HISTORY (HIST)

The Department of History is one of the top history departments in the country, with an internationally recognized faculty in American, European, and World and Ancient history. History professors have won some of the most important prizes in the profession, and they often appear on television and other media outlets. But what really distinguishes the department's faculty is that we love to teach. Our courses cover a wide range of times, places and subjects, from ancient history to the history of the modern world.

History is a flexible major, which makes it a good choice for students who want to complete a double major in another discipline. Popular double majors include communication, justice studies, economics and international affairs.

The Education Department's 4+1 graduate program is also available to history majors. Students who complete that program receive their social studies teacher certification in five years and graduate with a B.A. and M.Ed. or M.A.T.

The Department offers a major and minor in history. We also administer an interdisciplinary minor, the social studies of science and technology.

The History Department at UNH has approximately 200 undergraduate majors; about 50 students graduate with a history major every year.

Five-Year BA/MA Program

The History Department offers our majors an opportunity to complete an accelerated Master's Degree in history in as little as one additional year of study. Eligible seniors and juniors are able to take up to 12 credits in graduate history courses, which will count both toward the completion of the history B.A. requirements, and the history M.A. requirements. This accelerated option is available for both the standard track M.A. and the museum studies track.

To be eligible for the program students must have a GPA of 3.2 or higher. Students also must have completed 96 credits by the time they enter the accelerated M.A. program.

Students should apply before April 10th of their junior year. Students interested in applying must complete the UNH graduate studies application. Applications will include two letters of recommendation, a cover letter, a writing sample and a UNH transcript. GRE scores are NOT required. Students should also submit a cover letter and an endorsement from a member of the History Department directly to the graduate director, Professor David Bachrach (david.bachrach@unh.edu).

If you are interested in applying for the accelerated M.A. program, or would like additional information about the program, please contact Professor David Bachrach.

https://cola.unh.edu/history

Courses

History (HIST)

HIST 403 - Introduction to Greek Civilization
Credits: 4
A broad historical exploration of Greek civilization. Topics include: architecture, art, law, literature, philosophy, poetry, politics, religion, society, warfare, and the Greek's legacy to the modern world. Open to all students. No prior knowledge of the ancient world assumed; all readings are in English. Ideal background for students of English, philosophy, history, Latin, Greek, the arts, music, modern languages.
Attributes: Historical Perspectives(Disc)
Equivalent(s): CLAS 403, CLAS 405
Grade Mode: Letter Grading

HIST 404 - Introduction to Roman Civilization
Credits: 4
A broad historical exploration of Roman civilization. Topics include: architecture, art, law, literature, philosophy, poetry, politics, religion, society, warfare, and their legacy to the modern worlds. Open to all students. No prior knowledge of the ancient world assumed; all readings are in English. Ideal background for students of English, philosophy, history, Latin, Greek, the arts, music, modern languages.
Attributes: Historical Perspectives(Disc)
Equivalent(s): CLAS 404, CLAS 406
Grade Mode: Letter Grading

HIST 405 - History of Early America
Credits: 4
America from the early era of European discovery through the American Civil War. Emphasizes the interaction of European, Native American, and African peoples; the separation of the English colonies from Great Britain; and the establishment and early history of the United States. Course meets the History major requirement for Group 1.
Attributes: Historical Perspectives(Disc)
Equivalent(s): HIST 405H, HIST 405W
Grade Mode: Letter Grading

HIST 405W - History of Early America
Credits: 4
America from the early era of European discovery through the American Civil War. Emphasizes the interaction of European, Native American, and African peoples; the separation of the English colonies from Great Britain; and the establishment and early history of the United States. Course meets the History major requirement for Group 1.
Attributes: Historical Perspectives(Disc); Writing Intensive Course
Equivalent(s): HIST 405, HIST 405H
Grade Mode: Letter Grading

HIST 406 - History of the Modern United States
Credits: 4
History of the United States since the mid-19th century. Political, social, and economic developments as well as relationships of the modern U.S. with other countries. Course meets the History major requirement for Group 1.
Attributes: Historical Perspectives(Disc)
Equivalent(s): HIST 406H, HIST 406W
Grade Mode: Letter Grading

Programs

- History Major (B.A.)
- History Major: Law 3+3 Option (B.A.)
- History Minor
- Social Studies of Science and Technology Minor
HIST 410 - Historic Survey of American Civilization  
Credits: 4  
Topical survey, within broad chronological divisions, of the development of American civilization since 1600. Students may take the course up to two times as long as the topic for the two courses is different. Course meets the History major requirement for Group 1.  
Attributes: Historical Perspectives(Disc); Writing Intensive Course  
Repeat Rule: May be repeated for a maximum of 8 credits.  
Equivalent(s): HIST 410H  
Grade Mode: Letter Grading  

HIST 421 - World History to the 16th Century  
Credits: 4  
The global experience of human communities with special emphasis on the development of the major civilizations and their interactions. Comparisons of social, cultural, religious, and political life and the emergence of distinctive and diverse human societies are examined. Course meets the History major requirement for Group III.  
Attributes: Historical Perspectives(Disc)  
Grade Mode: Letter Grading  

HIST 422 - World History in the Modern Era  
Credits: 4  
Emergence of major global human interactions due to the growth of major civilizations. The global context for the rise of the modern West. The rise and decline of Western global domination and the emergence of new states and changing societies throughout the world. Course meets the History major requirement for Group III.  
Attributes: Historical Perspectives(Disc)  
Equivalent(s): HIST 422H  
Grade Mode: Letter Grading  

HIST 425 - Foreign Cultures  
Credits: 4  
Introduces the culture of a particular nation or region; preparation for experiencing a foreign culture. Consult department for listing of topics. Course meets the History major requirement for Group II or III, depending on the topic.  
Attributes: World Cultures(Discovery)  
Equivalent(s): HIST 425H, HIST 425W  
Grade Mode: Letter Grading  

HIST 435 - Origins of European Society  
Credits: 4  
This course traces the contours of human experience in what has come to be called "Western Civilization," from its beginnings in the ancient Near East, Greece, and Rome, to the dawn of the modern global world in sixteenth-century Europe. Although topics will vary by instructor, all sections examine the myriad forms of social, political, religious, military, and economic organization that emerged in this rich tradition, Course meets the History major requirements for Group II.  
Attributes: Historical Perspectives(Disc)  
Equivalent(s): HIST 435H, HIST 435W  
Grade Mode: Letter Grading  

HIST 435W - Origins of European Society  
Credits: 4  
This course traces the contours of human experience in what has come to be called "Western Civilization," from its beginnings in the ancient Near East, Greece, and Rome, to the dawn of the modern global world in sixteenth-century Europe. Although topics will vary by instructor, all sections examine the myriad forms of social, political, religious, military, and economic organization that emerged in this rich tradition, Course meets the History major requirements for Group II.  
Attributes: Historical Perspectives(Disc); Writing Intensive Course  
Equivalent(s): HIST 435, HIST 435H  
Grade Mode: Letter Grading  

HIST 436 - Europe and the Modern World  
Credits: 4  
The course focuses on major encounters between Europe and its Global rivals from the Age of the Revolution to the rise of modern terrorism. While the topics covered will vary by instructor, all sections address the rise of Democracy, the birth of Capitalism, the apocalyptic destruction of the two World Wars, and the emergence of a diverse multi-cultural Europe in the years following World War II. Course meets the History major requirements for Group II.  
Attributes: Historical Perspectives(Disc)  
Equivalent(s): HIST 436H, HIST 436W  
Grade Mode: Letter Grading  

HIST 436W - Europe and the Modern World  
Credits: 4  
The course focuses on major encounters between Europe and its Global rivals from the Age of the Revolution to the rise of modern terrorism. While the topics covered will vary by instructor, all sections address the rise of Democracy, the birth of Capitalism, the apocalyptic destruction of the two World Wars, and the emergence of a diverse multi-cultural Europe in the years following World War II. Course meets the History major requirements for Group II.  
Attributes: Historical Perspectives(Disc)  
Equivalent(s): HIST 436, HIST 436H  
Grade Mode: Letter Grading  

HIST 437H - Honors/The Mad Among Us: A Global History of Mental Disorder  
Credits: 4  
Mental disorder is a universal and persistent condition in human history. Every society has struggled to make sense of it; every society has struggled to address it. But, what is mental disorder? Is it a disease? Is it a medical condition? Is it a chemical imbalance? Genetic destiny? Is it the wage of sin? The mark of the devil? The curse of a god? Or is it a social label or cultural construct - a name slapped on thought, feeling, or behavior that defies a society's definition of "normal?" This course seeks to answer these questions by exploring the great range of beliefs human societies, ancient to modern and from across the globe, have developed to identify and define mental disorder as well as the methods they have employed to treat or contain it.  
Attributes: Historical Perspectives(Disc); Honors course  
Grade Mode: Letter Grading
HIST 440A - Martin Luther King, Jr., and the Struggle for Racial Justice  
Credits: 4  
This course examines Martin Luther King’s life, philosophy, and career on the front lines of the civil rights movement. In our study of King as well as the larger black freedom struggle, we seek an understanding of how certain questions related to racial justice played out in American history. We focus on issues of civil disobedience, just and unjust laws, love and hate, violence and non-violence. Students will read many of King’s famous writings such as the Letter from Birmingham Jail, as well as his lesser-known speeches – among them king’s 1967 address denouncing the Vietnam War. More generally, this seminar introduces students to the rudiments of historical thinking and asks broader questions about the role of individuals in history and how social change happens. Course meets the History major requirement for Group I.  
Attributes: Historical Perspectives(Disc); Honors course  
Grade Mode: Letter Grading

Credits: 4  
Every person interacts with the health care system – including you. In this class, students will study the interactions between law, society, science, and medicine to gain an understanding about how the American health care system developed and who has and does make decisions about health. Topics covered include vaccination, health care providers, discrimination, and epidemics. Course meets the History major requirement for Group I.  
Attributes: Historical Perspectives(Disc); Honors course  
Equivalent(s): HIST 604  
Grade Mode: Letter Grading

HIST 440D - Honors/Citizens and Persons  
Credits: 4  
Definitions of citizenship have changed dramatically in the course of history. In this class, we will trace the evolution of expanding (and occasionally contracting) political and civil rights and responsibilities over time, with an emphasis on events in multicultural American nations and emphasizing how laws, social practices, unique historical contexts, and individuals’ understanding of self and other have mutually produced each other. The course is part of the Honors Symposium “Being Human” and will engage in an interdisciplinary conversation about personhood, humanity, rights and responsibilities, and dehumanization.  
Attributes: Historical Perspectives(Disc); Honors course  
Grade Mode: Letter Grading

HIST 440E - Honors/Drugs and Addiction in World History  
Credits: 4  
As drug addiction rates in the US are reaching epidemic proportions, new solutions and perspectives are becoming increasingly important. This course teaches students how a variety of cultures, including the Aztecs, Maya, Vedic India, China, and Greco-Roman antiquity, confronted the problems of drug use and addiction in their own societies. By examining these phenomena through the lens of other culture’s values, students will gain a valuable perspective by which to address these problems today.  
Attributes: Honors course; World Cultures(Discovery)  
Grade Mode: Letter Grading

HIST 440F - Honors/Islam, Art, and the Past  
Credits: 4  
While the world is all too familiar with images of ISIS using explosives and frills to destroy ancient sites and artifacts in Iraq and Syria, there has been little attention given to the dynamic role of art within past and present Islamic societies. Yet, Islam has a rich and vibrant artistic tradition, one in which ancient civilizations played and continue to play a major role. This course introduces students to Islamic art and cultural heritage through a study of Islam’s engagement with past artistic traditions in the fields of architecture and the fine arts. It also addresses how the recent actions of ISIS have changed questions about cultural heritage and stewardship in the Middle East and the West. Finally, the course asks students what they can and should do to preserve cultural heritage.  
Attributes: FinePerformingArts(Discovery); Honors course  
Grade Mode: Letter Grading

HIST 440G - Honors/Revolutions in Science  
Credits: 4  
In this course, we study several examples of scientific revolutions, and consider whether a general model applies to them all. How have ideas about the universe and human beings’ place in it changed dramatically at certain points in history? Do scientific revolutions have a common structure? Do they have any connection to political or social revolutions? Are we living through a scientific or technological revolution? These are among the questions we will examine.  
Attributes: Historical Perspectives(Disc); Honors course; Writing Intensive Course  
Grade Mode: Letter Grading

HIST 440H - Honors/From Beijing to Baghdad: Objects along the Silk Road  
Credits: 4  
The Silk Road, often characterized as the world’s first great superhighway, played a vital role in spreading forms of art and in developing new technologies for their production. The peoples along the Silk Road traded luxury goods such as silk and jade as well as culinary and musical traditions. Through lectures, readings, films, and podcasts we will explore the trade links between East and West and the material objects traded along the way.  
Attributes: FinePerformingArts(Discovery); Honors course; Inquiry (Discovery); Writing Intensive Course  
Grade Mode: Letter Grading
HIST 444J - Honors/Global Citizenship: In Pursuit of Liberty
Credits: 4
What does it mean to be a global citizen? Are we? What are human rights? Are they universal? This honors discovery course will explore with the men and women who traveled and thought beyond the borders of their locality and their moment of time and who imagined themselves citizens of the world. We will start with early revolutions that traversed oceans and national borders. We'll read utopias that saw their world differently. In the end, we, will investigate major global challenges of our own world. We will move backwards, but also forwards in history. We will read novels, and perform plays. We will listen to Beethoven and Berlioz, in class and discuss larger questions of our international community, from sustainability to diversity, as they echo through different disciplines. Course meets History major requirement for Group I or II.
Attributes: Historical Perspectives(Disc); Honors course; Inquiry (Discovery); Writing Intensive Course
Grade Mode: Letter Grading

HIST 483 - History of World Religions
Credits: 4
Introduces the religions of the world in terms of historical development, relationship to society, belief system, central texts, and ritual practices. Begins with the religions of small and tribal societies (e.g., African, Native American), moves through religions of complex societies (e.g., Hinduism), and then studies the various traditions that emanated from ancient revelations: Zoroastrianism, Buddhism, Judaism, Christianity, Islam, and certain new forms of Christianity. Course meets History major requirement for Group II.
Attributes: Historical Perspectives(Disc)
Equivalent(s): HIST 483W, RS 483, RS 483W
Grade Mode: Letter Grading

HIST 497 - Explorations in Historical Perspectives
Credits: 4
In-depth exploration of a particular historical question or topic: for example, the French Revolution, Chaucer's England, or the New Deal. Students should consult with the Department of History for a list of topics and instructors. Course meets the History major requirements for Group I, II, or III, depending on the topic.
Attributes: Historical Perspectives(Disc)
Repeat Rule: May be repeated for a maximum of 8 credits.
Equivalent(s): HIST 497H, HIST 497W
Grade Mode: Letter Grading

HIST 498 - Explorations of Historical Perspectives
Credits: 4
In-depth exploration of a particular historical question or topic: for example, the French Revolution, Chaucer's England, or the New Deal. Students should consult with the Department of History for a list of topics and instructors. Course meets the History major requirements for Group I, II, or III, depending on the topic.
Attributes: Historical Perspectives(Disc)
Repeat Rule: May be repeated for a maximum of 8 credits.
Grade Mode: Letter Grading

HIST 501 - Medieval Military History
Credits: 4
Western societies from the Roman Empire to the emerging nation states of early modern Europe spent an enormous proportion of their surplus wealth on war. This course introduces this crucial aspect of Western history and examines the period extending from the third century AD, to just before the extensive introduction into Europe of gunpowder weapons in the fifteenth century. Discussion of not only battlefield tactics and famous generals but also the effect that war had upon society as a whole and the economic ramifications of war, the Christianization of war, and the effect of war upon literature. Course meets the History major requirements for Group II.
Grade Mode: Letter Grading

HIST 505 - African American History
Credits: 4
Explores the forced integration of the Atlantic World through the African slave trade and the development of creole cultures in America, and takes the story of Black Americans' "creative survival" and the evolution of African-American culture through the end of the Civil War. Course meets the History major requirements for Group I.
Attributes: Historical Perspectives(Disc); Writing Intensive Course
Grade Mode: Letter Grading

HIST 506 - African American History
Credits: 4
Explores the forced integration of the Atlantic World through the African slave trade and the development of creole cultures in America, and takes the story of Black Americans' "creative survival" and the evolution of African-American culture through the end of the Civil War. Course meets the History major requirements for Group I.
Attributes: Historical Perspectives(Disc); Writing Intensive Course
Grade Mode: Letter Grading

HIST 511 - History of New Hampshire
Credits: 4
Investigates the role of law in American social, political, and economic life from the European settlements to the present. Traces the development of legal institutions, but focuses on the various functions of law (e.g., in structuring social relationships, allocating resources, defining governmental authority, expressing social and moral values, and as a mechanism for control). Course meets the History major requirements for Group I.
Attributes: Historical Perspectives(Disc); Writing Intensive Course
Grade Mode: Letter Grading

HIST 509 - Law in American Life
Credits: 4
Investigates the role of law in American social, political, and economic life from the European settlements to the present. Traces the development of legal institutions, but focuses on the various functions of law (e.g., in structuring social relationships, allocating resources, defining governmental authority, expressing social and moral values, and as a mechanism for control). Course meets the History major requirements for Group I.
Attributes: Historical Perspectives(Disc); Writing Intensive Course
Grade Mode: Letter Grading

HIST 511 - History of New Hampshire
Credits: 4
This course reconstructs the surprising past of the place we call New Hampshire. Beginning with the 17th -century encounter between English and Native people, it runs to the present. Literature, documents, photos and films provide access to New Hampshire's changing natural environment, its rural life, industrialization, politics and recent struggles. Course meets the History major requirements for Group I.
Attributes: Historical Perspectives(Disc); Writing Intensive Course
Grade Mode: Letter Grading
HIST 515 - Game of Thrones: Power and Politics in Medieval and Renaissance Europe
Credits: 4
George R.R. Martin’s popular medieval fantasy series, A Song of Ice and Fire better known from HBO’s Game of Thrones brilliantly portrays the brutal dynastic wars that unfolded between noble houses for control of Westeros. But did you know that pre-modern European history was one of Martin’s greatest inspirations? Join us as we explore a real "Game of Thrones", the gripping series of national and international struggles between actual noble European houses for supremacy from the eleventh through the sixteenth centuries that ultimately forged the modern European state system.
Attributes: Writing Intensive Course
Grade Mode: Letter Grading

HIST 520 - History of Animals
Credits: 4
Do animals have histories? Animals have created few if any written sources. Nevertheless, relationships between humans and animals have changed dramatically from the ancient past to the present day. Humans have shaped animal lives to serve many purposes; simultaneously, animals have served as agents of change in human history. Drawing on environmental, economic, social, and cultural history, this course will focus on the history of animals as pests, pets, producers, and products.
Attributes: Historical Perspectives(Disc)
Grade Mode: Letter Grading

HIST 521 - Origins of Modern Science
Credits: 4
Development of scientific ideas in Europe from the Renaissance through the Scientific Revolution to the Enlightenment. Topics include themes in the physical and biological sciences and their relations to cultural and social contexts. No special science background is required. Course meets the History major requirements for Group II.
Attributes: Historical Perspectives(Disc)
Grade Mode: Letter Grading

HIST 522 - Science in the Modern World
Credits: 4
Development of science, particularly in Europe and North America, from the 18th century to the present. Themes including Darwinism, the growth of modern physical and biological sciences and science in the contemporary world. No special science background is required. Course meets the History major requirements for Group II.
Attributes: Historical Perspectives(Disc)
Grade Mode: Letter Grading

HIST 523 - Modern Latin America
Credits: 4
Provides a broad overview of Latin America from the 18th century to the present. It examines the breakdown of colonial rules, the establishment of independent countries, the formation of viable nation states, the importance of geography, the roles of the different elements of society. Social, political, and economic changes and continuities emphasized to give a sense of the ambiguities of the historical process. Cultural differences illustrated with slides and music. The effects of elite rule and of United States interventions studied. Course meets the History major requirements for Group III.
Attributes: Historical Perspectives(Disc); Writing Intensive Course
Grade Mode: Letter Grading

HIST 524 - Modern Britain
Credits: 4
This course explores Great Britain from the American Revolution to the reign of Elizabeth II. We examine Britain's unparalleled Imperial power, the vibrancy of Victorian Culture, and the devastating impact of the two World Wars, which initiated Britain's post-war decline. During the Cold War, Britain rebuilt its position through cultural exports like rock 'n' roll music, royal pomp, and the mini-skirt, but has never fully recovered its status, despite its vibrant multi-cultural allure. Course meets the History major requirements for Group II.
Grade Mode: Letter Grading

HIST 527 - Espionage and History
Credits: 4
Introduces the history and politics of espionage and intelligence organizations from the 20th century to the present. Special attention to intelligence work among the major powers in World War I, World War II, and the Cold War. Readings include autobiographical accounts and other primary sources as well as novels. Course meets the History major requirements for Group II.
Grade Mode: Letter Grading

HIST 538 - Modern European War and Society: The Napoleonic Wars to World War II
Credits: 4
This course is organized around three conflicts: the Napoleonic Wars, World War I, and World War II. As we study them, we'll discuss the evolution and impact of total war in order to understand how societies work in wartime and how these conflicts have shaped Europe. In our exploration of each war, we examine a range of participants from international alliances to individual soldiers and to civilians involved in the conflict. Total war, by its nature, incorporates most elements of society, so we will spend time looking at the homefronts as well as the battlefronts. We will survey the conflicts as a whole, but also devote time to some special events or elements. For example, we will look at the battle of Somme during the portion of the course dedicated to World War I. We will also study some of the art that arose out of the conflict. The core of the class will be lectures, but we will engage in some discussion almost every day and there are some classes that will be dedicated to discussion. Course meets the History major requirements for Group II.
Grade Mode: Letter Grading

HIST 540 - Foundations of Medieval History: 300-1300 CE
Credits: 4
Introduces the history of Western Europe from the end of the Roman Empire to the late twelfth century. Particular focus on the history of Christianity, social and economic structures, the role of women in medieval culture, and literacy and learning. Course meets the History major requirements for Group II.
Attributes: Historical Perspectives(Disc)
Grade Mode: Letter Grading

HIST 555 - The Vikings!
Credits: 4
The Vikings spread terror and destruction throughout Europe. They also developed remarkable art forms, cutting edge technology, constructed new cities and kingdoms, and explored the new world 500 years before Columbus. This course will explore the identities of these fierce warriors, intrepid explorers, and farmed poets. This course fulfills history category 2.
Attributes: Historical Perspectives(Disc)
Grade Mode: Letter Grading

HIST 560 - Modern Britain
Credits: 4
This course explores Great Britain from the American Revolution to the reign of Elizabeth II. We examine Britain’s unparalleled Imperial power, the vibrancy of Victorian Culture, and the devastating impact of the two World Wars, which initiated Britain’s post-war decline. During the Cold War, Britain rebuilt its position through cultural exports like rock 'n' roll music, royal pomp, and the mini-skirt, but has never fully recovered its status, despite its vibrant multi-cultural allure. Course meets the History major requirements for Group II.
Grade Mode: Letter Grading
HIST 563 - Introduction to Russian Culture and Civilization
Credits: 4
Interdisciplinary course on the development of Russian culture from its origins through the end of the 19th century. Historical documents, literary works, ethnographic materials, films, slides of Russian art, and music. Course meets the History major requirements for Group II.
Attributes: World Cultures(Discovery)
Equivalent(s): RUSS 525
Grade Mode: Letter Grading

HIST 565 - Women in Modern Europe
Credits: 4
A social history of women in Europe from 1700 to the present. Examines the development of the "modern nuclear family," transformations in women's work during the industrial revolution, and women's political evolution from bread rioters to hearth tenders to petitioners. Sources include published diaries, historiographical studies, and novels. Course meets the History major requirements for Group II.
Attributes: Historical Perspectives(Disc)
Grade Mode: Letter Grading

HIST 566 - Comparative Revolutions: How to Make a Revolution in the World before Marx
Credits: 4
This course in HOW TO MAKE A REVOLUTION (if you lived more than 100 years ago) will ask why the Sea Beggars flooded Holland, the Levellers dug up the Commons, and Black Loyalists fled the independent Americans after their revolution. The class asks how slaves in Haiti defeated Napoleon's troops, utopian socialists built a railway around a cross at the center of Europe, and Marx rallied the workers of the world to unite. Course meets the History major requirements for Group II.
Attributes: World Cultures(Discovery); Writing Intensive Course
Grade Mode: Letter Grading

HIST 567 - Ancient Near East
Credits: 4
From the Neolithic revolution to the time of Alexander the Great. Rise of civilization; nature of human artistic and intellectual development in the earliest civilizations of Mesopotamia and Egypt; Judaism in its historical setting. Course meets the History major requirements for Group III.
Equivalent(s): CLAS 575
Grade Mode: Letter Grading

HIST 569 - History of China in Modern Times
Credits: 4
This course introduces students to major historical developments in China from 1600 to the end of the twentieth century. Major themes include: ethnicity, alien rule, political reforms and revolution, industrialization, interactions with the rest of the world (such as cross-cultural relations and military conflict), social and cultural transformation. Readings for the course are a combination of secondary and primary sources in translation, including scholarly articles, memoirs, biography, fictions, and journalist reports, most of which are landmark works indispensable for the study of modern Chinese history. Course meets the History major requirements for Group III.
Attributes: Historical Perspectives(Disc)
Grade Mode: Letter Grading

HIST 580 - History of Japan in Modern Times
Credits: 4
Surveys major historical changes in Japan from 1600 to the end of the 20th century. Topics include Tokugawa centralized feudalism, samurai class, Edo culture, foreign relations with Asian countries and the United States, wars, postwar reforms under American Occupation, and the rise of Japanese economic power. Sources include official documents, personal memoirs, literary works, films, as well as slides of ukiyo-e (woodblock paintings). Course meets the History major requirements for Group III.
Grade Mode: Letter Grading

HIST 585 - Medieval Islam
Credits: 4
This course examines the origins and expansion of Islam and the development of the Muslim community from the time of Muhammad until the Islamic empires of the 16th century. We will address the associated geographies, artifacts, and legal formations associated with the medieval and early modern Islamic world. The course focuses on major developments in politics, religion, and the arts. Course meets the History major requirements for Group III.
Attributes: Historical Perspectives(Disc)
Grade Mode: Letter Grading

HIST 587 - History of Africa from the Earliest Times to 1870
Credits: 4
This survey course introduces students to the major landmarks in the making of African history and societies from the earliest times to 1870 AD. Beginning with the dual premises that Africa is the birthplace of both the human species as well as some of the oldest and most varied civilizations in the world, the course examines the early civilizations of both Egypt and the Nile Valley, the development and of the Swahili culture, the Sudanese and forest empires, religious beliefs and the moral order, gender and class, warfare and diplomacy, the advent and impact of Islam and Christianity, migrations and cultural formations in central and southern Africa, commerce, and encounters with Europe, slavery and the Trans-Atlantic slave trade, and the end of formal African independence. Films and other visuals are streamed to supplement the readings. Course meets the History major requirements for Group III.
Grade Mode: Letter Grading

HIST 588 - History of Modern Africa: 1870 to the Present
Credits: 4
This course introduces students to major historical developments in Africa from the late 19th century to the present. The primary focus is on European imperialism and its aftermaths in Africa. Issues to be examined include: the scramble for and partition of Africa; resistance to colonization; the rise and fall of apartheid in Southern Africa; religion and society, music and culture, gender and sexuality, art and literature, pan-Africanism, military rule, HIV/AIDS, democratization, and nation building. Emphasis on African initiatives, and on an exploration of contemporary challenges and the major forces reshaping the history of this oldest, most diverse, and most fascinating continent. Feature films, drama skits, literary works, and guest lectures are utilized. Course meets the History major requirements for Group III.
Grade Mode: Letter Grading

HIST 595 - Explorations
Credits: 1-4
See department listings for semester topic. Course meets History major requirement for Group I, II, or III depending on the topic.
Grade Mode: Letter Grading
HIST 600 - Explorations
Credits: 4
Advanced explorations in one of the fields listed below: A) American History, B) European History, C) World History, D) Ancient History. Barring duplication of subject, may be repeated. Course meets History major requirement for Group I, II, or III depending on the topic.
Repeat Rule: May be repeated for a maximum of 12 credits.
Grade Mode: Letter Grading
Special Fee: Yes

HIST 603 - European Conquest of North America
Credits: 4
European Conquest of America explores many of the major issues relating to the creation and development of colonial North America. We will focus particularly on the extraordinary heterogeneous mixture of peoples who lived in North America and the Caribbean, and on the complexity and consequences of their interactions. Throughout the semester we will continually evaluate arguments among historians about whether or not it makes sense to understand the colonial period in terms of a conquest, or whether Native Americans retained enough power and resistance throughout the colonial period to make such an interpretation inaccurate. Course meets History major requirement for Group I.
Grade Mode: Letter Grading

HIST 605 - American Revolution, 1750-1800
Credits: 4
Examines the transformation of thirteen British colonies into the United States through the election of Thomas Jefferson as president in 1801. Topics include the revolution’s origins, the social and political impact of war, the changing structure of the family, the role of religion, the drafting and ratification of the Constitution, and the revolution’s consequences for Indians and African Americans. Course meets History major requirement for Group I.
Grade Mode: Letter Grading

HIST 606 - History of the Early Republic
Credits: 4
Explores the histories of the people and institutions that transformed the new United States from a coastal republic of largely independent freeholders to a transcontinental democracy increasingly driven by class. Topics include slavery, the family, reform movements, and the formation of national identity. Course meets History major requirement for Group I.
Grade Mode: Letter Grading

HIST 609 - Special Topics in American Legal History
Credits: 4
In-depth thematic exploration of law in American life. Topics include race and equality in America; community, pluralism, and American law; property, liberty, and law; gender and law. May be repeated for credit with instructor’s permission. Consult department listings of topics. Course meets History major requirement for Group I.
Attributes: Writing Intensive Course
Repeat Rule: May be repeated for a maximum of 8 credits.
Grade Mode: Letter Grading

HIST 611 - Civil War Era
Credits: 4
Surveys the period from the presidency of Andrew Jackson to the end of the Reconstruction. Focuses on causes, course, and consequences of the Civil War. Topics include slavery in the Old South, antebellum reform movements, creation and breakdown of the Second Party System, social and economic (as well as military) events during the war and major developments during Reconstruction after the war. Course meets History major requirement for Group I.
Grade Mode: Letter Grading

HIST 612 - Emergence of Industrial America
Credits: 4
Investigates the economic transformation of 19th-century America from a rural, agricultural society to an urban, industrial one. Explores the sweeping economic changes and focuses on such topics as change in work and leisure, westward expansion and its effects on Native Americans, shifts in gender roles, growth of a consumer culture, rise of the labor unions, Populism, immigration, reform and regulation movements, growth of American imperialism, and intellectual developments. Course meets History major requirement for Group I.
Grade Mode: Letter Grading

HIST 613 - American Ways of War
Credits: 4
"Is there an American way of war?" This commonly asked question will be the focal point of the course. To answer that we will study the interactions of both war and society in the United States from the Civil War onwards, addressing such issues as the causes, courses, diplomacy, homefront, legacy, and the art of the great and small wars. Course meets the History major requirement for Group I.
Grade Mode: Letter Grading

HIST 615 - The Rise of Modern United States, 1900-1945
Credits: 4
By 1900, the United States had emerged as the world’s leading industrial power and leading destination for millions of immigrants and had begun to become a major player in world affairs. Americans enjoyed unprecedented prosperity and became eager consumers of new inventions and popular culture: cars, radios, jazz records, and the “motion pictures.” But they also experienced the worst depression the country had ever known and struggled to make sense of a world that went to war twice within a generation. Women, African Americans, immigrants - all struggled to carve out their place in the new political order. By World War II, the United States assumed many of its “modern” characteristics. Using novels, movies, photographs, sporting events, political speeches and political debates, we will explore both the domestic and the international aspects of the development of modern U.S. Course meets the History requirements for Group I.
Grade Mode: Letter Grading

HIST #616 - United States Since World War II
Credits: 4
This course presents a framework for understanding American history from 1945 to the present. We explore major events and themes, beginning with the Cold War and the domestic anti-communism crusade, and continuing with the civil rights movement, the Vietnam War, and the women's movement. In our study of national politics, we chart the rise of liberalism – focusing on the presidencies of John F. Kennedy and Lyndon Johnson – as well as the conservative response, punctuated by the "Reagan Revolution." We conclude with a brief study of the 21st century.
Grade Mode: Letter Grading

HIST 618 - American Environmental History
Credits: 4
Examines how nature has been a factor in American history and how Americans have wrestled with the concepts of nature and culture. Topics include industrialization, evolution, conservationism, environmentalism, and environmental diplomacy. Course meets the History major requirement for Group I.
Grade Mode: Letter Grading
HIST 619 - Foreign Relations of the United States
Credits: 4
The history of American diplomacy from the colonial era to the present, with the dividing point at 1900. The focus will be on both the foreign and domestic influences that shaped American diplomacy. Course meets the History major requirement for Group I.
Grade Mode: Letter Grading

HIST 620 - Foreign Relations of the United States
Credits: 4
The history of American diplomacy from the colonial era to the present, with the dividing point at 1900. The focus will be on both the foreign and domestic influences that shaped American diplomacy. Course meets the History major requirement for Group I.
Grade Mode: Letter Grading

HIST 621 - History of American Thought
Credits: 4
This course introduces the subfields of American intellectual and cultural history by assessing the ideas of some of the brightest minds that thought about life on the land we know of as the United States of America before the middle of the nineteenth century. This course surveys more than two centuries of thinkers and their connection to America's plural and evolving popular culture. Ultimately, this course seeks to answer the question: What is the history of American thought?.
Grade Mode: Letter Grading

HIST 624 - Topics in Modern US History
Credits: 4
Advanced study of topics in U.S. history. Barring duplication of subject, may be repeated. Course meets the History major requirement for Group I.
Repeat Rule: May be repeated for a maximum of 8 credits.
Grade Mode: Letter Grading

HIST 632 - Latin American History: Topics
Credits: 4
Topics vary (see department listing for current semester). Seminar entails reading, discussion, and research on literature and documents related to the selected topic. Provides students with the opportunity to do research under close direction. Course meets the History major requirement for Group III.
Repeat Rule: May be repeated for a maximum of 8 credits.
Grade Mode: Letter Grading

HIST 633 - Medieval England 800-1300
Credits: 4
This course provides students with an opportunity to gain an in-depth understanding of the history of medieval England from the beginning of the period of consolidation under the Wessex dynasty in the ninth-century through the end of the thirteenth century. In addition to obtaining a large corpus of information through the reading of a significant monographs dealing with England during this period, students will be challenged to develop the critical analytical skills necessary for the thorough understanding and practice of historical methodologies, with a particular focus on the practice of historical method in writing medieval history. Finally, students will be given the opportunity to improve their communications skills through extensive class discussions dealing with the scholarly works read for this course, and in writing assignments. Course meets the History major requirement for Group II.
Grade Mode: Letter Grading

HIST 634 - Medieval Empires
Credits: 4
This course explores the political, economic, administrative, military, religious, and intellectual foundations of imperial rule in the Middle Ages with a particular focus on the Carolingian, German, and Byzantine Empires of the early and high Middle Ages. Course meets the History Major requirements for Group II.
Grade Mode: Letter Grading

HIST #640 - Holy War in the Holy Land: The Medieval Crusades
Credits: 4
Survey of the medieval military expeditions organized by Christians to secure the Holy Land during the 12th and 13th centuries. Topics considered include the formulation of a "just war" theory; political, intellectual, religious, and military interactions between Christians, Jews, and Muslims; the Crusader State of Jerusalem; and the histories of individual crusades. Course meets the History major requirement for Group II.
Grade Mode: Letter Grading

HIST 641 - Europe after the Black Death
Credits: 4
Explores the dramatic changes that characterized Western Europe as it rebounded in the fifteenth through the seventeenth centuries from the ravages of the Black Death of 1348. Examines the social, political, and artistic developments in late medieval and Renaissance Italy before "crossing the Alps" to trace the expansion of Renaissance culture in Northern Europe. Topics include the humanist movement; new patterns of social organization; the revival of classical antiquity in the arts, architecture, religion, and political theory; the effects on European society of the encounter with the "New World"; shifting roles for men and women in early modern European societies; religious war and conflict. Course meets the History major requirement for Group II.
Grade Mode: Letter Grading

HIST 642 - Saints, Sinners, and Heretics: Europe in the Age of Religious Reform
Credits: 4
Examines the history of Western Christendom from roughly 1400 to 1600, a period of tumultuous religious change throughout Europe. We begin in the Middle Ages where the seeds of religious division were sown. We then tackle Martin Luther's challenge to the Catholic church, trace the diffusion of his message throughout Europe, and address the Catholic response to the evangelizing movements that he inspired. Finally we investigate some of the regional varieties of Protestantism that developed in the latter half of the sixteenth century with a particular focus on Switzerland, Germany, England, Scotland, France, and the Netherlands. Course meets the History major requirement for Group II.
Grade Mode: Letter Grading

HIST 654 - Topics in History of Science
Credits: 4
Advanced study of a selected topic in the history of European science since the Renaissance. Course meets the History major requirement for Group II.
Grade Mode: Letter Grading
HIST 656 - Twentieth Century Europe
Credits: 4
The Twentieth Century began with European nations at the apex of their global power. It ended with their world dominance in ruins. Two World Wars, the rise of Nazism, and communist revolutions had left Europe in the shadow of the United States. Examining European history from the birth of the automobile to the fall of the Berlin Wall, we explore the political, social and cultural forces that made the twentieth century the bloodiest epoch in world history. Course meets the History requirement for Group II.
Grade Mode: Letter Grading

HIST 662 - England in the Tudor and Stuart Periods
Credits: 4
England experienced great upheaval under the Tudor and Stuart dynasties. This course explores many of the key political, religious, social and economic changes that changed the face of England in the 16th and 17th centuries. We will study all of the Tudor and Stuart monarchs, and we will focus particularly on the following topics: Henry VIII, the English Reformation, Elizabeth I, Commons v. Nobility, the English Civil Wars and the execution of Charles I, the Restoration and the Glorious Revolution. Course meets the History requirement for Group II.
Grade Mode: Letter Grading

HIST 664 - Russia: Modernization through Soviet Empire
Credits: 4
The challenges of modernization, experience and legacy of Leninist and Stalinist revolutions. Soviet consolidation and decline through the Gorbachev era. Course meets the History requirement for Group II.
Grade Mode: Letter Grading

HIST 665 - Themes in Women's History
Credits: 4
In-depth examination of a selected topic in women's history. Topics may include Women and Health, Women in Modern European Political Theory, Comparative History of Women and Revolution. See Time and Room Schedule of history department newsletter for the specific topic. May be repeated for credit with permission of instructor. Course meets the History requirement for Group II.
Grade Mode: Letter Grading

HIST 666 - America's Age of Revolution
Credits: 4
Discover the exciting, turbulent, and innovative world of the American Revolution through the eyes of the people who lived through it. This course explores the political, social and cultural forces that led to the separation from Britain and the birth of a new nation. We will study the Revolutionary War, the challenges of modernization, and the birth of the American nation.
Grade Mode: Letter Grading

HIST 673 - Modern Europe
Credits: 4
An in-depth examination of the political, social and cultural developments in Europe from the end of World War II to the present day. We will study the political, social and cultural forces that shaped the modern European experience, including the impact of World War II, the Cold War, European integration, and the challenges of the 21st century.
Grade Mode: Letter Grading

HIST 675 - History of Ancient Greece
Credits: 4
Discover the exciting, turbulent, and innovative world of the ancient Greek world through the eyes of the people who lived through it. This course explores the political, social and cultural forces that shaped the ancient Greek experience, including the impact of the Persian Wars, the rise of Athens, the Peloponnesian Wars, and the rise of Alexander the Great. We will study the political, social and cultural forces that shaped the ancient Greek experience, including the impact of the Persian Wars, the rise of Athens, the Peloponnesian Wars, and the rise of Alexander the Great.
Grade Mode: Letter Grading

HIST 677 - History of Ancient Rome
Credits: 4
Discover the fascinating and tumultuous history of the ancient Roman world, from its small beginnings in the early Republic to the high Empire, when Rome controlled the whole Mediterranean basin. Special focus will be on the political and economic conflicts between social classes, the Punic Wars, the fall of the Republic, its transformation into a monarchy, and the golden age of imperial rule. CLAS 404/HIST 404 is encouraged but not necessary.
Equivalent(s): CLAS 677
Grade Mode: Letter Grading

HIST #678 - Topics in Ancient Roman History
Credits: 4
Advanced historical study of a particular period or theme in ancient Roman history. May be repeated for a maximum of 8 credits.
Repeat Rule: May be repeated for a maximum of 8 credits.
Equivalent(s): CLAS 678
Grade Mode: Letter Grading

HIST 690 - Seminar: Historical Explorations
Credits: 4
Repeat Rule: May be repeated up to unlimited times.
Equivalent(s): HIST 701
Grade Mode: Letter Grading

HIST 691 - Internship
Credits: 1-4
Supervised internship with a governmental agency, private corporation, philanthropic institution, library, archives, museum, historical society, or other institution seeking individuals interested in historical research. Course meets the History requirements for Group I, II, or III, depending on the topic. May be repeated barring duplication of subject.
Repeat Rule: May be repeated for a maximum of 8 credits.
Grade Mode: Credit/Fail Grading

HIST 695 - Independent Study
Credits: 1-4
Repeat Rule: May be repeated for a maximum of 8 credits.
Grade Mode: Credit/Fail Grading

HIST 698 - Internship in Museum Studies
Credits: 4
Supervised position with a museum, historical society, archive, or other history related site.
Grade Mode: Credit/Fail Grading
HIST 771 - Museum Studies
Credits: 4
Introduction to theory, methods, and practice of museum studies. Examination of various museum functions, as well as contemporary historical controversies. May be repeated with departmental approval.
Repeat Rule: May be repeated for a maximum of 8 credits.
Grade Mode: Letter Grading

HIST 772 - Studies in Regional Material Culture
Credits: 4
Introduces the theory and methodology of material culture, that is, the study of history through the analysis of buildings, human-created landscapes, and artifacts made and used in the United States, particularly in New England. May be repeated for credit with permission of undergraduate adviser. Course meets the History major requirements for Group I.
Repeat Rule: May be repeated for a maximum of 8 credits.
Grade Mode: Letter Grading

HIST 774 - Historiography
Credits: 4
Analysis of ancient and modern historians. Open to undergraduates with permission. (Not offered every year.)
Grade Mode: Letter Grading

HIST #775 - Historical Methods
Credits: 4
Contemporary historical methods. Required of all entering Ph.D. candidates; open to undergraduate with permission. (Not offered every year.)
Equivalent(s): HIST 670
Grade Mode: Letter Grading

HIST 780 - Special Topics in Museum Studies/Material Culture
Credits: 4
Study of a selected topic related to museum studies or material culture. May be repeated for course credit with permission of the undergraduate adviser. Course meets the History major requirements for Group I.
Repeat Rule: May be repeated up to 3 times.
Grade Mode: Letter Grading

HIST 797 - Colloquium
Credits: 4
Selected topics in American, European, and non-Western history. Required of history majors. Students must elect section in the department office at the time of registration. Course meets the History major requirements for Group I, II, or III, depending on the topic.
Attributes: Writing Intensive Course
Prerequisite(s): HIST 500 with a minimum grade of D-
Repeat Rule: May be repeated for a maximum of 8 credits.
Grade Mode: Letter Grading

HIST 799 - Senior Thesis
Credits: 4
Supervised research leading to the presentation of a major research paper. Permission of department chairperson required. May not be used as a substitute for the required senior colloquium.
Grade Mode: Letter Grading

Faculty

https://cola.unh.edu/history/faculty-staff-directory