

SCW: Hist-courses Fall 2023

Emergence of Europe

Hist 1101 (required course for History major)

M/W 9:00-10:15

David Haziza



This course examines the history of Europe from the rise of ancient Greece (around 600 BCE) to the aftermath of the Renaissance and Reformation (around 1650 CE). It aims to introduce the study of history alongside the pre-modern history of Europe. In addition to considering the central political, cultural, and religious developments of the era, we look in detail at some primary sources created at the time and analyze how historians can use them to learn about the past. These sources include images, letters, and satirical tracts, as well as more familiar historical and biographical accounts.

Grading: participation, short responses, papers, and exams

Survey of US History I

Hist 1201

T/Th 1:35-2:50

Douglas Burgess



This introductory course will explore the settlement and establishment of the American colonies, and their evolution into an independent nation. The purpose of the course is to provide students with a foundational knowledge of US history, from the earliest colonies to the Civil War and Reconstruction.

Grading: midterm and final exams, class participation, and attendance.

Media Revolutions: From Scroll to Screen
Hist 2909/Engl. 1728
M/W 1:25-2:40
Jeffrey Freedman



This course surveys the history of media from the ancient world to the present. Taking 'media' in the broadest sense to encompass the full range of communications technologies, we will begin with the papyri scrolls of ancient Greece and move from there through the manuscript codex of the Middle Ages, the printed book of the age of Gutenberg, newspapers in the 18th and 19th centuries, radio and film in the 20th century, and the internet and social media of our own digital age. Several recurrent questions will frame our survey of media landscapes: How, to what

ends, and in what institutional settings are particular media used? How do they affect modes of thinking? And what are the relations of different media to the various historical forms of religious, political, and economic power?

Grading: midterm and final exams; one short paper; and class participation.

History of Modern Russia
Hist 2154
T/Th 11:50-1:05
Josh Zimmerman



This course examines the history of modern Russia from Peter the Great to the collapse of the Soviet Union. Topics include Peter the Great's Westernization policies (1703-1725), territorial expansion under Catherine the Great (1764-1796), Alexander II's Great Reforms (1860s-1870s), the period of reaction and revolution in late Czarist Russia, the nationalities, and the collapse of the Russian Empire in 1917. The second part of the course covers the history of Soviet Russia, between the 1917 revolution and the Soviet Union's collapse in 1992.

Grading: midterm, final, and one research paper.

Germans and Jews: From the Enlightenment to the Nazi Dictatorship

Hist 2162/JHIS 2162

M/W 3:10-4:25; 3:35-4:50

Jess Olson and Jeffrey Freedman



This course examines the different ways in which German Jews responded to the challenges of modernity from the mid-18th century to the eve of the Holocaust. Between those two dates, Jews, who had lived for centuries as outsiders in German-speaking lands, entered the mainstream of middle-class German society. They interacted—and sometimes intermarried—with non-Jewish Germans. From the standpoint of the law, they became fully equal citizens. And they made enormous contributions to modern German culture. Yet, for the most part, they retained a consciousness of being seen as different. This hybrid identity—part insider and part outsider—gave them a unique perspective on the world that they inhabited.

Grading: midterm and final exams, paper, class participation and attendance.

Spanish Inquisition: Varieties of Heresy in the Iberian World

Hist 2103/JHIS 2103

T/Th 10:25-11:40

Ronnie Perelis



Explores the history of the Spanish and Portuguese Inquisitions from multiple vantage points. The focus is on Jews and Conversos, the main targets of the Inquisition's persecution, and on the dynamics of crypto-Judaism in Iberia and the Americas. But we will also consider the experiences of other groups targeted by the Inquisition such as Moriscos, Protestants, free-thinkers, witches, and different groups of non-conformists.

Grading: midterm and final exams, reaction papers, research project, and class participation

History of the Jews of New York
Hist 2232H/JHIS 2232H
M/W 11:55-1:10
Jeffrey Gurock



Explores the history of the Jews of New York from their arrival in the 17th century through the late 19th century—the period in which New York became home to the world’s largest Jewish community—to the post-World War II suburban exodus. It concludes by examining the decline and revival of Jewish neighborhoods in New York today.

Grading: midterm and final exams, one paper, class attendance and active participation.