

SCW: Hist-courses spring 2024

The Transformations of Europe

Hist. 1102-D1 (required course for History major)

M/W 1:25-2:40

Jeffrey Freedman



This introductory course surveys the history of Europe and its relations with other parts of the world from the eighteenth century to the present as well as providing an introduction to basic historical concepts and methods of source criticism.

Grading: midterm, final, two document analyses (2-3 pages), and class participation.

Survey of US History II

Hist. 1202-M

T/Th 1:35-2:50

Doug Burgess



This introductory course will explore the development of the US from the end of Reconstruction to the present.

Grading: midterm, final, and class participation and attendance

History of East Asia
Hist 1401-J
T/Th 9:00-10:15
Mátyás Mervay



Introduction to the history and culture of the major civilizations of East Asia, with a particular focus on China, Korea, and Japan from 1600 to yesterday. Drawing on historical, literary, and cinematographic sources, it covers the three countries' struggles for independence during the age of imperialism, the Asia-Pacific War, post-revolutionary, post-colonial, and post-atomic world order, and the dilemmas faced today in the region. The course's goal is to increase students' knowledge of the countries of East Asia as they relate to each other and the larger world. Students will hone

their skills in reading, interpreting, and writing about history.

Grading: two short argumentative essays (30%); midterm (20%); final (20%); short responses (15%); class participation (10%); map assignments (5%).

Modern Israel
Hist. 2304-K; JHIS 1511-K
T/Th 10:25-11:40
Hadassa Kosak



Survey of Israeli society, culture and politics from 1948 to the present. Topics: Israel and the Palestinian national movement; global political factors that shaped the Israeli-Palestinian conflict; the social, cultural, and political divisions of Israeli society, and the challenges facing Israel in the twenty-first century. Grading: Midterm and final exams, paper, class participation and attendance.

Arch of Titus
HIS 2813H-C/JHI 2813H-C
M/W 11:55-1:10
Steven Fine



The Arch of Titus, built to commemorate Roman triumph in the Jewish War of 66-74 CE, has stood as a touchstone of Western civilization for nearly 2000 years. This course explores the shifting meaning and significance of this monument – for the victorious Romans, for the defeated Jews, and for both Christians and Jews over the subsequent millennia. Built on Rome’s Via Sacra, the “Sacred Road,” around 82 CE, the Arch of Titus features sculptural reliefs depicting Titus’s triumphal procession into the Eternal City in July, 71 CE. Painfully for Jews, the sacred vessels of the Jerusalem Temple are shown being carried into Rome by victorious Roman soldiers. At the center of the

representation of the Spoils of Jerusalem is the seven-branched golden menorah, which, since 1949, has been used as the emblem of the State of Israel.

Grading: midterm; final; class participation; and assignments TBA.

Polish-Jewish Relations
Hist. 2144-L/JHIS 2144-L
T/Th 11:50-1:05
Josh Zimmerman



Polish-Jewish relations in the period 1764 to the present, viewed within the larger context of the disappearance of Poland from the political map of Europe in the late 18th century, the persistence of Polish statelessness throughout 19th century, and the influence of this development on the lack of Jewish social integration into Polish society. Second part of the course examines the thriving Jewish cultural and spiritual life in the independent Polish state, the Holocaust, post-World War II relations, and the current renewal of Jewish life in Poland.

Ideas of History

Hist 3001-B (required course for History major)

M/W 10:30-11:45

Will Stenhouse



Why read or write history? How can we know about the past? What can historians' work tell us about the period in which they wrote? This course is designed to address these questions, which are fundamental to the discipline of history, by studying a selection of historians from antiquity to the Renaissance. Although we will see that these historians are often very different to contemporary historians in their approaches, by examining their assumptions and practices, we will develop a privileged perspective on history writing today.

Grading: discussion and presentation, short tests, and a research paper.