

FALL 2023

HISTORY
GRADUATE COURSE
BULLETIN

US History to 1877

HIS 521/CEG 532

FIELD SEMINAR

Professor Jennifer Anderson

W 5:30-8:20 SBS N-303

In this graduate seminar, students will develop a strong foundation in American history, within the larger context of the Atlantic world, from the pre-colonial period to the U.S. Civil War. The purpose of this course is to introduce major themes, interpretations, and methods of inquiry that have characterized this field of study. We will cover a wide range of subjects including Native American relations; cross-cultural encounters; labor (free and enslaved); imperialism; settler-colonialism; religion; wars and revolutions; changing social relations; political ideologies and movements; and historical constructions of race, ethnicity, class, and gender. Readings will include a selection of both classic works and new scholarship. Required: attendance, active participating in class discussion, oral presentations, much reading, short writing assignments and papers. **HIS MA/Ph.D. students register for HIS 521, MAT students register for CEG 532**

**History, Theory, Practice
Core Seminar**

His 524/526

Profs. Chris Sellers and Kathleen Wilson

Tuesdays 5:20-8:20 SBS N-303

This first semester of the year-long Core course has two main functions: to address the various ways that theoretical concepts inform contemporary historical writing, and to introduce the four thematic areas emphasized in the graduate program. In doing so, it will also help students evaluate the growing body of theoretically-informed work across the historical fields, learn how to use theory in the formulation and execution of historical research, and assess which kinds of theory are most appropriate or important for their own research interest. The overall goal is to train students to thinking historically and conceptually: to shape research questions, interrogate archives, and conceptualize empirical findings. Requirements for the first semester include mastering assigned reading and active participation in class discussion, group oral presentations of the assigned readings, two short writing/analytical exercises, and a research proposal. All of this will prepare the students for the second semester, when they will research and write a substantial research paper. Assigned texts include those purchased, photocopied (X) or downloaded. **Prerequisite: Enrollment in a History Graduate Program: MA & PhD students only; advanced Academic-Track MA students should consult advisor prior to enrolling.**

Seminar in Gender, Sexuality, and Race

HIS 543

THEME SEMINAR

Professor Shirley Jennifer Lim

Thursdays 4-6:50pm SBS N-303

This course stands at the intersection of race, gender, sexuality, nation (origin and citizenship), and class. Of particular interest are communities formed as alternative and, at times, transformative spaces. In addition to reading both classic and path breaking historical works, you will be assembling your findings from the archive. How do we narrate the experiences of the undocumented, the marginalized, the colonized, the queer, the subaltern? To uncover those stories, the archive is broadly defined, ranging from traditional repositories to songs to the body to ephemeral spaces. The course is open to those who seek to craft academic narratives as well as to those who wish to explore innovative writing techniques. **Enrollment in History MA or PhD Program or Permission of Instructor.**

**Global Commodity Histories
Seminar on Nation State and Society**

HIS 554

THEME SEMINAR

Professor Paul Gootenberg

Wednesdays 4:00-6:50

SBS N-303

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 globalization, as well as capitalism, power, labor, national identities, consumption cultures, and environmental history. Commodity studies stands at the intersection of material culture and economic history and social history and cultural studies. The seminar will address some of the interdisciplinary trends (mainly from social anthropology and economic sociology) that converge in the new commodity history. We will then engage 10 or so major monographs and synthetic studies that suggest the latest developments in the field. The topics include such historical products as sugar, rice, cotton, silver, chocolate, tobacco, teas, rubber, mahogany, mate, guano, bananas, tequila, and cocaine. **Pre-requisite: Enrollment in a History MA or PhD Program or permission of the instructor with enrollment under the HIS course number.**

Introduction to Japan: Japan and WWII in Asia

**HIS 565
FIELD SEMINAR**

Professor Janis Mimura

Mondays 5:30-8:20 SBS N-303

This seminar introduces students to important themes, approaches, and recent historiographical debates in the history of Japan and WWII in Asia. Examining the war from the perspective of Japanese history, we will consider its connections to Asia and the world at large. We will begin with the post-WWI settlement and follow Japan's increasing estrangement from the liberal world order in the process of its expansion in East and Southeast Asia, its alliance with fascist Europe, and its wager against the Soviet Union and the United States. Students will develop skills in critical reading and analysis of argument, method, and sources through active reading and discussion. Other requirements include an in-class presentation, short reading reports, and a 10-12-page historiographical essay on a topic of their choice. **Enrollment in History MA or PhD Program or Permission of Instructor.**

Race & Conflict In History

HIS 601

RESEARCH SEMINAR

Professor Robert Chase

TU 5:30-8:20 PM SBS N-318

Two quotes nicely elucidate the theme of this graduate seminar. The first *Race and Conflict* in by Maya Angelou: "Prejudice is a burden that confuses the past, threatens the future, and renders the present inaccessible." The second by Malcolm X: "You can't separate peace from freedom because no one can be at peace unless he has his freedom."

Drawing on these ideas of race and conflict that dominate our past and, sadly, the present moment, this seminar explores the history of race and conflict as a historical force across the eighteenth, nineteenth, and twentieth centuries. As such, students will read a collection of primary sources, articles, and monographs on the ways in which racial conflict shaped much of the globe during three pivotal centuries that comprise the historical development of the modern world. Topics that we will analyze include slavery and the slave trade; colonialism and anti-colonialism; uprisings and rebellions; war as racial and ethnic conflict; the revolutionary era and revolutions as violence; nationalism as ideological scripts for racial violence; carceral discipline as racial conflict; gender, race, and conflict; and resistance to systems of racial power and oppression.

In addition to the core readings, the seminar will train graduate students in the research and writing of graduate level research papers, with a focus on race and racial conflict. As a research seminar, we will address how historians frame a question, shape a research project, and present an argument and set of conclusions. Requirements consist of completing all reading assignments and participating actively in class, as well as researching and writing a research paper. In addition, each student will contribute at least one document for general analysis over the course of the term. The second half of the course will be devoted to researching, writing, and presenting working drafts of students' research papers. The final research paper of ca. 20-30 pages will be due on Dec. 15. **Prerequisite: Enrollment in History PhD program (other students require permission of Instructor)**