

History

College of Arts & Sciences

The Department of History offers both the M. A. and the Ph.D. degrees. A reading knowledge of at least one foreign language is required for both degrees. The M.A. degree may be obtained either by Plan A (thesis) or Plan B (non-thesis). The Ph.D. program is built around graduate readings and research seminars that are designed to prepare students for the qualifying exams and to write the doctoral dissertation. Program requirements vary depending on specific concentrations. More detailed information may be found at: <https://history.as.uky.edu/>

Admission Procedures & Requirements

Students applying for either the MA or the Ph.D. program should submit evidence of extensive undergraduate preparation in History (preferably an undergraduate major). Applicants who wish to be considered for financial assistance and fellowships should review the department's web-site for specific deadlines and must apply no later than January 1.

For additional requirements and information on application procedures, consult: <https://history.as.uky.edu/applying-program>.

Course Descriptions

HIS 500 PRECLASSICAL AND CLASSICAL GREECE. (3)

A history of Greece from earliest times to the death of Alexander the Great.

HIS 501 FOURTH-CENTURY GREECE AND THE HELLENISTIC WORLD. (3)

A history of Greece and the Greek world from the death of Alexander to the Roman conquest of Egypt.

HIS 502 A HISTORY OF THE ROMAN REPUBLIC. (3)

A history of Rome from earliest times to the fall of the Republic. Emphasis will be placed upon the territorial expansion of Rome and the effects of this expansion on republican institutions.

HIS 503 A HISTORY OF THE ROMAN EMPIRE. (3)

A study of the foundation of the Roman Empire, the development of Imperial institutions, social and intellectual developments of the GraecoRoman world. The decline of Rome and the barbarian invasions of the fourth century.

HIS 504 GREEK AND ROMAN MEDICINE. (3)

An historical introduction to the development of Greek and Roman medicine, from the pre-Socratic philosophers through Oribasius and early medieval influences. Prereq: A course in ancient history, or classics, or ancient philosophy, or consent of instructor.

HIS 506 HISTORY OF SEXUALITY IN THE U.S. (3)

An overview of the history of beliefs about sexuality, sexual cultures and norms, and sexuality's relationship to power in American society from the colonial period to the present.

HIS 509 ROMAN LAW. (3)

An historical introduction to the development of Roman law, from the Twelve Tables through the Codex Justinianus. (Same as CLA 509.)

HIS 510 MEDIEVAL LAW. (3)

This course examines the development of the various legal systems to which people in western Europe had recourse between the fourth century and the fourteenth century. Topics to be covered include the shift from oral to written law, the problems small communities faced in dealing with transgressors, the competition between various authorities for jurisdiction, the ways in which Judaeo-Christian values and beliefs affected the orientation of medieval law, the use of procedures such as ordeals and inquisitions, the evolution of ideas about natural rights, and how law reflects the massive social and political reorganization of the west that occurred after the Roman Empire.

HIS 511 BARBARIANS. (3)

This course examines the peoples known to historians of Western Europe as the “Barbarians” who took up residence on the continent of Europe and whose polities replaced the central government of imperial Rome in the fifth and subsequent centuries, as well as those of the northern realms of the British Isles and Scandinavia. Topics to be studied include the ethnic and cultural identities of the Barbarians, their role in redefining the social and political institutions of Europe, the reasons for their political and military successes, and their hold on the imaginations of both sympathetic and unsympathetic historians.

HIS 512 CAROLINGIAN EMPIRE. (3)

This course examines the reconstitution of much of the former Roman empire in the western provinces under the hegemony of the Carolingian rulers of the eighth and ninth centuries. Among the topics to be studied are the dynamic interactions between powerful ecclesiastical and secular leaders that produced a distinctive vision of a Christian empire, the relations between the Carolingian, Byzantine, and Islamic polities, the means of building royal legislative and judicial power in an environment of fragmented authority, the role of literary and artistic activity in creating a distinctive “Carolingian Civilization”, the military activities that consolidated the empire, and the fragility of the imperial enterprise.

HIS 513 MEDIEVAL INSTITUTIONS SINCE THE MID-10TH CENTURY. (3)

A survey of medieval political, social, economic and ecclesiastical institutions from the beginning of the High Middle Ages to the middle of the 15th century.

HIS 514 SPAIN: FROM RECONQUEST TO EMPIRE, 1200-1700. (3)

This course focuses on the expansion of the Christian kingdoms (Portugal, Castile, and Aragon) in the Iberian peninsula and across the Atlantic. Special attention will be paid to the interaction of Judaism, Christianity, and Islam: cultural transformations, including developments in music, literature, and the arts; political developments in Iberia and the emergence of Spain and Portugal; and the spread of Iberia's transAtlantic empires.

HIS 519 THE ERA OF THE RENAISSANCE. (3)

An historical description and analysis of the development of political, economic, social, religious, intellectual and cultural institutions of Europe from Petrarch to Erasmus.

HIS 520 THE ERA OF THE REFORMATION. (3)

An historical description and analysis of the development of the religious, intellectual, cultural, political, economic and social institutions of Europe from Luther to the Treaty of Westphalia.

HIS 521 EUROPEAN SOCIAL HISTORY, 1400-1800. (3)

Survey of European social history in the early modern period, including analysis of demographic patterns, family and social structures, rural and urban economic patterns, and cultural and religious attitudes.

HIS 522 EUROPE AND THE WORLD IN THE AGE OF REVOLUTION (1760-1815). (3)

A study of the political, social, economic and cultural changes that transformed Europe during the age of the French Revolution and Napoleon, with special emphasis on the relations between Europe and the non-European world during this period.

HIS 525 MODERN EUROPE: 1890-1939. (3)

This course examines European history from 1890-1939. It focuses heavily on the Great War and its aftermath through an analysis of the political cultures of the era. Prereq: HIS 105 or consent of instructor.

HIS 526 EUROPE SINCE 1939. (3)

This course examines the major cultural, social, and political developments that have shaped Europe, European history, and Europe's relationships with the world since the outbreak of World War II. Prereq: HIS 105 or consent of instructor.

HIS 529 WOMEN IN MODERN EUROPE. (3)

This course examines the historical, changing lives of women in Europe from the late eighteenth century to the present. It explores the historical contributions of both ordinary and famous women, as well as their participation in, and contributions to, major political, social, and cultural movements. The course will analyze changes and continues through the lens of gender.

HIS 534 RUSSIA IN THE 19TH CENTURY. (3)

This course examines the social, political, and cultural history of 19th Century Russia in depth, focusing on the social conditions of serfdom and its abolition, the causes of social tension in late Imperial Russia, and the long term causes of the Russian Revolution of 1917.

HIS 535 RUSSIA IN THE 20TH CENTURY. (3)

This course examines the social, political and cultural history of 20th century Russia in depth, focusing on the social conditions that caused the Revolution, the formation of the Soviet Union and its decline.

HIS 536 INTELLECTUAL AND CULTURAL HISTORY OF RUSSIA TO 1800. (3)

A study of Russian culture to 1800 emphasizing Slavic paganism, Orthodox Christian culture in Kiev, Novgorod, and Muscovy, and the impact of the West in the Seventeenth and Eighteenth Centuries.

HIS 537 INTELLECTUAL AND CULTURAL HISTORY OF RUSSIA FROM 1800 TO THE PRESENT. (3)

A study of Russian culture from 1800 to the present emphasizing the conservative as well as the revolutionary tradition, the Russian avantgarde, Stalinist culture, and the Dissident Movement.

HIS 540 HISTORY OF MODERN FRANCE TO 1815. (3)

The course of French history to 1815, including the development of French political, administrative, legal, social, economic and cultural achievements and institutions and their contribution to the modern world.

HIS 541 HISTORY OF MODERN FRANCE SINCE 1815. (3)

Continuation of HIS 540.

HIS 542 GERMAN HISTORY, 1789-1918. (3)

This course examines the political, social, and cultural history of Germany during the century when it arose from utter defeat by Napoleon to become the strongest economic and military power in Europe, then concludes with Germany's fate in World War I.

HIS 543 GERMAN HISTORY SINCE 1918. (3)

This course examines the history of Germany from the end of World War I until the present, including the Weimar Republic, the Third Reich, the occupation regimes after World War II, East and West Germany from 1949 to 1990, and the reunified Germany since 1990. The main focus of coverage will be on political and social history, with lesser emphasis on cultural, diplomatic, and military history.

HIS 546 THE BYZANTINE EMPIRE. (3)

A study of Byzantine history from the time of Constantine the Great to the capture of Constantinople by the Turks in 1453. Prereq: HIS 104 or 247.

HIS 549 HISTORY OF THE MIDDLE EAST: 1952 TO THE PRESENT. (3)

A continuation of HIS 548. Emphasis is on the politics of Middle Eastern nationalism, Pan-Arabism and its demise, the Arab-Israeli conflict, the politics of oil and nuclear weapons, the Islamic revolution in Iran, and the development of the Islamic movement since 1967.

HIS 550 STUDIES IN MID-EAST HISTORY AND POLITICS: (Subtitle required). (3)

Selected topics on the history of the Middle East and its politics. The specific topics for a given semester will be listed in the class schedule book and the department's website.

HIS 552 TUDOR-STUART BRITAIN, 1485-1714. (3)

An analysis of political, religious, cultural, and economic changes in Britain during the reign of the Tudor and Stuart kings and queens, a period when Britain became increasingly prominent in world affairs.

HIS 553 EIGHTEENTH CENTURY BRITAIN. (3)

An analysis of English society and politics in an important transition period when the country was transformed by the Industrial Revolution and challenged by the French Revolution.

HIS 554 BRITISH HISTORY 1815-1901. (3)

A detailed study of Britain's political, social, diplomatic and industrial development in the 19th century.

HIS 555 BRITISH HISTORY SINCE 1901. (3)

A detailed study of Britain in the 20th century with special consideration of Britain in World War I and World War II, and her position in the contemporary world.

HIS 556 THE BRITISH EMPIRE, 1322-1879. (3)

This course covers the rise, fall, and rise of the British empire from its extension into Scotland and Ireland till the beginning of the age of "New Imperialism," explaining the means by which Britain came to dominate one-third of the globe, and its impact on the many cultures, economics, and geopolitical entities of the third world. It will further discuss how those cultures transformed Britain itself. Prereq: Prior experience in HIS 105 strongly recommended.

HIS 557 THE BRITISH EMPIRE AND COMMONWEALTH, 1880-2000. (3)

This course will trace the imperial theme, and the gradual decline and decomposition of Britain's empire from Victoria's day to the present; it will examine decolonization and the blending and clash of cultures, the effect of technology and western ideas on the subject peoples, and their impact on western civilization. Prereq: Prior experience in HIS 105 strongly recommended.

HIS 561 CULTURE, IDEAS, AND SOCIETY IN LATIN AMERICA. (3)

This course explores the interplay of culture, ideas, and society in the history of Latin America from Independence (1825) to the present. It takes an interdisciplinary approach and is attentive to issues of class, gender and sexuality, ethnicity and race, power, domination, and resistance. Major themes to be

developed in the course are history of ideas; popular and elite cultures; material and visual culture; work, leisure, and consumption; and the politics of representation. Prereq: HIS 207 or LAS 201 are suggested.

HIS 562 MODERN MEXICO. (3)

Following a brief survey of Mexican political history from Independence to the present, this course will examine topically major historical themes, such as landholding and agrarian problems, church and state, and assessment of the 1910 Revolution.

HIS 563 THE HISTORY OF WOMEN IN LATIN AMERICA. (3)

This course will survey the history of women in Latin America from pre-Columbian period to the present. The emphasis will be mainly on the late nineteenth and twentieth centuries in order to understand the situation of women in Latin America today.

HIS 564 HISTORY OF BRAZIL. (3)

Study of Brazilian history from 1500 to the present, stressing the multiethnic dynamics of colonial society, the political transformations of independence, and the contemporary legacies of race, slavery, abolition, and gender.

HIS 572 AMERICAN LEGAL HISTORY. (3)

A history of law in the United States, emphasizing interrelationship of law and society. Particular attention given to law and economic growth, the criminal justice system, legal reform, the bar, and minorities and the law.

HIS 573 AMERICAN CONSTITUTIONAL HISTORY. (3)

A study of constitutional development in the United States from the colonial period to current times, with emphasis on the Supreme Court.

HIS 574 THE DIPLOMACY AND FOREIGN POLICY OF THE UNITED STATES TO 1919. (3)

A survey designed to acquaint the student with the principles of American foreign policy and its historical evolution. Prereq: HIS 108 or equivalent.

HIS 575 THE DIPLOMACY AND FOREIGN POLICY OF THE UNITED STATES SINCE 1919. (3)

A continuation of HIS 574. Foreign policy after the United States became a world power. Prereq: HIS 109 or equivalent.

HIS 576 FRONTIER AMERICA, 1400-1869. (3)

A study of the ways in which America's people shaped and were transformed by the frontier; how they wrestled with the problems of nationhood, democracy, sacrifice, and innovation; and how the idealism and promise were fulfilled and betrayed, from the first settlers to the driving of the Golden Spike.

HIS 577 FRONTIER AMERICA, 1869-PRESENT. (3)

A survey of the many Westerners, women as well as men, Native Americans, Chinese, and Hispanics as well as whites, sodbusters as well as six-shooters, and of the many Wests, wild and not-so-wild, from the prairie homesteaders to the Sagebrush Rebellion; and how they made, inherited, and were imprisoned by the frontier heritage.

HIS 578 HISTORY OF THE OLD SOUTH. (3)

A study of the colonial beginnings and expansion of southern life, economics, and society. The growth of slavery, staple agriculture, and sectional politics will constitute the major interest. Prereq: HIS 108.

HIS 579 HISTORY OF THE NEW SOUTH. (3)

The evolution of southern life and society, agrarian politics, relationships with other sections, industrial growth, and new leadership.

HIS 580 HISTORY OF APPALACHIA. (3)

A survey of the social, economic, and cultural history of Appalachia from the colonial period to the present with emphasis on the interaction of this social state region with the broader forces of social change at work in modern America. Prereq: HIS 108, 109 or consent of instructor.

HIS 584 HEALTH AND DISEASE IN THE U.S. (3)

Examines the emergence of modern medicine and the allied health professions, from colonial times to the present. Emphasis will be placed on the social, institutional, and scientific contexts of medical thought, education, and practice. It also explores how social and professional thought and action shape the meaning of health and disease.

HIS 587 THE CIVIL RIGHTS MOVEMENT IN THE U.S. SINCE 1930. (3)

This course will focus on the struggle for African American equality in the U.S. during the mid twentieth century. It will examine key civil rights issues, events, strategies, leaders and organizations on both the local and national levels. Using historical documents and documentary film presentations this course will discuss the status of race relations in America over the past fifty years. (Same as AAS 587.)

HIS 593 EAST ASIAN HISTORY SINCE WORLD WAR II. (3)

A study of the revolutionary political, economic and social changes occurring in China, Japan,

HIS 616 PALEOGRAPHY. (3)

This course provides training in the skills needed to read the handwritten materials that constitute evidence for historical investigation of the production and circulation of information outside the medium of print. While the specific scripts to be studied will vary from semester to semester, depending upon whether the course is focused upon Latin paleography, Greek paleography, or vernacular paleographies, students will learn to read and transcribe manuscripts, to expand abbreviations appropriately, to recognize the chronological and geographical extent of particular scripts, to develop strategies for reading difficult scripts, to find the specialized reference works to assist them in studying handwritten materials, and to understand the historical arguments that have been constructed on the basis of analysis of scripts and the "archaeology of the book." The course also provides training in basic codicology and editorial techniques for establishing a text and recording variant readings. Prereq: Some familiarity with the language of the materials. (Same as CLA 616.)

HIS 621 READINGS IN EARLY MODERN EUROPE, 1450-1648. (3)

This course is designed to give graduate students a grounding in the historiography of Europe from 1450 to 1648. Students should expect to familiarize themselves in the recent trends in political, social, cultural, religious, economic, and intellectual history of the period.

HIS 622 READINGS IN EARLY MODERN EUROPE, 1648-1815. (3)

This course is designed to give graduate students a grounding in the history of Europe from the conclusion of the Thirty Years War to the Era of The French Revolution, with a focus on political, cultural, and intellectual history.

HIS 623 READINGS IN 19TH CENTURY EUROPEAN HISTORY. (3)

Intensive survey of the literature in the political, social, and/or cultural history of nineteenth-century Europe. May be repeated to a maximum of six credits when topical coverage is sufficiently different from

one semester to another. Prereq: Graduate status.

HIS 624 READINGS IN EUROPEAN HISTORY OF THE TWENTIETH CENTURY. (3)

A critical survey of problems and literature in the political, social, and cultural history of Twentieth Century Europe. May be repeated to a maximum of six credits when topical coverage is sufficiently different from one semester to another. Prereq: An undergraduate course in European history.

HIS 625 BRITAIN, 1688-1815. (3)

A general graduate-level introduction to the political and social history of Britain from the Glorious Revolution through the French Revolution. Focuses on: Whig justification for revolution, "Rage of Party," Walpolean oligarchy and its "country" critics, agricultural revolution, urbanization, growth of the "middling sort," plebeian culture and the limits of hegemony, growth of national identity and the "fiscal-military" state, social context of the criminal law, Wilkite and American crises. Prereq: Permission of instructor.

HIS 626 BRITAIN, 1792-1914. (3)

This course will provide graduate students with a detailed overview of the history of Britain in the "long" nineteenth century. It will focus on such issues as the impact of the Industrial Revolution, the formation of a recognizably modern class society, the growth of workingclass political consciousness, and the politics of class and gender. Prereq: Permission of instructor.

HIS 627 THE BRITISH EMPIRE, 1763-1914. (3)

This course provides graduate students with a detailed overview of several broad themes pertaining to the history of the British empire, 1763-1914: the first imperial crisis, slavery and the slave trade, race as a category of imperial knowledge/power, women's emancipation and the problem of empire, the post-colonial challenge to the "imperial mindset," and the intensification of imperial awareness within Britain itself, c. 1880-1914. Prereq: Permission of the instructor.

HIS 628 COLLOQUIUM ON MODERN EUROPEAN HISTORY. (3)

This course will provide an overview of the major themes and events that have shaped Modern European History from the late 18th century to the present. We will analyze the various ways in which particular historical topics have been interpreted (and reinterpreted) over time, as well as historian's different methodologies, underlying assumptions, and use of evidence. The major goal of the course, however, is to introduce graduate students to significant works and historical debates in Modern European History.

HIS 637 READINGS IN COLONIAL LATIN AMERICAN HISTORY. (3)

Intensive survey of major themes and debates in colonial Latin American history from 1492 to the early nineteenth century. Includes political, economic, social, and cultural topics.

HIS 638 READINGS IN LATIN AMERICAN HISTORY. (3)

Intensive survey of the major themes and debates in Latin American History from 1850 to the present. Includes political, economic, social and cultural topics. Prereq: Consent of instructor.

HIS 640 READINGS IN AMERICAN HISTORY TO 1877. (3)

Course will examine major scholarly debates in American history to 1877.

HIS 641 READINGS IN AMERICAN HISTORY SINCE 1877. (3)

Course will examine major scholarly debates in American history since 1877.

HIS 650 READINGS IN SPECIAL TOPICS IN HISTORY. (3)

Supervised reading at the graduate level of a selected bibliography of the essential literature of various

special topics. May be repeated to a maximum of nine credits with different topics. Prereq: Consent of instructor.

HIS 651 READINGS IN U.S. FOREIGN RELATIONS SINCE 1900. (3)

This course will involve intensive reading in the history of United States foreign relations in the twentieth century. It will examine various theoretical approaches to the subject. It will analyze the sources and consequences of America's global expansion as well as the historiography of important events such as World War I and II, Korea and Vietnam.

HIS 653 READINGS IN U.S. WOMEN'S HISTORY. (3)

This course will introduce students to the main currents in U.S. women's history in four broad chronological units: Traditional America, 1600-1820; Industrializing America-Part I, 1820-1880; Industrializing America-Part II, 1880-1920; and Modern America, 1920-present. Within this framework, the course will explore such topics as: work, communities and public life; gender, families and sexuality; race and African-American experiences; and religion, reform and political culture. The course will also familiarize students with the ongoing theoretical debates within women's history.

HIS 654 READINGS IN MODERN AFRICAN-AMERICAN HISTORY. (3)

Introduces graduate students to the historical literature on 20th century African-American history and major historiographical issues. (Same as AAS 654.)

HIS 655 READINGS IN ANTEBELLUM SOUTHERN HISTORY. (3)

Introduces graduate students to the historical literature on the antebellum South and the major historiographical issues.

HIS 656 READINGS IN NEW SOUTH HISTORY. (3)

Introduces graduate students to the historical literature on the New South and the major historiographical issues.

HIS 657 RACE RELATIONS IN THE UNITED STATES. (3)

This seminar focuses on the African American experience in the United States from Reconstruction to the present. Using primary documents and secondary readings, this course will examine the construction of race relations and the individuals, organizations, events, and issues significant to the shaping of the black experience. (Same as AAS 657.)

HIS 673 READINGS IN AMERICAN HISTORY: THE GILDED AGE AND THE PROGRESSIVE ERA. (3)

An intensive survey of the major historiographical issues and the secondary literature of the Gilded Age and the Progressive Era.

HIS 695 INDEPENDENT WORK. (1-3)

Under special conditions selected students may investigate problems, with weekly reports to instructor. May be repeated to a maximum of nine credits. Prereq: Consent of instructor.

HIS 700 SPECIAL PROBLEMS IN HISTORY. (3)

Professors will conduct research seminars in topics or problems in which they have special research interests. May be repeated to a maximum of 12 credits. Prereq: Consent of instructor.

HIS 701 RESEARCH SEMINAR IN AMERICAN HISTORY. (3)

Graduate research seminar in American history. May be repeated to a maximum of 12 credits.

HIS 705 COLLOQUIUM IN PRE-MODERN EUROPEAN HISTORY. (3)

Graduate research seminar for students in pre-modern European history. Students will write a research paper of 20-30 pages using primary sources in the original languages. Class time will primarily involve discussion of works in progress, including works by the students and pre-modern European faculty members, as well as discussion of the mechanics of researching and writing history.

HIS 706 SEMINAR IN MEDIEVAL HISTORY. (3)

Directed research on a common problem. May be repeated to a maximum of 12 credits. Prereq: A reading knowledge of Latin or of one European language or consent of instructor.

HIS 710 SEMINAR IN AMERICAN HISTORY, 1607-1815. (3)

May be repeated to a maximum of 12 credits.

HIS 711 SEMINAR IN AMERICAN HISTORY, 1815-1865. (3)

May be repeated to a total of 12 credits.

HIS 722 SEMINAR IN MODERN EUROPEAN HISTORY, 1870 TO THE PRESENT. (3)

May be repeated to a maximum of 12 credits.

HIS 730 SEMINAR IN MODERN BRITISH HISTORY. (3)

May be repeated to a total of 12 credits.

HIS 748 MASTER'S THESIS RESEARCH. (0)

Half-time to full-time work on thesis. May be repeated to a maximum of six semesters. Prereq: All course work toward the degree must be completed.

HIS 749 DISSERTATION RESEARCH. (0)

Half-time to full-time work on dissertation. May be repeated to a maximum of six semesters. Prereq: Registration for two full-time semesters of 769 residence credit following the successful completion of the qualifying exams.

HIS 750 INTRODUCTION TO THE HISTORICAL PROFESSION. (1)

Intend to acquaint students with dissertation research expectations, the responsibilities of a new faculty member, and professional career options.

HIS 767 DISSERTATION RESIDENCY CREDIT. (2)

Residency credit for dissertation research after the qualifying examination. Students may register for this course in the semester of the qualifying examination. A minimum of two semesters are required as well as continuous enrollment (Fall and Spring) until the dissertation is completed and defended.

HIS 768 RESIDENCE CREDIT FOR THE MASTER'S DEGREE. (1-6)

May be repeated to a maximum of 12 hours.

HIS 769 RESIDENCE CREDIT FOR THE DOCTOR'S DEGREE. (0-12)

May be repeated indefinitely.