changes in a global perspective. The course draws upon select themes which have been points of connection and contention in the modern world. Course content will emphasize the increasing interdependence between societies and regions and the forces which shaped the lives of people around the globe.

*Note: Students registering for this course must FIRST register for one of the discussion sections below.

Discussion Sections for HIS 158 (8366)

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HIS 177 (10336) (3crs) | East Asia: Its Culture and History
Hwang, Injeong
ONLINE COURSE
*Cross-Listed with EAS 177

An introduction to the history and cultures of East Asia (China, Japan, and Korea), their major institutions and religious and philosophical traditions from ancient times to the present.

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HIS 289 (10413) (3crs) | Drugs in Latin America
Dawson, Alexander (aldawson@sfu.ca)
Mon, Wed, Fri 10:25am-11:20am
HU 137

For much of the past century, modern nation states have been consumed by drug wars of varying intensity. Through domestic laws and international treaties commodities that were once legal have become illicit, prompting police agencies and militaries in a variety of countries to spend many billions of dollars in the effort to stem the production, flow, and consumption of these commodities. It has been a war without end, fought mainly in poor communities in the US and Latin America, and aside from the absurd social, economic and political distortions it has produced, it has also been a war that has never seemed winnable.

This course charts the history of those conflicts and seeks to understand their specific impact on the lives of Latin Americans. We begin, really, at the beginning, by asking difficult questions about how and why certain mind-altering substances became illegal over time while remained licit. In order to do this we need to go deep into the Latin American past, and examine the ways that the Spanish Inquisition worked to create a series of racialized prohibitions around substances that would later be classified as illicit drugs. From there we chart the course and impact of the struggles over legality and various ways in which those battles speak to evolving global power imbalances and the vulnerability of Latin American states to capture by special interests. We also consider the contours of race, class, gender, and region, exploring the ways that struggles over illicit substances speak to larger issues in Latin American history.

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A well-known tourist advertisement describes Latin America as the land of playa (to play), sol (for your soul), and mar, (nothing will mar your vacation). Politically active North Americans generally find this image objectionable, but often fail to understand the ways that their own views of the region also rely on stereotypes. Whether we view Latin America as a place for a vacation, a place to realize our own revolutionary agendas, or a dangerous threat, flooding the US with drugs and crime, we flatten a region with an extraordinarily complex past and present. This course aims to confront this problem, asking students to develop a historical, nuanced, and multifaceted view of Latin America. Avoiding self-serving visions of heroic workers and evil oligarchs, or lazy peasants and hard working foreigners, we will seek to understand Latin America before we set out to fix it. We will ask the people of this remarkable region to tell their own stories, even when those stories contradict our own desires. In the process we will come to understand historical change over many generations, but also endeavor to come to terms with the often patronizing ways in which North Americans of both the Left and the Right produce knowledge about the Latin American past and present. We will ground this analysis in a detailed examination of the period from the end of formal European colonialism during the 1820s to the present. We will explore the struggles to consolidate stable nation-states after Independence, efforts to “modernize” in the late nineteenth century, and the extremes that the region experienced during the 20th and 21st centuries. We will also focus on a series of themes that can be traced from the colonial period to the present, including the persistence of hierarchies based in class, caste, and gender, the repeated struggles to create stable democracies and equitable societies, the long history of outside intervention, and the roots of the problems that continue to haunt Latin America. Each issue will be illuminated by specific case studies, chosen both for the ways it explores individual life histories, and for its connection to the larger questions that we ask in this class.

Courses in U.S. History

HIS 224 (8996) (3crs)  Nonfiction Media Storytelling
Bernard, Sheila Curran (sbernard@albany.edu)
Tues, Thurs 5:45pm-7:05pm
HU 109
*Cross-listed with ADOC 224(8997).

Course focus Fall 2017 is history. The course explores the use of narrative in books, films, and other works intended to present factual (historical) content to the general public. Students will watch, read about, write about, and discuss a range of work, developing tools for analyzing and evaluating nonfiction media in terms of both content and craft. They will also write their own narrative works based on primary and secondary source research. Despite the meeting time, food/snacks will not be permitted in class. Prerequisite(s): Successful prior completion of at least one undergraduate U.S. history course is strongly recommended.
HIS 251 (4981) (3crs)  
**Introduction to Documentary Studies**
McCormick, Susan ([smccormick@albany.edu](mailto:smccormick@albany.edu))  
Mon, Wed 2:45pm-4:05pm  
LC 3A  
*Cross-listed with ADOC 251 (5011)*

What is a documentary? This class explores the history, key characteristics, best examples, and notable practitioners of non-fiction documentary storytelling across multiple forms. Documentary work—non-fiction storytelling—is much more than film and video; it also includes photography, audio, narrative non-fiction/text, and new media/multimedia efforts. We will examine the social, cultural, legal, and ethical aspects of documentary production, both historical and contemporary; major themes and genres in documentary work; and the role of technology in shaping both production and distribution of documentaries over time. As the required gateway course for the Documentary Studies major and minor, the course looks at documentary work in both the recent and distant past, providing a foundation for future work in the major and minor. Those enrolled in HIS 251 will bring an historical focus to their work in the course.

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HIS 290 (7090) (3crs)  
**History of the Hudson River Valley**
Pastore, Christopher ([cpastore@albany.edu](mailto:cpastore@albany.edu))  
Tue, Thu 11:45am-1:05pm  
HU 109

In 1899 educational reformer John Dewey lamented that when schools overlook their immediate surroundings they risk “isolation from life.” This course, conversely, examines the Hudson River Valley from pre-European contact to the present with a goal of directly engaging the world just outside our doors. Through focused study and careful observation, we will examine the ways New Yorkers (and others) grappled with politics, religion, race, changing gender roles, and the environment. Specifically, we will explore the interactions between Native Americans and early Dutch and English settlers and the ways the Hudson River shaped patterns of Atlantic world and continental exchange. We will examine slavery and the region’s role in the American Revolution. We will also examine, among numerous other topics, industrialization, the growth of cities, immigration, tourism, and suburban sprawl. By making explicit connections between the local and global, between human decisions in the past and the moral choices we make today, this course aims to foster environmental awareness, cultural sensitivity, and civic engagement in the place we call home.

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For roughly 100 years, from the late 19th through much of the 20th century, New York State loomed large in America's history. The Empire State set trends in politics, culture, and business with New York City leading the way much of the time. But by the late 20th century the state began to represent other, less positive developments, such as the rise of a “rust belt” and loss of population to other regions. This course will look at all of these topics and changes through lectures, readings and primary sources. Course requirements include several small papers plus a mid-term and final exam.

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This course examines various historic Anglo-American criminal trials. To introduce the discipline of history, trials are explored in their legal and social setting so students can learn the purposes of trials in past cultures. Course topics can include insanity defense, free speech, racism, press coverage, honor and racism.

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From the 2012 Navajo Nation suit against Urban Outfitters for trademark infringement through the recently approved Schenectady casino, Indian history often appears in unexpected places. This course is a survey of the indigenous history of North America, with a focus on Native nations in what is now New York and the eastern United States and the important continuities and challenges that Native people and nations experience today. Students will examine indigenous history in multi-disciplinary perspective, gaining hands-on experience researching the history of Native North America using written, oral, archaeological, artistic, and legal records from antiquity through the present.

Prerequisite(s): AHIS 100.
**HIS 305 (10436) (3crs)**  
**Colonial America to 1763**  
Kane, Maeve ([mkanez@albany.edu](mailto:mkanez@albany.edu))  
Mon, Wed, Fri 12:35pm-1:30pm  
SS 116

Survey of major aspects and events in the colonial period, with particular emphasis on the growth of uniquely American culture and institutions.  
*Prerequisite(s): junior or senior standing, or 3 credits in History.*

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**HIS 310 (10038) (3crs)**  
**History of Women in the United States**  
Graves, Kori ([kgraves@albany.edu](mailto:kgraves@albany.edu))  
Mon, Wed, Fri 9:20am-10:15am  
LC 3B

As mothers, activists, laborers, institution builders, and reformers, women have pushed to eliminate gender inequality in U.S. laws and customs. Collectively, these efforts have resulted in dramatic changes in women's lives. However, the advances made by some have created the conditions for greater inequality between women based on differences of class, status, race, ethnicity, and sexuality. This survey will consider the reasons for this seeming contradiction by exploring the nature of women's involvement in U.S. political, social, economic, and cultural institutions from the 17th century to the present. Through the analysis of primary documents, scholarly journal articles, monographs, and popular media, students will investigate topics that expose the significance of work, reform movements, family life, education, and politics in determining a woman's place in U.S. society.

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**HIS 317 (10039) (4crs)**  
**History of the American City to 1860**  
Wittern-Keller, Laura ([lwitternkeller@albany.edu](mailto:lwitternkeller@albany.edu))  
Mon, Wed 2:45pm-4:05pm  
HU 128

This, reading-intensive, documentary-based course is a chronological survey of American urban development from colonial times through the second half of the nineteenth century. Similarities and differences among cities will become apparent as the focus of the course moves geographically from the Eastern seaboard toward the Mississippi Valley and upper Midwest, skipping to the West Coast with the California gold rush. The course will pay special attention to the pivotal cities of Boston, New York, Chicago, and San Francisco and will focus on three themes: how commercial and technological changes spurred urban development; how the cities functioned within themselves; and how they affected and were affected by the broader American social, political, and cultural environment.

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March 23, 2017
HIS 332 (7767) (3crs)  
**Intro to Public History in the United States**
Campbell, Robin ([rcampbell@albany.edu](mailto:rcampbell@albany.edu))
Mon, Wed, Fri 10:25am-11:20am
LC 3A

Movies, novels, museums, archives and historic sites all provide opportunities for the public to engage with the past in meaningful ways. Through a combination of field trips, lectures, and discussions the course looks at how people enjoy history beyond the traditional academic setting. We also explore the wide variety of careers open to people with a history background.

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HIS 333 (10041) (3-4crs)  
**American Identity Since the Civil War**
Bon Tempo, Carl ([CBontempo@albany.edu](mailto:CBontempo@albany.edu))
Mon, Wed 2:45pm-4:05pm
SS 256

This course examines how and why different Americans living during the twentieth century conceived of their nation’s identity. In other words, we will explore how Americans have answered the question: “Who is an American?” Two suppositions form the foundation of the class. First, national identity is historically contingent and fluid. Second, conceptions of national identity often reflected the political, economic, social, cultural, racial, and gendered dynamics of U.S. society. I recommend that students take either the U.S. history survey or a course in twentieth century American history before enrolling in this course. Students will read about 100 pages a week (books, primary sources, and articles) and assignments will include discussion participation, exams, and a paper.

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HIS 334 (8538) (3crs)  
**Foundations of Documentary Filmmaking**
Roth, Julie Casper ([julie.casper.roth@gmail.com](mailto:julie.casper.roth@gmail.com))
Mon 4:15pm-7:05pm
SLG 24
*Cross-listed with DOC 323 (8539)*

This course will ground students in the fundamentals of researching, planning, shooting, and editing digital video. Students will work individually and in teams on exercises assigned by the instructor. The course offers a comprehensive introduction to the basics of documentary film production, and as such provides a foundation for all students interested in documentary media, including those who go on to work in historical and non-historical content areas such as social issue, ethnographic, scientific, or political documentary. Students will develop a solid hands-on understanding of the basic tools of media storytelling and choices involved, thus enhancing their overall media literacy.

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March 23, 2017
HIS 356 (1890) (3crs)  The World at War, 1939-1945  
Krosby, H.P. (hkrosby@albany.edu)  
Tues, Thurs 10:15am-11:35am  
LC 3B  
A comprehensive history of the Second World War. Topics covered include the rise of fascism and the origins of the war; the campaigns on land, at sea, and in the air in the European, North African, Pacific, and Southeast Asian theaters of war; the pervasiveness of racism; the Holocaust and other atrocities; and the costs and legacies of the war. Prerequisite: junior or senior standing.

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HIS 390 (10052) (3crs)  The Body and Beauty in 19th and 20th Century Science, Culture, and Politics  
Graves, Kori (kgraves@albany.edu)  
Mon, Wed, Fri 11:30am-12:25pm  
HU 24  
Ideas about the body and the significance of physical attributes like reproductive organs, skin color, hair texture, height, and weight have changed over time and in various cultural contexts. This course evaluates why conceptions of the body evolved and how these transformations affected social relations, cultural representations, and economic and political systems. Who has had the power to define which bodies mattered and for what reasons? How have people resisted oppression through the literal and symbolic reinterpretation of appearance? How have people’s lives changed as a result of contests over the meanings of identity? We will consider these and other questions that reveal the ways the historical constructions of the body took place in science and medicine, the beauty industry, and social movements.

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Courses in European History

HIS 235 (10338) (3crs)  Early & Medieval Christianity  
Monfasani, John (jmonfasani@albany.edu)  
Mon, Wed 7:15pm-8:35pm  
HU 133  
This course will cover the history of Christianity from the apostles to the Reformation. It is common to think of the Reformation as a complete break with the Middle Ages. We shall see that it is not. The core of the course will consist of lectures and weekly discussion texts starting with sections of the New Testament and continuing through the Patristic period and the Middle Ages to the Reformation. There will be a two in-class mid-term examinations and an in-class final examination. The format of the examinations will be identification questions requiring short narrative answers.

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This course will examine the history of the Zionist movement from its inception until the establishment of the State of Israel in 1948, and the history of Israel from 1948 to the present. It covers the development of various Zionist ideologies and organizations as well as their challengers within and outside the Jewish community. It will examine the history of Jewish settlement in Palestine, the founding of the state of Israel, and the country's subsequent development. The course will also examine some contemporary issues facing the country. This course includes a mixture of lecture and discussion.

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Begins with an overview of European Jewish life on the eve of the attempt at its destruction, examines the cultural, social and intellectual roots of Nazism, and discusses the efforts to isolate and marginalize those marked as “a-socials” in German society. Explores the radicalization of the Nazi program and investigates the variety of ways targeted groups responded to the crises. Covers a number of survivor accounts and the memorialization and politicization of the Nazi Holocaust in the United States and Israel.

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This class explores Jewish history from the rise of Christianity until the middle of the seventeenth century. We examine the various ways that Jews endeavored to preserve their communal structures and religious obligations in the absence of territorial cohesion. At the center of our investigation is the experience of Jews between and among the major religious and cultural systems under which they lived, Islam and Christianity. The course charts the development of both Sephardi and Ashkenazi Jewry, noting the important social, religious, cultural, and political characteristics of each community, as well as the nature of their interaction with two great world civilizations.

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HIS 256 (10031) (3crs)  
**Women in European History**
Lenart, Camelia ([ilenart@albany.edu](mailto:ilenart@albany.edu))
Mon, Wed, Fri 1:40pm-2:35pm
SS 256

Survey of the role and position of women in European society from antiquity to the present, concentrating on social, economic, political, and intellectual aspects of women’s lives and on cultural attitudes and ideologies concerning women.

We will discuss the meanings, challenges, successes, struggles and advancements of women from diverse social, economic and ethnic backgrounds, cultural pursuits, and political interests. Thus, during the course we would also engage in rescuing “her-story,” as until the recent decades, women’s contribution to the making of history was left untold and not analyzed.

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HIS 264 (10034) (3crs)  
**Art, Music, and History: A Multimedia Approach**
Lenart, Camelia ([ilenart@albany.edu](mailto:ilenart@albany.edu))
Mon, Wed, Fri 11:30am-12:25pm
HU 109

Survey of Western art and music from about 1750 to the present. Art and music will be used to illuminate history, and history will be used to further an understanding of art and music.

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HIS 288 (7919) (3crs)  
**Collaboration in Nazi-Occupied Europe**
Krosby, Peter ([hkrosby@albany.edu](mailto:hkrosby@albany.edu))
Tue, Thu 1:15pm-2:35pm
TBD

This course covers the history of treasonous collaboration of all kinds with their Nazi conquerors and occupiers during World War II by governments, organizations, and individuals, from Norway in the north to Greece in the south and from France in the west to Russia in the east. The retribution that followed at the end of the war is also covered.

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This course surveys the main themes and events of European history until AD 1000. It is an introduction to early medieval European political, social, and cultural history.

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HIS 339 (10337) (3crs)
Ellis, Angela (aellis@albany.edu)
Mon, Wed, Fri 12:35pm-1:30pm
ED 120

This course is an upper-level overview of the major social, economic, political, religious, and intellectual developments in European history during a period that goes by many titles, including the Renaissance, the Reformation, the early modern period, and the Age of Discovery/Exploration. All of these names have merit, but none describes this lively and pivotal period with total accuracy and completeness. So, even scholars disagree on what to call the era, but there is no doubt that many people still find it fascinating, as the success of such popular culture depictions as television series like The Tudors, The Borgias, and Reign; novels such as Philippa Gregory's Other Boleyn Girl and Hilary Mantel's Wolf Hall and Bring up the Bodies; and even video game series, particularly Assassin's Creed, demonstrates. This semester, we will dive into the history behind the fiction.

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HIS 344 (9006) (3crs)
Florea, Christina
Mon, Wed, Fri 1:40pm-2:35pm
LC 3B

European history during the era of the two World Wars. The origins and course of the First World War; its political, social, and cultural effects on European life throughout the period; the political and economic crises of the interwar period; the rise of fascist and totalitarian regimes and the crises of liberal democracy; the origins and course of the Second World War and the Holocaust.
HIS 356 (1890) (3crs)  
**The World at War, 1939-1945**
Krosby, H.P. ([hkrosby@albany.edu](mailto:hkrosby@albany.edu))
Tues, Thurs 10:15am-11:35am
LC 3B

A comprehensive history of the Second World War. Topics covered include the rise of fascism and the origins of the war; the campaigns on land, at sea, and in the air in the European, North African, Pacific, and Southeast Asian theaters of war; the pervasiveness of racism; the Holocaust and other atrocities; and the costs and legacies of the war. Prerequisite: junior or senior standing.

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HIS 365 (10434) (3/4crs)  
**War, Society, and Culture to 1789**
Fogarty, Richard ([rfogarty@albany.edu](mailto:rfogarty@albany.edu))
Tue, Thu 4:15pm-5:35pm
LC 3C

This course will survey the history of war in its social and cultural contexts from the origins of organized violence in prehistory to the eve of the profound transformation of war that began during the Revolutionary period in the late eighteenth century. The primary focus will be on the West and Europe, though we will also examine developments in other parts of the world to gain a comparative perspective and throw into clearer relief the distinctiveness of war and culture in the west. The history of armies, leaders, battles, tactics, and strategy will be among the important topics the course will cover, but we will also take seriously the social and cultural context that inform and shape these and other aspects of war. Accordingly, we will investigate a wide range of topics that intersect with war, including artistic expression, politics, national and ethnic identities, gender, the origins and nature of violence, the experience of combat among common soldiers, technological change, the role of civilians, the economy, and many others.

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HIS 391 (7091) (3crs)  
**Advanced Topics in European History: Generalship in Europe & Africa in WWII**
Krosby, H.P. ([hkrosby@albany.edu](mailto:hkrosby@albany.edu))
Tues, Thurs 2:45pm-4:05pm
SS 145

This course deals with the quality of command in the European theater of war, including North Africa, during World War II. It will be conducted as a seminar, with students preparing brief contributions and participating actively in class discussions. Readings will consist mainly of assigned internet articles. Grading will be based on class participation, essay tests, and a brief research paper. Prerequisite: seniors and juniors only!

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Courses in World History

HIS 286 (8147) (3crs)  
**African Civilization**

Kitissou, Marcel (mkitissou@albany.edu)
Thu 2:45pm-5:35pm  
ES 245  
*Cross-listed with AFS 286*

This course is part of the International Perspectives General Education category. It offers an introductory survey of African history from the earliest times to 1800. It explores Africa's rich and diverse pre-colonial past with particular attention to political and social changes including the role of leadership and the lives of ordinary men and women. It also explains the role of Africa in world history and, at the intersection of geography and politics, critically examines the interactions of the continent with outside forces with special focus on the sub-Saharan region. In this regard, the course specifically explores the pull and push factors that are the basis of the African Diaspora including the trans-Atlantic trade and other processes that may explain the current state of Africa's social, political and economic development.

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HIS 286 (8419) (3crs)  
**African Civilizations**

Kitissou, Marcel (mkitissou@albany.edu)
Wed 2:45pm-5:35pm  
HU 24  
*Cross-listed with AFS 286*

This course is part of the International Perspectives General Education category. It offers an introductory survey of African history from the earliest times to 1800. It explores Africa's rich and diverse pre-colonial past with particular attention to political and social changes including the role of leadership and the lives of ordinary men and women. It also explains the role of Africa in world history and, at the intersection of geography and politics, critically examines the interactions of the continent with outside forces with special focus on the sub-Saharan region. In this regard, the course specifically explores the pull and push factors that are the basis of the African Diaspora including the trans-Atlantic trade and other processes that may explain the current state of Africa's social, political and economic development.

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This course studies modern and contemporary Africa, surveying historical developments from the period of European colonization in the nineteenth century to contemporary period. It is concerned with how such historical developments as colonization, new economic and political systems, Christianization, western education, urbanization, nationalism and independence affected societies and changed people's lives. Also, the course examines relations within Africa, issues of unity and stability, population growth and urbanization, and Africa's relations with the rest of the world. While it emphasizes effects of colonial and post-independence conditions, discussing significance of internal factors in determining conditions in Africa, the course focuses on problems of everyday life, gender issues, and contemporary difficulties in environment, politics, economy and social life. Finally, it highlights achievement of African peoples, self-development and prospects for the future.

This course is intended to provide students with basic understanding of the major political, economic, social, and cultural issues that continental African peoples had to deal with in modern and contemporary Africa. The class will pay attention to the impact on Africa of the European Trans-Atlantic Slave Trade, European Industrial Revolution, Berlin Conference, Colonialism, First and Second World Wars, Pan-Africanism and Nationalism, the Liberation Movement, Independence and Post-Independence realities, as well as Africa's current role in World Affairs.
HIS 379 (5424) (3crs)  
**History of Premodern China**

DeBlasi, A. ([Adeblasi@albany.edu](mailto:Adeblasi@albany.edu))

Tues, Thurs 4:15pm-5:35pm  
HU 123  
*Cross-listed with A EAC 379*

This course is a survey of China’s historical development from prehistory to the founding of the Ming Dynasty in the fourteenth century. We will concern ourselves especially with the transformation of Chinese social structure over time, the relations between the state and the social elite, and the relationship between China's intellectual, political, and social histories. Only one version of A HIS 379 may be taken for credit. Prerequisite(s): junior or senior standing, or 3 credits in East Asian Studies or History.

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HIS 463 (10058) (3crs)  
**The Byzantine Empire**

Korobeynikov, D. ([DKorobeynikov@albany.edu](mailto:DKorobeynikov@albany.edu))

Mon, Wed, Fri 11:30am-12:25pm  
HU 123

Survey of the socio-economic, ethnic, political, religious, intellectual and artistic history of Byzantine civilization from late antiquity to the fifteenth century. The course focuses on the one of the most brilliant chapters in the world history. Byzantium was often seen, and presented herself, as continuation of the Roman Empire; yet the Byzantine Empire was somewhat distinct from Rome. The course is indispensable for anyone interested in the history of the Eastern Mediterranean, Byzantine Greek and Slavonic history, and the history of the relations between Christianity and Islam.

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**Senior Research Seminar**

HIS 489Z (6634) (3crs)  
**Senior Research Seminar**

Hochfelder, David ([dhochfelder@albany.edu](mailto:dhochfelder@albany.edu))

Tue, Thu 11:45am-1:05pm  
SLG 24

In this intensive research and writing-based course, senior history majors in the US concentration will move from being consumers of knowledge to becoming producers of knowledge by researching, writing, and presenting an article about the history of reform and reformers. During the semester, students will become working historians, asking questions of original sources such as primary archival and web-based documents, analyzing the answers, and presenting the findings in a paper of fifteen to twenty pages. We will cover the phases of creating a scholarly article, starting with the choice of topic and moving to the proposal, bibliography, outline, first draft, final draft, and presentation. The research focus of this seminar will be on the history of reform and reformers. Sources at the Grenander Archives and the New York State Library will offer many possibilities for research topics.
In this intensive research and writing-based course, senior history majors will move from consumers of knowledge to producers of knowledge as they research, write, and present an article related to the history of a place. Possible essay topics will range widely, including, but not limited to themes like how one specific place reacted and responded to a world event (e.g., how Albany students responded to World War I), the effects of a particular policy or economic development on a particular landscape, or the role of a unique ecological feature or community institution on the life of specific locale. As students grapple with defining and researching a topic, they will become working historians, asking questions of primary documents, analyzing the answers, and presenting the findings in a paper of fifteen to twenty pages. Assignments will include a bibliography, outline, first draft, final draft, and multiple presentations. This will be a tough class—probably the toughest you’ll have at UAlbany. Come prepared to work hard to learn more than you thought possible.

**Senior Honors Course**

HIS 495Z (4960) (4crs)  
**Senior Honors Thesis**  
Irwin, Ryan (rirwin@albany.edu)  
Tue, Thurs 11:45am-1:05pm  
HU 130

Preparation of a substantial honors thesis under the supervision of a member of the Department of History. Students present periodic progress reports, criticize each other's work, and deliver an oral summary of the completed thesis. Students in the honors program must satisfactorily complete both A HIS 495Z and 496Z. Prerequisite(s): admission to the history honors program.

**Independent Study and Projects in History**

HIS 497 (ARR) (2-4crs)  
**Independent Study in History**  
TBD  
Arranged

Directed reading and conferences on selected topics in history. May be repeated for credit. Prerequisite(s): permission of instructor and director of undergraduate studies; junior or senior standing, or 3 credits in History. S/U graded.
HIS 499 (ARR) (1-3crs)  
Special Projects in History  
Hochfelder, David (dhochfelder@albany.edu)  
Arranged  

Supervised work on projects in coordination with local museums and historical agencies. May be repeated for credit. 
Prerequisite(s): junior or senior standing, a minimum GPA of 2.50, and permission of the instructor. S/U graded.

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HIS 499 (ARR) (1-3crs)  
Special Projects in History  
Zahavi, Gerry (gzahavi@albany.edu)  
Arranged  

Supervised work on projects in coordination with local museums and historical agencies. Course may be repeated for credit. Prerequisite(s): permission of instructor and department chair. S/U graded.

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HIS 499 (ARR) (1-3crs)  
Special Projects in History  
Irwin, Ryan (rirwin@albany.edu)  
Arranged  

Supervised work on projects in coordination with local museums and historical agencies. Course may be repeated for credit. Prerequisite(s): permission of instructor and department chair. S/U graded.

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Judaic Studies Program

JST 150(5532) (3crs)  
Jewish Civilization: From the Birth of the Israelites until the Present  
Manon, Naomi (nmanon@albany.edu)  
Tues, Thurs 2:45pm-4:05pm  
HU 20  

This class explores the dynamic history of the Jewish people and its interaction with great world cultures. Beginning with the origins of Israelite monotheism, we will first trace the consolidation and subsequent fragmentation of the ancient Israelites. We then explore several dispersed Jewish communities through the Middle Ages, and examine the ways they redefined themselves and Judaism in light of their experiences in several different host societies. Finally, we examine the Jewish encounter with the Modern world, including the Jewish Enlightenment, the nationalization of the Jews, the rise of new Jewish centers on the eve of the Nazi Holocaust, and Judaism as it is expressed in contemporary America and Israel.
JST 244 (7828) (3crs)  
Zionism, Palestine, and Israel in Historical Perspective
Brenner, A. (ABrenner@albany.edu)
Tues, Thurs 8:45am-10:05am
BBB 12
*Cross-listed with AHEB 244 & HIS 244 (7864)

This course will examine the history of the Zionist movement from its inception until the establishment of the State of Israel in 1948, and the history of Israel from 1948 to the present. It covers the development of various Zionist ideologies and organizations as well as their challengers within and outside the Jewish community. It will examine the history of Jewish settlement in Palestine, the founding of the state of Israel, and the country's subsequent development. The course will also examine some contemporary issues facing the country. This course includes a mixture of lecture and discussion.

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JST 250 (10033) (3crs)  
The Holocaust in History
TBD
Mon, Wed 2:45pm-4:05pm
ES 241
*Cross-listed with AHIS 250 (10030)

Begins with an overview of European Jewish life on the eve of the attempt at its destruction, examines the cultural, social and intellectual roots of Nazism, and discusses the efforts to isolate and marginalize those marked as “a-socials” in German society. Explores the radicalization of the Nazi program and investigates the variety of ways targeted groups responded to the crises. Covers a number of survivor accounts and the memorialization and politicization of the Nazi Holocaust in the United States and Israel.

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JST 253 (8362) (3crs)  
Medieval Jews Among Muslims and Christians
Brenner, Arthur (abrenner@albany.edu)
Tues, Thurs 11:45am-1:05pm
ES 242
*Cross-listed with A HIS 253 (8362) and A REL 253

This class explores Jewish history from the rise of Christianity until the middle of the seventeenth century. We examine the various ways that Jews endeavored to preserve their communal structures and religious obligations in the absence of territorial cohesion. At the center of our investigation is the experience of Jews between and among the major religious and cultural systems under which they lived, Islam and Christianity. The course charts the development of both Sephardi and Ashkenazi Jewry, noting the important social, religious, cultural, and political characteristics of each community, as well as the nature of their interaction with two great world civilizations.
Independent Study in Judaic Studies
TBD
Arranged

Directed reading and conferences on selected topics in Judaic studies. May be repeated for credit when content varies. Prerequisite(s): permission of department chair.

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Documentary Studies Program

DOC 224 (8997) (3crs)  Nonfiction Media Storytelling
Bernard, Sheila Curran (sbernard@albany.edu)
Tues, Thurs 5:45pm-7:05pm
HU 109
*Cross-listed with AHIS 224(8996).

Course focus Fall 2017 is history. The course explores the use of narrative in books, films, and other works intended to present factual (historical) content to the general public. Students will watch, read about, write about, and discuss a range of work, developing tools for analyzing and evaluating nonfiction media in terms of both content and craft. They will also write their own narrative works based on primary and secondary source research. Despite the meeting time, food/snacks will not be permitted in class. Prerequisite(s): Successful prior completion of at least one undergraduate U.S. history course is strongly recommended.

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DOC 251 (5011) (3crs)  Introduction to Documentary Studies
McCormick, Susan (smccormick@albany.edu)
Mon, Wed 2:45pm-4:05pm
LC 3A
*Cross-listed with AHIS 251 (4981)

What is a documentary? This class explores the history, key characteristics, best examples, and notable practitioners of non-fiction documentary storytelling across multiple forms. Documentary work—non-fiction storytelling—is much more than film and video; it also includes photography, audio, narrative non-fiction/text, and new media/multimedia efforts. We will examine the social, cultural, legal, and ethical aspects of documentary production, both historical and contemporary; major themes and genres in documentary work; and the role of technology in shaping both production and distribution of documentaries over time. As the required gateway course for the Documentary Studies major and minor, the course looks at documentary work in both the recent and distant past, providing a foundation for future work in the major and minor. Those enrolled in HIS 251 will bring an historical focus to their work in the course.
DOC 323 (8539) (3crs)  
**Foundations of Documentary Filmmaking**
Roth, Julie Casper ([Julie.casper.roth@gmail.com](mailto:Julie.casper.roth@gmail.com))
Mon 4:15pm-7:05pm
SLG 24
*Cross-listed with HIS 334 (8538)*

This course will ground students in the fundamentals of researching, planning, shooting, and editing digital video. Students will work individually and in teams on exercises assigned by the instructor. The course offers a comprehensive introduction to the basics of documentary film production, and as such provides a foundation for all students interested in documentary media, including those who go on to work in historical and non-historical content areas such as social issue, ethnographic, scientific, or political documentary. Students will develop a solid hands-on understanding of the basic tools of media storytelling and choices involved, thus enhancing their overall media literacy.

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DOC 380 (7766) (3crs)  
**Photojournalism**
VanAcker, Katherine ([KVanacker@albany.edu](mailto:KVanacker@albany.edu))
Thurs 2:45pm-5:35pm
SLG 12
* Cross-listed with JRL 380*

Photojournalism is a digital photography workshop. Students are taught the fundamentals, theory and practices of photojournalism through lectures, readings, writings and practical photography assignment work. Students are required to photograph weekly assignments and present their work for group critique. Students produce a final project that they research, photograph and execute in a multi-media format which demonstrates the breadth of material and techniques covered over the course of the semester. Because the class has a multi-media component, students will use a combination of their still photography along with audio that they record and edit to create audio slideshows to further advance their photojournalism narrative storytelling skills. Some prior photography experience is recommended. A digital SLR camera is required for this class. The software you will use for this class includes PhotoShop, audio editing software like Audacity or Garage Band, video and multimedia software like iMove, Windows Movie Maker, Final Cut, Sony Vegas and SoundSlides and is available on various computers throughout campus. **Open only to JRL Majors/Minors and DOC Majors.**

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Special Projects and Internship in Documentary Studies

Zahavi, Gerald (gzahavi@albany.edu)
Arranged

This is a course designed for students interested in engaging in documentary fieldwork and production projects through internships with on-campus and off-campus organizations, or on their own with close faculty supervision. Students should already have the specific production skills (e.g. filmmaking, photography, audio recording/editing, hypermedia authoring) necessary for the project or internship they wish to undertake. Typical projects or internship they wish to undertake. Typical projects or internships might involve mounting documentary photography exhibits, participating in documentary editing projects (including online, nonfiction journals), designing virtual museums and podcasting/video-casting websites, or working as production members on film/video or radio projects. Credit load will depend on the level of engagement and time obligations associated with the specific project undertaken by the student. This course may be repeated for a total of 6 credits. Prerequisite(s): junior or senior standing, a minimum GPA of 2.50, and permission of the instructor. S/U graded.

Religious Studies Program

Introduction to the Study of Religion

Stovall, John (jstovall@albany.edu)
Tue, Thu 8:45am-10:05am
ES 241

In this course, you will explore several of the major world religions. Religions are living things, connected with the cultures that practice them, and are a key element in the shaping of humanity's identity. Our focus is on the ways in which central components of religion—e.g. the sacred, the divine, myth, texts, practices, ritual, community—are understood and lived. This course will help you to further understand and clarify, yet complicate, your thinking about religions.
REL 253 (8296) (3crs)  Medieval Jews Among Muslims and Christians
Brenner, Arthur (abrenner@albany.edu)
Tues, Thurs 11:45am-1:05pm
ES 242
*Cross-listed with A JST 253 (8361) and A HIS 253 (8362)

This class explores Jewish history from the rise of Christianity until the middle of the seventeenth century. We examine the various ways that Jews endeavored to preserve their communal structures and religious obligations in the absence of territorial cohesion. At the center of our investigation is the experience of Jews between and among the major religious and cultural systems under which they lived, Islam and Christianity. The course charts the development of both Sephardi and Ashkenazi Jewry, noting the important social, religious, cultural, and political characteristics of each community, as well as the nature of their interaction with two great world civilizations.

REL 261 (10144) (3crs)  Introduction to the Religions of Japan
Proffitt, Aaron (aproffitt@albany.edu)
Mon, Wed, Fri 1:40pm-2:35pm
HU 132
*Cross-listed with AEAS 261

An introduction to the major religious traditions of Japan, particularly Shinto and Buddhism, this course will cover the major forms of religious expression in Japanese history from the earliest historical records to the so-called New Religions which arose in the 20th century. Discussion will include the philosophical, artistic, social, and political dimensions of religion in Japanese society.

REL 265 (9039) (3crs)  Introduction to Buddhism
Proffitt, Aaron (aproffitt@albany.edu)
Mon, Wed, Fri 11:30am-12:25pm
ED 120
*Cross-listed with AEAS 265

This course is an introduction to Buddhism, covering its early history in South Asia, its expansion into Central, East, and Southeast Asia, and its recent growth in Europe and the Americas. Students will acquire a foundational knowledge about basic Buddhist doctrines and practices, as well as the diversity of Buddhism as a lived religion. Class content will focus on textual, artistic, philosophical, literary, social and political expressions of the Buddhist tradition.
REL 397 (2509) (3crs)  Independent Study of Religious Studies
Kizenko, Nadia (nkizenko@albany.edu)
ARR

Independent reading and research on selected topics under the direction of a faculty member. May be repeated for credit when topics differ. Prerequisite: Junior or Senior Standing, permission of faculty member, and approval of program director.

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REL 499 (2510) (3crs)  Senior Seminar in Religious Studies
Kizenko, Nadia (nkizenko@albany.edu)
ARR

Seminar on selected topics in religious studies. Preparation of a paper under the direction of a faculty member. Open to seniors with permission of the instructor.