

## SCW: Hist-courses spring 2026

### **The Transformations of Europe**

**Hist 1102-A (required course for History majors)**

**M/W 9:00-10:15**

**Benjamin Diehl**



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: three in-class exams and class participation.

### **Survey of US History II**

**Hist 1202-M**

**T/Th 1:35-2:50**

**Douglas 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 the Law**  
**Hist. 2601-N**  
**T/Th 3:00-4:15**  
**Douglas Burgess**



This course examines the development of western law from a historical perspective. Through a combination of lecture and discussion of assigned readings, students will be introduced to the foundational documents of the law, their historical context, and their relevance to modern jurisprudence. Students will be expected to recognize and comprehend major themes of private and public law, the relationship of subject and sovereign, rights of the individual, law and statecraft, and the philosophy of law.

**History of the Ancient Near East (3000 – 330 BCE)**  
**HIS 1105-E**  
**M 3:10-4:25; W 3:35-4:50**  
**David Danzig**



The goal of this course is to survey the political and cultural history of the ancient Near East from the earliest historical periods to the fall of the Persian Empire. Ancient Mesopotamia will be the primary focus, but there will be discussion of other Near Eastern civilizations, including Egypt, Hatti and Israel.

**American Jewish History, 1654-2025**  
**Hist 2240-C/JHIS 2240-C**  
**M/W 11:55-1:10**  
**Jeffrey Gurock**



An examination, through primary and secondary sources, of the social, economic, religious and political history of the Jews in the United States within the contexts of American and Jewish history from the Colonial period to the beginning of the 21st century.

Grading: midterm and final

**Secularism and Religion in Zionism and Israel**  
**Hist 4930-N**  
**T/Th 3:00-4:15**  
**Josh Karlip**



From its inception, the Zionist movement has been divided between competing secularist and religious visions of Jewish national renaissance. This division only intensified with the creation of the State of Israel. In this course, we will explore this tension from an historical perspective. The course will examine both secularist and religious trends in Zionism as well as the development of both Zionist and anti-Zionist perspectives within Orthodoxy. It will end

with a look at the tensions between *hilonim* and *haredim* in Israel today.

**Ideas of History II**  
**Hist 3002-D1 (required course for History major)**  
**M/W 1:25-2:40**  
**Jeffrey Freedman**



Most history courses are devoted to particular objects of historical knowledge—e.g. the Protestant Reformation, the French Revolution, the American Civil War. This course, by contrast, is devoted to historical knowledge as such: how it is constructed, what type of subjects it encompasses, on what sort of foundations it rests, what purposes it serves, and how it is related to the art of narrative. To such questions, historians have offered many different answers; and this course does not seek to resolve those differences—instead, it historicizes them. Beginning with the origins of the modern historical profession in the nineteenth century, it surveys some of the most influential approaches to the study of the past and situates them in their political, institutional, and cultural contexts.

Requirements: two in-class tests; regular participation; and a final project