

# History Courses

**HIST 1622**      Roebuck, K

**The World of Modern Japan**

**ASIAN 2222**

**GOVT 1623**

**CAPS 1622**

MW      2:30-3:20\*

In 1868, samurai revolutionaries and their allies seized the reins of power and established a new capital they called Tokyo. Against all odds, this fragile regime survived and made Tokyo a center of power that would transform both Japan and the world. This survey of Japanese history explores the rise and fall of Japan as a modern imperial power; its foreign relations; its economic and scientific development from “feudalism” to futuristic technologies; and Japan’s many modern revolutions, from the rule of the samurai to Westernization and democracy, from democratic collapse to fascism and World War II, and from Japan’s postwar rebirth to the present. We will examine not only big events but also everyday life, including gender and sexuality, family and schools, and art and popular culture. (non-US)

**HIST 1920\***      Du, Mara Yue

**Modern China**

**CAPS 1920**

**ASIAN 1192**

TR      1:25-2:40

This course surveys modern Chinese history from 1644 to 1949. Time will be devoted to each of the three major periods: China’s last empire, the Great Qing (1644-1911); the early Republic (1912-1927); and the Nationalist period (1928-1949). It guides students through pivotal events in modern Chinese history, and uncovers the origins and trajectory of China’s painful transition from a powerful early modern empire to a country torn by civil unrest and imperialist invasion, and then from a newly-recognized “Great Power” in the post-World War II international order to a vanguard of the global communist revolution.

# History Courses

**HIST 1960** Craib, R.

LATA 1960

## **Latin America & the Modern World (GB) (HA-AS)**

MWF 11:15-12:05

A survey of the social, political, cultural and economic history of Latin America from roughly 1800 to the present. Primary aim is to develop a mental map of the history of Latin America - of prominent themes issues; of historical eras and trajectories. Given the vastness of Latin America, and its somewhat arbitrary composition as an object of study, the approach of the course is thematic and chronological rather than regional. We will pay attention to a number of more specific and interconnected themes: the development of, and relationship between, economies and processes of state formation; the complex roles Britain and the U.S. have played in the region, but always with an appreciation for how Latin Americans have shaped their own histories and those of the U.S. and Britain; the ways in which non-elites - slaves, workers, peasants, among others - have shaped history; the politics of the production of history; and Latin America's 'situatedness' in a broader world. Weekly readings include historical and theoretical works memoirs, speeches, documents and novels. (non-US)

**HIST 2105\*** M. McComb

## **Crime and Punishment in Medieval Europe**

TR 11:40-12:55

All past and present societies confront the fundamental problem of what should be done with those who violate society's rules and customs and why they should be punished. Despite its modern reputation for illogical violence and brutality, medieval Europe is no exception to this principle. Medieval societies held ideas about punishment and redress for offense and injury which while very different were no less complex than our own.

This course is structured around two fundamental questions: how did medieval societies punish and why – in their own minds – did they do so? Our investigation of these questions will lead us to consider the array of social and physical punishments these authorities used to confront crime, sin, and social disorder.

Through a mixture of corporal punishments, rituals of shame and exclusion, and incarceration, medieval elites attempted to create orderly societies and disciplined individuals. Through the lens of punishment, we will further dig into the ideas medieval people held about gender, social identity, personal honor, and the human body.

# History Courses

**HIST 2132\*** Du, Mara Yue

**CAPS 2132**

**Law and Society in Early Modern and Modern China**

**ASIAN 2280**

TR 2:55-4:10

China was and still is regarded in the Western world as a country without the rule of law. In this course, students examine recent scholarship that challenges this simplified understanding of the role of law in Chinese politics and society. It approaches law in early modern and modern China both as a state institution of governance and control, and as a platform that facilitates interactions and negotiations between state and society, between different social forces, and between different cultures. At the same time, this course guides students to develop projects of their own choice, either addressing legal issues or using legal sources, from tentative proposals to research papers based on their examination of original or translated primary sources.

**HIST 2156\*** Litvak, Olga

**JWST 2156**

**'O Europe my hell on earth!': Anti-semitism and the Making of European Jewry**

**RELST 2156\***

TR 8:40-9:55

Does hatred have a history? Historians insist that Europe invented a tradition of hating Jews and Judaism; some go so far as to argue that the destruction of European Jewry during the Holocaust was the culmination of a thousand-year-old prejudice against Jewish difference, cultivated not only by cranks and lunatics at the margins of European discourse, but by great luminaries with a reputation for progressive, even radical, opinions. In fact, the cultural problem of Jewish difference was implicated in both the destruction and the creation of European Jewry. In this seminar, we will examine exemplary works of Europe's famous anti-Jewish canon — such as Paul's letter to the Romans, Luther's "On the Jews and their Lies," and Marx's "On the Jewish Question" — in order to contextualize a mythology of Jewish "otherness" that enflamed the anti-Jewish imagination even when there were few Jewish "others" around to hate. We will also look at critical moments in Jewish history marked by the appropriation of anti-Jewish arguments in the name of Jewish social discipline and moral authority. Through the prism of provocative Jewish texts such as the Crusade chronicles, Mendelssohn's Jerusalem and Pinsker's "Auto-emancipation" we will explore some of the ways in which the "enabling violation" of anti-semitism both constrained Jewish existence and liberated Jewish self-consciousness, turning Europe into a home for Judaism as well as a Jewish "hell on earth."

# History Courses

**HIST 2460\*** Minawi, M.

**NES 2640**

## **The Age of Suleiman the Magnificent**

TR 2:55-4:10

*Required Prereq: HIST 1561*

Much has been written about the so-called "Golden Age" of the Ottoman Empire, some based on documentary evidence, while other based on the fertile imagination of foreign diplomats, artists, and historians alike. In this seminar, we will explore the myths surrounding the Age of Suleiman the Magnificent, and the role they have played in the telling of the popular history of the Middle East, and the so-called "rise and fall" of Islamic civilization. How do seemingly innocuous stories about the decadence of the court, the loose morality of the "oriental" and the imagined Harem continue to impact our perception of the so-called "East" and in what way do they still define some of the very questions even contemporary researchers and journalists ask? Relying on a combination of popular history books, academic monographs, critiques of the genre of the "history of great men," and works of historical fiction, this seminar is meant to introduce undergraduate students interested in getting a sense of Ottoman popular history between 1500-1700, while being mindful of the power of storytelling in works of history and the perils of myth-making.

**HIST 2521\*** Weil, R.

## **England's Age of Revolutions, 1500-1815**

MW 11:15-12:05\*

Why did a relatively poor, marginal island garner a reputation for rebelliousness and embark on radical (though often failed) experiments in toleration and democracy over the course of the sixteenth and seventeenth centuries? This course explores the social, religious and political upheavals that rocked the British Isles, from the Henrician reformation to the Glorious Revolution of 1688. Topics include: the relationship of puritanism to political radicalism; the trial and execution of King Charles I, anti-Catholicism as an ideology; the twinned threats of theocracy and Cromwellian military rule; the role of the press and public opinion in early modern politics, the struggle for and limits of religious toleration, and the relationship of revolutions in England to violence in Scotland and Ireland. Finally, we will look at how the memory of earlier revolutions shaped British responses to the American and French Revolutions.

# History Courses

**HIST 2560**      **Strauss, B.**

**CLAS 2680**

## **War & Peace in Greece and Rome**

TR      10:10-11:25

In ancient Greece and Rome, government did little besides wage war and raise taxes, culture focused on war, warriors gloried in battle, and civilians tried to get out of the way. This course surveys the impact of war and the rarity of peace in the ancient world. Topics include: "why war?"; the face of battle; leadership; strategy, operations, and tactics; women and war; intelligence and information-gathering; diplomacy and peacemaking; militarism; war and slavery; the archaeology of warfare. Readings in translation include selections from Homer, Herodotus, Thucydides, Xenophon, Caesar, Livy, Tacitus, Josephus, and Ammianus Marcellinus.                      (pre-1800/non-US)

**HIST 2742**      **Falk, O.**

**MEDV 2130**

## **Cultures of the Middle Ages: Medieval Frontiers Societies (HB) (CA-AS)**

TR      10:10-11:25

It's bad enough to run up against a border: at least you know where you stand. The frontier, however -- that fuzzy, murky zone that envelops the border while making its precise contours invisible -- is far more ambiguous, dangerous ground to tread. People, ideas, and other contraband criss-cross it; men (and sometimes women) make their own law; cultures clash and conspire together. At the margins of Europe -- Ireland, Wales, Scandinavia, Poland, Germany, the Low Countries, Spain, Sicily, the Levant -- medieval people discovered what every Trekkie knows: final frontiers, spaces of both oppression and opportunity. This course will explore some of the exchanges, friendly and otherwise, that took place at the edges of the medieval world, seeding many of the more radical developments which shaped the modern world.

# History Courses

**HIST 2750** Ghosh, D.

**ASIAN 2275**

## **History of Modern India (GB) (HA-AS)**

MW 11:15-12:05\*

*Each student must enroll in a section.*

This introductory course is a broad survey of the history of the Indian subcontinent from remnants of the Mughal empire through the end of the British empire into the postcolonial present. Prominent themes include the emergence of nonviolent protest, religious and regional identities, ethnic rivalries, social reform and the “woman question,” deindustrialization, nationalism and the place of democracy and militarism in a region that includes two nuclear powers, India and Pakistan. (non-US)

**HIST 2760** Travers, R.

## **The British Empire (HB) (HA-AS)**

TR 1:25-2:15\*

This course considers how a small northern European kingdom acquired and then governed a vast global empire. Beginning with the navigators, pirates and settlers of the Elizabethan era, and ending with the process of decolonization after World War Two, we will explore the diverse character and effects of British imperialism in the Americas, in Asia, in Africa, and the Pacific, and consider the legacies of the British empire in the contemporary world. (non-US)

# History Courses

**HIST 2791** Weiss, J.

**International Humanitarianism (GB) (HA-AS)**

TR 11:40-12:55

This course studies international humanitarian and human rights activities from their origins to the present. The ideological and social roots of humanitarian thought and action receive attention, as does the often-overlapping, sometimes conflictual relationship between humanitarianism and human rights advocacy. Case studies will include the anti-slavery movement, the activities of faith-based groups, biographical studies of pioneering individuals, and the international response to the creation of refugees and to various genocides. (non-US)

**HIST 2970** Litvak, Olga

**Imperial Russia (HB) (HA-AS)**

MW 8:40-9:55

This course surveys the history of Imperial Russia, from its ninth-century Kievan beginnings to its rapid disintegration under the pressure of the First World War. Lectures will draw special attention to recurrent acts of revolutionary transformation that punctuate Russia's long tradition of "internal colonization." We will look at the creation of Russian culture, politics and society between the ninth century and the nineteenth as an exercise in empire-building — a project that originated with the enterprising princes of medieval Moscow, collapsed with the end of the Riurikid dynasty at the turn of the seventeenth century, spectacularly revived in eighteenth-century St. Petersburg, under the standard-bearer or the reforming Romanovs, Peter the Great, and eventually taken up by some of the most articulate representatives of a late-imperial intelligentsia whose dreams of Russian greatness were even more extravagant than those of the tsar. Topics for discussion include: the Russian translation of Greek Christianity, Russia's fraught relationship with Western Europe, the paradox of imperial modernization and the continual recourse, in Russian literary, musical, and visual cultures to an image of Russia as a frontier society without a state.

# History Courses

**HIST 2985** Barwick, J.

**ASIAN 2286**

**Transformations in Twentieth Century China (GB) (HA-AS)**

**CAPS 2985**

TR 1:25-2:40

The twentieth century was a time of unprecedented change in China as the country's ancient imperial system collapsed and a new modern order began to emerge. This course will explore the myriad transformations that occurred during this remarkable century of revolution and renewal. Among the major changes that we will focus on are the fall of the Qing dynasty, the intellectual awakening of May Fourth, the rise of the Nationalist party-state, and key events of the Communist era, such as the Great Leap Forward and Cultural Revolution under Mao Zedong and the capitalist reforms of Deng Xiaoping. The class will encourage historical reflection on China's engagement with the modern world in order to better understand the complex reality of China today. (non-US)

**HIST 3542** Minawi, M.

**NES 3542**

**(old title) Greece, Turkey, and the Levant, 1800-1950 (HA-AS)**

TR 10:10-11:25

*HIST 1561 is a recommended prerequisite*

This course will take the students through the age of reforms in the Ottoman Empire, the rising of nationalism, and the encroachment of colonialism in the Middle East and the Balkans, and the collapse of the empire. Emphasis will be placed on analyzing various historical narratives of ethno-religious nationalisms using Turkey, Greece/Cyprus, and Lebanon/Syria. Prior knowledge of Middle East/Islamic history preferred but not required. (non-US)

# History Courses

**HIST 3960** Loos, T.

**ASIAN 3396**

**Transnational Local: Southeast Asian History from the Eighteenth Century (GB) (HA-AS)**

**ASIAN 6696**

TR 10:10-11:25

Surveys the modern history of Southeast Asia with special attention to colonialism, the Chinese diaspora, and socio-cultural institutions. Considers global transformations that brought "the West" into people's lives in Southeast Asia. Focuses on the development of the modern nation-state, but also questions the narrative by incorporating groups that are typically excluded. Assigns primary texts in translation. (non-US)

**HIST 4127** Roebuck, K.

**ASIAN 4415**

**The Body Politic in Asia (GB) (HA-AS)**

**FGSS 4127**

**HIST 6127\***

M 10:10-12:05

Visions of bodily corruption preoccupy ruler and ruled alike and prompt campaigns for moral, medical, and legal reform in periods of both stability and revolution. This seminar explores the links between political, sexual, and scientific revolutions in early modern and modern Asia. The focus is on China and Japan, with secondary attention to South Asia and Korea. Interaction with the West is a major theme. Topics include disease control, birth control and population control, body modification, the history of masculinity, honorific violence and sexual violence, the science of sex, normative and stigmatized sexualities, fashion, disability, and eugenics. The course begins with an exploration of regimes of the body in "traditional" Asian cultures. The course then turns to the medicalization and modernization of the body under the major rival political movements in Asia: feminism, imperialism, nationalism, and communism. (non-US)

# History Courses

**HIST 4460** Weiss, J.

## **Strategy in World War II (HA-AS)**

T 2:30-4:25

*Permission of Instructor required. Limited to 15 students.*

This course studies international humanitarian and human rights activities from their origins to the present. The ideological and social roots of humanitarian thought and action receive attention, as does the often-overlapping, sometimes conflictual relationship between humanitarianism and human rights advocacy. Case studies will include the anti-slavery movement, the activities of faith-based groups, biographical studies of pioneering individuals, and the international response to the creation of refugees and to various genocides. (non-US)

**HIST 4761** Falk, O.

## **Anglo-Saxon England (HB)**

T 2:30-4:25

The people who invaded the isle of Britain after the withdrawal of Roman government in the early fifth century, and who dominated it until the establishment of Norman rule in the late eleventh century, are responsible for some of the best-known and most enduring legacies of the Middle Ages: Beowulf and Bede's Ecclesiastical History, the archbishoprics of Canterbury and York, Alfred the Great and Æthelred the Unready. This course examines the Anglo-Saxons in their early-medieval context, focusing especially on the cooperation between history and its sister disciplines – archaeology, literary criticism, and others – that is so vital for shedding light on this distant, opaque era.

**HIST 6761**  
**MEDV 4761**  
**MEDV 6761**

# History Courses

**HIST 4950** Weil, R.

**FGSS 4950**  
**HIST 6905\***

## **Gender, Power, and Authority in England 1600-1800**

M 2:30-4:25

*Limited to 15 students.*

It is a truism that early modern society was a 'patriarchal' one in which men had authority -- but how did that authority operate and what were its limits? How did the exercise of power between men and women intersect with religious, literary, legal and political institutions? We will approach these questions chronologically, examining the impact of the Reformation, the English Revolution, the Enlightenment, the rise of middle class and polite culture. We will also explore them methodologically and generically, with an eye to how different kinds of evidence and sources can produce different kinds of conclusions. Historians' hypotheses will be tested by analysis of primary sources.

**HIST 6127** Roebuck, K.

**ASIAN 4415**  
**FGSS 4127**  
**HIST 4127**

## **The Body Politic in Asia (GB) (HA-AS)**

M 10:10-12:05

Visions of bodily corruption preoccupy ruler and ruled alike and prompt campaigns for moral, medical, and legal reform in periods of both stability and revolution. This seminar explores the links between political, sexual, and scientific revolutions in early modern and modern Asia. The focus is on China and Japan, with secondary attention to South Asia and Korea. Interaction with the West is a major theme. Topics include disease control, birth control and population control, body modification, the history of masculinity, honorific violence and sexual violence, the science of sex, normative and stigmatized sexualities, fashion, disability, and eugenics. The course begins with an exploration of regimes of the body in "traditional" Asian cultures. The course then turns to the medicalization and modernization of the body under the major rival political movements in Asia: feminism, imperialism, nationalism, and communism. (non-US)

# History Courses

**HIST 6905\*** Weil, R.

**FGSS 4950**

**Gender, Power, and Authority in England 1600-1800**

**HIST 4950**

M 2:30-4:25

*Limited to 15 students.*

It is a truism that early modern society was a 'patriarchal' one in which men had authority -- but how did that authority operate and what were its limits? How did the exercise of power between men and women intersect with religious, literary, legal and political institutions? We will approach these questions chronologically, examining the impact of the Reformation, the English Revolution, the Enlightenment, the rise of middle class and polite culture. We will also explore them methodologically and generically, with an eye to how different kinds of evidence and sources can produce different kinds of conclusions. Historians' hypotheses will be tested by analysis of primary sources.