

## YC: HIS-courses spring 2026

### **The Transformations of Europe**

**HIS 1102-241 (required course for History major; satisfies CUOT Core requirement)**

**M/W 4:30-5:45**

**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: three in-class exams and class participation.

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

**HIS 1202**

**T/Th 6:45-8:00**

**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

**Diasporic Legacies: Blacks and Jews in America**  
**HIS/JHI 4930-621 (satisfies COWC requirement; Writing Intensive)**  
**Friday, 10:00-12:30**  
**Michael Hoberman**



This course explores the historic relationship between Blacks and Jews in North America from the colonial era to the present day, with a primary emphasis on the period between the Civil War and the late twentieth century. We will focus throughout on the complex and often tense dynamic that has shaped this relationship. Blacks and Jews have drawn

upon divergent historical legacies and exposures and, as a rule, have experienced and contributed to the cultural life of North America in distinct ways. By the same token, both groups have, at least intermittently, sought, aspired to seek, or, if nothing else, been *expected* to find common ground, despite the many conflicts of interest that have kept them apart. On occasion, their intermingling has resulted in an enriching, if sometimes problematic, melding of cultures and identities.

Requirements: three seminar papers; one final paper; one in-class presentation; and regular participation

## **History of Soviet Russia**

**HIS 2156-331 (satisfies CUOT Core requirement; Writing Intensive)**

**T/Th 3:00-4:15**

**Josh Zimmerman**



This course will examine the history of the USSR from the October Revolution of 1917 until the regime's sudden collapse at the end of 1991, focusing on the country's social and political history. It explores the ways that everyday citizens experienced Communist rule and seeks to understand how the revolutionary enthusiasm that at times dominated the country's political discourse ultimately gave way to the cynicism and corruption of the USSR's final days.

Requirements: midterm, final, research paper and class participation

## **Nationalism in the Modern World**

**HIS 2151-341 (satisfies COWC Core requirement; Writing Intensive)**

**T/Th 4:30-5:45**

**Professor Josh Zimmerman**



This course examines the rise and spread of national movements in 19th century Europe. Emphasis is placed on the transition from liberal nationalism in the first half of the 19th century to ethnolinguistic nationalism in the final decades prior to World War I.

## History of Hebrew

HIS 2230-231/JHI 2230-231

M/W 3:00-4:15

Ari Adler



This course traces the history of Hebrew as a language of a people. It focuses on sociolinguistic and sociocultural elements of the language and its users. The course begins with the origins of Hebrew as a Canaanite language and of Tanakh. It then explores the status of Hebrew during the periods when Aramaic and Greek supplanted it as the most commonly spoken languages among Jews. This era led to the eventual death of spoken Hebrew, yet it continued to be used by the Jewish diaspora in various ways.

Hebrew continued to develop during this time, giving rise to Byzantine poetry, the study of Hebrew grammar, and the invention of Hebrew vowel and Cantillation marks. Medieval and Early Modern literary Hebrew represents the revival of Hebrew *belles-lettres*. The end of the course will be devoted to the revival of spoken Modern Hebrew and its status in today's world. The course does not involve a diachronic history of the language itself, and the ability to read primary sources in Hebrew is strongly preferred, but not required.

## History of the Jews of New York

HIS 2232-611/JHI 2232-611 (Honors)

F 9:30-12:00

Jeffrey Gurock



Explores the history of the Jews of New York from their arrival in the 17<sup>th</sup> century through the late 19<sup>th</sup> 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.

## **Ideas of History II**

**Hist 3002 (required course for History major; Writing Intensive)**

**M/W 6:45-8:00**

**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

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