

DEPARTMENT OF HISTORY



**GRADUATE
COURSE
DESCRIPTIONS**



SPRING 2016

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GRADUATE COURSE LISTINGS

I. Courses for PhD and MA Students

HIS 525/527	CORE SEMINAR: History, Theory and Practice	S. Lim K. Wilson	M 1:00 – 4:00	SBS N-303
<p>This year-long course is your introduction to graduate study in history in general, and Stony Brook’s Ph.D. Program in History in particular. It has three goals: 1) to familiarize you with the techniques and resources of historical research; 2) to provide an overview of the four thematic areas emphasized by our graduate program; and 3) to explore some important historiographical and theoretical concepts that inform historical writing. The first semester will combine a series of hands-on workshops in interpreting primary sources with selective reading of important and interesting scholarship that represents the four themes of our graduate curriculum, and also offers instructive examples of using sources. Requirements for the first semester include active participation in class discussion of assigned readings, three or four short writing/analytical exercises, and a preliminary research proposal. The second semester will be devoted to researching and writing a substantial research paper.</p>				

Field, Theme, & Research Courses

FIELD:

HIS 500/ CEG 523	HISTORIOGRAPHY	R. Chase	M 5:30-8:30	SBS N-303
<p>Introduction to Historiography through reading and writing about interpretations of history, historical methods, and major historians.</p>				

FIELD:

HIS 502/ CEG 524	Intro to Late Modern Europe	Y-S. Hong	TU 5:30-8:30	SBS N-318
<p>This course will provide students with an advanced introduction to the history and historiography of modern Europe from the French Revolution to the present. It will focus as much on the conceptual categories and historiographical debates that shape the writing of modern history as it will on the actual history of the period, and it will try to strike a balance between the needs of those of students who have previously studied the history of modern Europe and those of students who have no particular knowledge of the region. The course will begin with the French Revolution and then explore such issues as the process of industrial development and the debate over the Industrial Revolution; class, gender and citizenship in the 19th-century and their</p>				

	interaction with nationalism and imperialism; the legacy of World War I, the crisis of democratic politics, and the rise of Stalinism and National Socialism in the interwar years; politics and culture in the Cold War; and recent trends in the historiography of postwar Europe. MA/Ph.D. students register for HIS 502, MAT students register for CEG 524.	
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FIELD:

HIS 522/ CEG 522	US History Since the Civil War	C. Sellers	W 5:30 – 8:30	SBS N-318
	An advanced survey of American history from Reconstruction to the present. This is a reading-intensive course designed to familiarize the student with most major issues of this period, with special emphasis on the intersection of politics and society. Assignments will average over 300 pages per week of core readings. In addition, each student will deliver at least two presentations over the course of the semester on books of his or her choosing in consultation with the instructor. A final, interpretive essay is also required. For MA and PhD students only. MAT students must register under CEG 522."			

FIELD:

HIS 541/ CEG 535	Colonial Latin	B. Larson	TH 5:30 – 8:30	SBS N-303
	<p>This field seminar engages both classic and recent texts on colonial Latin America. Discussions move between history and historiography, so it is essential for students to have a solid background in the history of colonial Latin America. (Those folks who need to get up to speed on their basic knowledge of the field should read a standard historical text, such as Peter Bakewell’s <i>History of Latin America: Empires and Sequels</i> or Henry Kamen’s <i>Empire. How Spain Became a World Power, 1492-1763</i>.)</p> <p>In the course, we will sample a diversity of historical themes and conceptual approaches. Authors and topics might include: 1) Todorov, Greenblatt, Seed, and Hulme on cross-cultural (mis)encounters and the problems of imperial power, knowledge, and representivity; 2) Rama, Mignolo, González Casanova, and Adorno on la ciudad letrada as symbol, instrument, and enclave of colonialism and its civilizing missions; 3) Schwartz, Stern, Clendinnen, and Larson on regional theaters of Indian resistance and colonial formations; 4) Stern, Wallerstein, and Blackburn on the transatlantic workings of the pre-industrial ‘capitalist world system’; 5) Van Young, Thomson, and Serulnikov on late colonial crisis and Indian rebellion; 6) Geggus, Dubois, and Trouillot on Haiti and the Black Atlantic in the ‘Age of Revolution’.</p> <p>Course grade is based on class participation and 3 writing assignments: two historiographical papers that grapple with broad questions from the course readings and discussions and one interpretive paper that introduces and analyzes (your own choice of) a published primary source or archival document. (A reading knowledge of Spanish is helpful, but not essential for this course.) MAT students must register under CEG 535.</p>			

FIELD:

HIS 563/ CEG 536	Intro to South Asian History	E. Beverly	W 5:30-8:30	SBS N-303
<p>This course provides an advanced introduction to South Asian history and historiography from the early modern period to the present. We cover major works on key themes, including precolonial cultural relations, colonialism and imperialism, the politics of religious identity, anti-colonialism and nationalism, decolonization and partition, and postcolonial developments. Classic books in the the field – drawn from various schools of historiography – will be supplemented with selections from relevant primary sources. This is not a survey course, and does not attempt to be comprehensive. No prior knowledge of the field is prerequisite, and the course will begin with a rapid thematic survey of South Asian history. This course is jointly designed for History PhD and MA students for whose research and teaching a knowledge of South Asian history will be useful, and for MAT students who intend to teach South Asian and global history at the advanced secondary level. Requirements include preparation and participation, a series of short response or feedback papers, project presentation, and either a topical historiographical essay (for HIS 563 students), or a lesson plan (for CEG 536 students).</p>				

THEME:

HIS 553	Latino History	L. Flores	TU 4:30-7:30	SBS N-303
<p>This course exposes students to Latino history as a field of study that emerged in the 1960s and has only become richer with the addition of diverse scholarly voices and interdisciplinary approaches. By reading the classic and landmark works in ethnic Mexican, Puerto Rican, Dominican, Cuban, and other Latina/o histories alongside newer, cutting-edge monographs, this course will touch upon topics such as race, empire, labor, migration, gender, citizenship, transnational identity, and political resistance. This seminar will be particularly valuable for students working in U.S. history, Latin American history, and transnational/borderlands history. Writing assignments include a historiographical essay, a professional book review, and weekly book analyses.</p>				

THEME:

HIS 554	Global Commodity Histories & Modern Capitalism	P. Gootenberg	TH 2:00-5:00	SBS N-320
<p>This Theme Seminar (open to PhD and MA students) uses the “new commodity history” as a means of exploring larger themes in the history of capitalism, labor, modern consumption cultures, environmental history and globalization and global power regimes. Commodity studies stand at the intersection of material culture and economic history and social</p>				

	<p>history and cultural studies. The seminar will address some of the interdisciplinary trends (mainly from social anthropology and economic sociology) that are converging in the new commodity history. We will then engage 10 or so major monographs and synthetic studies that suggest novel directions in the field. Their topics include such historical products as sugar, rice, silver, chocolate, tobacco, rubber, mahogany, cotton, oil, tequila, white bread, Coca Cola, contraband, cocaine, bananas, and global guano.</p>	
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THEME

HIS 555	War and the Military	M. Barnhart	TU 4:00-7:00	N-403
	<p>An in-depth examination of the intersection of societies, their militaries and their wars, with special emphasis on unconventional conflicts, the origins and conclusions of conflicts, and twentieth century conflicts in Asia. Reading intensive, discussions probably even more so.</p>			

RESEARCH:

HIS 601	Advanced Methods in Historical Research	N. Tomes	TH 4:30-7:30	S-309
	<p>This seminar provides graduate students with advanced training in the methods of historical research and writing. Our main goal is for each participant to produce a 30-35 page paper suitable for publication in an academic journal. Readings and class discussion will focus on developing and illustrating an argument of interest to a broad group of scholars. Although topics must be historical in nature, theoretical perspectives and methods from other disciplines are very welcome.</p> <p>As part of our discussion, we will reflect on what makes historical work distinctive. Questions to be considered include: what are the possibilities and limitations inherent in any historical archive? What constitutes a historical source? Are all texts potential documents? Why was a record or text produced and who read it? What were its modes of circulation? Who does it privilege and who exclude? How could different groups or communities of meaning-makers alter its use and importance? What were the social, cultural, political and intellectual contexts of its production?</p> <p>Besides writing several drafts of their papers, students will be asked to discuss examples of their primary sources in class and to provide constructive feedback on their fellow student's work.</p>			

PROSPECTUS

HIS 695	Dissertation Prospectus Workshop	J. Farmer	M 4:30-7:30	S-309
	<p>This small, intensive, hands-on workshop is for advanced History Ph.D. students at or near the end of their course work. The goal is to prepare an outstanding dissertation proposal. Solid proposal-writing skills are crucial for guiding your upcoming thesis research. These same skills will serve you the rest of your career as a historian. Our workshop will meet once per week, and revolve around group exercises. Everyone will read everyone else's drafts and offer comments. By the end of the course, each student will have three versions (short, medium, long) of the prospectus, with the full version submitted to your advisor for approval. The course concludes with student presentations to the entire department. A satisfactory grade is required for advancement to candidacy.</p>			

II. Courses for MAT & SPD Students

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