

YC: HIS-courses Fall 2024

Emergence of Europe

HIS 1101 (required course for History major)

M/W 3:00-4:15

Israel Ben-Porot



This course examines the history of Europe from the rise of ancient Greece (around 600 BCE) to the aftermath of the Renaissance and Reformation (around 1650 CE). It aims to introduce the study of history alongside the pre-modern history of Europe. In addition to considering the central political, cultural, and religious developments of the era, we look in detail at some primary sources created at the time and analyze how historians can use them to learn about the past. These sources include images, letters, and satirical tracts, as well as more familiar historical and biographical accounts.

Grading: participation, short responses, papers, and exams

Survey of US History I

HIS 1201

T/Th 6:45-8:00

Douglas Burgess



This introductory course will explore the settlement and establishment of the American colonies, and their evolution into an independent nation. The purpose of the course is to provide students with a foundational knowledge of US history, from the earliest colonies to the Civil War and Reconstruction.

Grading: midterm, final, and class participation and attendance.

Modern Middle East
HIS 1302 (satisfies COWC Core requirement)
M/W 4:30-5:45
Staff



Survey of Middle East history from the late Ottoman period to the present. Grading: tba

Media Revolutions: From Scroll to Screen
HIS 2909 (satisfies CUOT Core requirement)
M/W 6:45-8:00
Jeffrey Freedman



This course surveys the history of media from the ancient world to the present. Taking 'media' in the broadest sense to encompass the full range of communications technologies, we will begin with the papyri scrolls of ancient Greece and move from there through the manuscript codex of the Middle Ages, the printed book of the age of Gutenberg, newspapers in the 18th and 19th centuries, radio and film in the 20th century, and the internet and social media of our own digital age. Several recurrent questions will frame our survey of media landscapes: How, to what ends, and in what institutional settings are particular media

used? How do they affect modes of thinking? And what are the relations of different media to the various historical forms of religious, political, and economic power?

Grading: midterm; final; 4-5 page paper; and class participation.

The Holocaust

HIS 2141 (satisfies COWC Core requirement)

T/Th 3:00-4:15

Professor Josh Zimmerman



This course examines the fate of European Jewry between 1933 and 1945. We shall cover the rise and fall of the democratic Weimar Republic in the 1920s, the Nazi seizure of power, anti-Jewish policy and the conception and implementation of the Final Solution during the Second World War. Additional topics will include the problem of the *Judenrat*, Jewish resistance, life in the ghettos and camps, the Jewish Question and public opinion in Nazi-occupied Europe, and the reactions of the Allies, the Church, and world Jewry to the Holocaust.

Grading: (1) Paper Proposal with a topic chosen from the Suggested Paper Topics list (topic description, tentative bibliography); (2) research paper; (3) Midterm and (4) Final

History of the Law

HIS 2601 (satisfies CUOT Core requirement)

T/Th 4:30-5:45

Professor Douglas Burgess



This course examines the development of western law from a historical perspective. Through a combination of lecture and discussion of assigned readings, students will be introduced to the foundational documents of the law, their historical context, and their relevance to modern jurisprudence. Students will be expected to recognize and comprehend major themes of private and public law, the relationship of subject and sovereign, rights of the individual, law and statecraft, and the philosophy of law. Grading: tba

Spanish Inquisition: Varieties of Heresy in the Iberian World
HIS 2103H/JHI 2103H (enrollment limited to first-year students)
F 10:00-12:30
Ronnie Perelis



Explores the history of the Spanish and Portuguese Inquisitions from multiple vantage points. The focus is on Jews and Conversos, the main targets of the Inquisition's persecution, and on the dynamics of crypto-Judaism in Iberia and the Americas. But we will also consider the experiences of other groups targeted by the Inquisition such as Moriscos, Protestants, free-thinkers, witches, and different groups of non-conformists.

Grading: midterm and final exams, reaction papers, research project, and class participation

History of Modern China
HIS 2403 (satisfies COWC requirement)
T/Th 3:00-4:15
Mátyás Mervay

This course covers two centuries of bitter struggles between the Golden Age of the Qing Empire in the 18th century and the rise of the People's Republic of China as a global power in the 21st. Drawing on historical,



literary, and cinematographic sources, it introduces students to the domestic and foreign challenges that shaped China's government, society, economy, and culture. In addition to developing their knowledge of China and its various peoples, students will hone their skills in reading, interpreting, and writing about history.

Grading: two short argumentative essays (30%); midterm (20%); final (20%); short responses (15%); class participation (10%); map assignments (5%).