

SCW: Hist-courses spring 2022

The Transformations of Europe
Hist. 1102 (required course for History major)
T/Th 9-10:15
Prof. 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 I
Hist. 1201
M/W 1:25-2:40
Prof. Doug 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, final, and class participation and attendance.

History of Modern Russia
Hist. 2154
T/Th 11:50-1:05
Prof. 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.

Kings and Queens in Early Modern Britain
Hist. 2109
M/W 11:55-1:10
Prof. Will Stenhouse



This course will examine the history of Britain in the early modern period (1400-1700). In this period Britain witnessed some of Europe's most famous rulers – including Henry VIII and his six wives, his daughter Elizabeth I, and Oliver Cromwell, Lord Protector after the execution of Charles I – and some of Europe's most famous writers, such as Shakespeare and Milton. In these centuries we can see new ways of thinking about the relationship of church and state, about the extent of royal power, and about the role European states should play in the new world. It was a turbulent era, but also prosperous, creative, and hugely influential. Developments in this period continue to echo in twenty-first century America, in fields ranging from political theory to popular culture. This course will introduce the main political developments in this period, the main cultural achievements, and the main personalities, in a chronological framework. A museum visit is also a possibility.

Grading: discussions, paper, research project on the period in popular culture, and short tests.

Modern Israel
Hist. 2304
T/Th 10:25-11:40
Prof. 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.

Social Movements in American History
Hist. 2225
T/Th 1:35-2:50
Prof. Hadassa Kosak



Social movements and protest politics have become a familiar presence in our contemporary political landscape. We read about Black Lives Matter, QAnon, Anti Vaxxers, to mention a few. This course will offer a historical perspective on the movements of today by comparing them to those of the past. We'll explore the ideology, political structures, mobilization, identity, and empowerment strategies of Abolitionism, the Women's Movement, populism, the KKK, movements of the era of the great Depression such as the Labor Movement, those of the 1960s

such as the Civil Rights and Anti-War Movements, and the New Right. A comparative survey of contemporary movements which erupted in 2011 in Europe, in the US, and the Middle East (including Israel), will conclude the survey.

Grading: Midterm and a final exam; two short papers based on interpretation of documents; attendance and class participation.

Ideas of History

Hist 3001 (required course for History major)

M/W 9-10:15

Prof. 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.