History

Professors: Bangura (Chair), Boyer Lewis, Brock, Carroll, Frost, Haus, Lewis, Rojas

Historical narrative occupies a central position in a liberal arts education. Such education equips individuals to understand and appreciate the world and to meet its challenges. The study of History contributes much to these ends, maintaining that people and societies are, in important respects, the products of their past; therefore, the story of the past provides insight helpful to both personal and social development.

History stands at the core of a liberal arts education, moreover, since one aim of that education is to integrate the various disciplines. Taking as its subject a narrative of individuals and society in the past, History draws upon all disciplines to discuss that past. It provides a narrative framework for the study of other disciplines and helps the advanced student integrate various academic perspectives.

AP, IB, Transfer, and Study Abroad Credits

With department approval, one unit (AP/IB, Study Abroad, transfer, etc.) may be applied to the major or minor but cannot be used to fulfill the one-course requirement for any of the four fields. See department for specific information.

Requirements for the Major in History

Number of Units
At least nine units are required, not including the SIP.

Required Courses
Majors must complete at least one course at Kalamazoo College in each of the four fields of the department:

2. Modern European History (HIST 102, 242, 244, 254, 257, 259, 263, 264, 265, 290, 394)

Majors must complete at least three courses in their major field and at least two courses in their minor field.

Required Seminars
HIST 299 Historical Methods
HIST 490 History Senior Seminar

Plus one of the following:

HIST 391 Seminar in United States History
HIST 393 Seminar in Early European History
HIST 394 Seminar in Modern European History
HIST 397 Seminar in East Asian History

All majors are required to present their SIP at and participate in the department's SIP colloquium and to pass a comprehensive exam.

Requirements for the Minor in History
Number of Units and Required Courses

1. Six units are required, not including the SIP.
2. Minors must take courses at Kalamazoo College in three of the four fields of the department: Early History, Modern European History, U.S. History, or African/Asian History.
3. Minors must complete one of the research seminars (391, 393, 394, 397).

History courses

HIST 100 Introduction to the World of Antiquity
A survey of ancient societies, politics, and religio-philosophic systems. These will include ancient Egypt, Israel, and classical Greece and Rome. Emphasis on comparative institutions and the character and expansion of ancient empires.

HIST 101 Introduction to Europe I: Medieval and Early Modern Europe
This introduction to medieval Europe takes a two-fold approach. First, it serves as a chronological introduction to the history of Europe and the Mediterranean world during the Middle Ages, from the end of the Roman Empire in the West until the late fifteenth century. Next, a thematic approach identifies key social, cultural, intellectual, political, and economic developments between 500 and 1500. Rather than learning only about kings, queens, and prelates, we will broaden our thinking about the many peoples of the pre-modern world: poor as well as rich, women as well as men, slave as well as free, Jewish and Muslim as well as Christian.

HIST 102 Introduction to Europe II: From Early Modernity to Post-Modernity, 1648-present
A consideration of the forces that have shaped European history since the end of the wars of religion. Among the issues to be discussed are: the trajectory of the "Westphalian" state system, 1648-1945; the contradictory legacy of the Enlightenment; empire-building and the disruption of the global balance of civilizations; industrialization and societal change; the rise and decline of the nation-state; the age of ideology and Europe's attempted civilization suicide in the twentieth century; the idea of Europe and Europe's place in a transnational world of regions since 1945.

HIST 103 Introduction to East Asian Civilizations
Surveys of the histories of China, Japan, and Korea, with particular attention to religious, political, and social patterns. Topics include Confucianism and its influence in East Asia, China's modernization dilemma, Korea's division and its implication, Japan's rise as a major power, and importance of East Asia in world history, among others.

HIST/AFST 104 Introduction to African Studies
This course introduces students to selected themes, paradigms, and concepts in African Studies. It is divided into four sections: section one deals with "Pre-colonial African societies;" section two examines "The Idea of Africa;" section three focuses on "African Studies as an academic discipline;" section four addresses "Colonialism and its impact on Africa." It is strongly recommended that students take the Introduction to African Studies course before taking any of the upper level African Studies classes.

HIST/RELG 107 Introduction to Jewish Traditions
This course explores the development of Judaism from its ancient origins until the present. We will discuss the biblical foundations of Judaism and the impact that different historical contexts have produced on its rituals and beliefs. This approach raises a number of questions, which we will keep in mind throughout the course: What is Judaism? Who are the Jews? What is the relationship between Judaism and "being Jewish"? How have historical circumstances shaped this relationship? What has changed and what has stayed the same, and why? The class will address these questions through discussions and readings.

HIST/AMST 110 History of the United States I
America from contact times to 1865, with emphasis on economic, social, intellectual, and political developments.

HIST/AMST 111 History of the United States II
America from 1865 to the present, with emphasis on economic, social, intellectual, and political developments.

HIST 200 Unsettling Colonial America
This course will explore the various ways individuals and groups questioned, challenged, and resisted the sources of authority in Colonial America from around 1600 through 1760. Throughout the seventeenth and eighteenth centuries, Native Americans, indentured servants, enslaved persons, women, young people, religious groups, and others sought to change the emerging hierarchical structures of British colonial society, with varying degrees of success, by using their voices, their bodies, the courts, politics, and even violence.

HIST 203 Revolutionary America, 1760-1800
An examination of the era of the American Revolution, with lectures, readings, and discussion covering issues ranging from national and international politics to class, gender, and race relations, from economic and demographic developments to
HIST 205 The Black Death: a History of the Bubonic Plague
This course explores the bubonic plague caused by the bacteria Yersinia pestis during the medieval period. Treating plague pandemics as both human and biological events, this course will explore the diverse cultural reactions to this devastating disease, its effects on labor and economic structures, its impacts on religion and community, its influences on public health policies and medicine, and its connections to modern epidemiology.

HIST 206 Culture and Society in Victorian America
Consideration of the main aspects of Victorian culture and society. Special attention will be given to reactions to the industrial revolution and its impact on the natural and social environment, racial and gender relations, and organized religion.

HIST 209 Post World War II America
Broad examination of American political, social, diplomatic, economic, and cultural life in the three decades after World War II, highlighting the links between foreign affairs and domestic politics and society. Topics include the Cold War, Red Scare, Civil Rights, baby boom, Vietnam War, counterculture, women's movement, and Watergate.

HIST 211 Native American History
A broad survey of the field of Native American history, spanning the full range of Indian-white relations -- social, economic, cultural, political, and military -- with a focus upon the region ultimately included within the United States.

HIST 212 American Environmental History
Focusing upon that part of North America that became the United States, this class examines the long history of the interactions of human societies and the natural world. We will trace three key issues through time: changing ideas about nature; humanity's impacts on the natural world; and the natural world's impacts on culture, broadly defined.

HIST 214 African-American Hist.: Slavery & Resist Resistance
This course will examine African-American History from 1619 when the first Africans are documented as entering colonial Virginia to the Civil War of 1860-65. We will explore the Slave Trade, the colonial era and the ante-bellum period, examining the exploitation and resistance of both enslaved and "free" blacks in the US.

HIST 215 African-American History: Civil War to Civil Rights
This survey course examines African American history from the Civil War to the Civil Rights Movement. It explores key themes, including: Reconstruction, the Jim Crow era, the Harlem Renaissance, the Depression, WWI, WWII, and the Cold War. Students will gain a solid understanding of how the decedents of Africans -kidnapped and brought to the US as property - politically, socially and creatively worked after emancipation to forge a place and space for themselves in the US and the world.

HIST 217 History of Leisure and Recreation in America
An examination of the history of leisure and recreation in America from the Puritans to the present. Discussion of the importance of leisure, the rise of public amusements, spectator sports and vacations, the growth of tourism, tensions between work and leisure, and why recent Americans choose more work over more leisure.

HIST/RELG 218 American Jewish Experience
This course will explore the religious, social, political, cultural, and economic history of the Jewish people in America from the first settlement until the present. The major themes of study will focus upon the development of Judaism in America. We will take into account a number of historical factors that shaped that development: the economic, social, and political evolution of American Jewry and its institutions; Jewish immigration to the United States and its consequences; American Jewish self-perception; and the relationship between Jews and non-Jews in American society. Assignments will draw upon a wide range of materials, from secondary historical studies and primary documents to fiction and film.

HIST 219 Special Topics: U.S.
This course will focus upon a topic in the United States history that is not addressed in the department's regular offerings. The course can be repeated with a different topic.

HIST 220 American Women's History to 1870
An in-depth survey of the lives of women in America from the beginning of the colonial era to 1870. Topics include: the differences of class, religion, and race in women's lives, religion, work, friendships, family life, community, health and sexuality, the women's rights movement, and the impact of the American Revolution and Civil War.

HIST 221 American Women's History since 1870
An in-depth survey of the lives of women in America from 1870 to today. Topics include the impact of race, class, and region in women's lives, paid and unpaid labor, prostitution, family life, community, birth control, the women's rights movement, and the impact of US involvement in international wars.

HIST 224 Exceptional America?
The idea of American exceptionalism has a long and complex history. What does it mean now and what did it mean in the
past to describe America as exceptional? Who has used the language of American exceptionalism over time? Who has challenged it? How has the idea of American exceptionalism served to define what and who is and is not American? How has it shaped the ways that Americans, in and out of government, have viewed and interacted with other peoples and governments? To answer these questions, this course will take a historical approach to the idea of American exceptionalism, tracing it from the earliest period of colonial settlement to the recent present.

Prerequisite: Sophomores only

HIST/CLAS 225 Greek Civilization
From Homer to Alexander the Great with emphasis on arts and letters.

HIST/CLAS 226 Roman Civilization
From the foundation of the Republic to the empire of Constantine.

HIST/CLAS 227 The Roman Army and the Frontiers of Empire
This course considers the Roman army from the perspectives of both military and social history. After a chronological survey of the development of the Roman army, case studies of the army in action in specific frontier provinces will be considered. From Hadrian’s Wall in Britain to the desert wastes of Egypt, ancient texts and archaeological evidence illuminate the army-driven process of “Romanization,” through which former barbarian enemies became assimilated Roman citizens. (This is a designated Roman literature or culture course in Classics.)

HIST/CLAS 230 Women in Classical Antiquity
A literary, historical, and cultural survey of social structures and private life in ancient Greece and Rome. Issues covered include constructions of sexuality, cross-cultural standards of the beautiful, varieties of courtship and marriage, and contentions between pornography and erotica. Students will examine sources from medical, philosophic, lyric, tragic, comic, and rhetorical writers as well as representative works from vase painting, the plastic arts, graffiti, etc. (This is a designated Greek and Roman literature or culture course in Classics.)

HIST 231 Europe Meets the World: Cross-Cultural Encounters Before 1450
Rather than focusing on Europe, this course takes a wider, trans-national view of the medieval world, comparing cultures in Europe, the Middle East, North Africa, and Asia. Topics include exploration, migration, conquest, and assimilation; lectures, readings, and discussions look closely at specific moments of cultural contact, such as the Mongol invasions, the spread of Islam, the Crusades, long-distance trade networks, intellectual collaboration in Muslim Spain, and Viking settlements.

HIST 232 History of Science, Magic, & Belief
From Alchemy to Astronomy: A History of Science, Magic, and Belief in Pre-Modern Europe. This class charts the courses of science, magic, and belief in premodern Europe. It examines how alchemists, astrologers, learned men of medicine, surgeons, theologians, religious mystics, and peasant folk healers all played important roles in creating the foundations of contemporary Western scientific and medicinal understandings.

HIST 233/SEMN 232 Christians, Muslims, & Jews in the Mediterranean World
This course examines social, cultural, political, and economic interactions among the cultures of the Mediterranean World between 500 C.E and 1500 C.E. Rather than offering a chronological overview, this course explores multiple perspectives on cross-cultural contact, conflict, and exchange. We examine specific geographic areas of contact - the Crusader States, medieval Iberia - as well as more fleeting encounters through travel and trade.

Prerequisite: Sophomores only

HIST 234 The Other in Early Modern Europe
This course offers an in-depth survey of early modern Europe from 1450 to 1789, examining the intellectual, social, economic, and political transformations that characterized the era. Topics include: the Renaissance, European exploration, religious reformations, the European witch-hunts, the rise of capitalism, the growth of nation-states, and the Enlightenment.

HIST/SEMN 235 Traders & Tavelers in Early Europe
In this course, we examine the narratives of traders, travelers and pilgrims in Early Europe (c. 800 BCE - 1400 CE) in order to better understand the ways in which the peoples of Europe understood other regions and the peoples that inhabited them. In doing so, we explore ideas about geography, boundaries, cultural differences, stereotypes, and the construction of identities (both internal and external to societies). These explorations help expose us to the ways in which we might construt similar kinds of knowledge in contemporary societies by providing us with a reflection point in earlier European cultures.

Prerequisite: Sophomores only

HIST 236/SEMN 234 End of Christendom: Piety, Ritual, and Religious Upheaval in the Sixteenth Century
This course examines the complex social, cultural, religious, and political repercussions of religious reform over the course of the long sixteenth century, from the earliest glimmers of discontent among Hussites and Lollards to the violent wars of religion that characterized the seventeenth century. Topics include lay piety and religious ritual, the reform of daily life, confessional antagonism, print culture and propaganda. Primary sources on this topic are plentiful, and we pay particular attention to the exceptionally rich visual sources of this period. This course is a Shared Passages Sophomore Seminar.
Prerequisite: Sophomores Only

**HIST 237 Women in European Society, 1200-1700**
This course takes a chronological and thematic approach to the history of women and gender in pre-modern Europe. It provides a historical overview of women's history in medieval and early modern Europe, examining the effects of historical change on the lives of women and evaluating how women experienced these changes differently from men. Topics include women's roles in the family and household, women's work, female mysticism, prostitution, and witchcraft.

**HIST 238 Gender and Sexuality in Pre-Modern Europe**
Part social history, part cultural history, this course examines gender and sexuality in medieval and early modern Europe, particularly the ways in which perceptions of gender difference were used to construct political and social relationships. The course is organized thematically rather than chronologically, and topics include medicine, marriage, prostitution, gender and state-building, and same-sex relations.

**HIST 239 Special Topics in Early European History**
This course will focus upon a topic in early European history that is not addressed in the department's regular offerings. The course can be repeated with a different topic.

**HIST 242 Enlightenment and Its Legacies**
This course serves both as an introduction to some key questions that characterize intellectual and cultural history and to the intellectual developments that shaped European culture, society, and political life between 1650 and 1850. We will analyze the intellectual tensions that defined this era - between, for example, traditionalism and progress, reason and the unconscious, freedom and authority, hierarchy and equality, and the individual and society. We will consider the historical context in which these intellectual tensions emerged and consider how they spread. We will thus be reflecting critically on the relationship between philosophical ideas, artistic expression, social structures, and political movements.

**HIST 244 French Revolution and Napoleon**
Study of France from Louis XIV to Napoleon with emphasis on structure and problems of the ancient regime, origins of the revolution itself, and the Napoleonic period.

**HIST/WGS 246 Gender and Sexuality in 19th Cen Europe**
This course is an introduction to the history of gender and sexuality in nineteenth-century Europe and its empires. It is organized roughly chronologically, but its approach is primarily thematic. We will consider how gender norms were constructed by philosophical, political, racial, and scientific thinking over the nineteenth century, and we will reflect on how individuals both conformed to and defied those norms in their individual lives. We will also examine nineteenth century beliefs about sex and sexuality and look at how those beliefs structured relationships within and across gendered lines.

**HIST 252 European Colonialism and Decolonization**
This course explores the history of European colonialism and decolonization, beginning with the emergence of early modern empires in the sixteenth century and ending with the contradictions that have characterized the post colonial era. We will explore the meaning and significance of imperialism using both a chronological and thematic framework. Key themes will include military conflict and violence; strategies of domination; resistance to imperial rule; economics and trade; relations between center and periphery; the role of beliefs about racial and cultural difference; the relationship between empire and the modern nation-state; decolonization; and the legacy of empire.

**HIST 254 History, Memory, and Identity in Modern Europe**
This course will explore historical memory's role in shaping twentieth-century European politics and identities. We will begin by exploring theoretical approaches to the study of individual and collective memory. We will then turn to case studies that have shaped European memory culture, including World Wars I and II, the Holocaust, European imperialism, and the collapse of the USSR. Along the way, we will explore different "sites" of memory such as monuments, museums, memoirs, novels, and films. We will also discuss the relationship between collective memory and collective forgetting.

**HIST 256/SEMN 257 Refugees and Migrants in Modern Europe**
The course explores the history of migration from the mid-nineteenth century to the present day, focusing on people moving from, within, and to Europe. Prerequisite: Sophomores Only

**HIST 257 World War II**
A consideration of World War II in its various dimensions -- military, geographic, economic, cultural, and social -- between 1930 and 1945. It focuses not only on grand strategy but also on the war as a lived and shared human experience.

**HIST 259 Special Topics in Modern European History**
This course will focus upon a topic in Modern European history that is not addressed in the department's regular offerings. The course can be repeated with a different topic.

**HIST/RELG 263 Jews in a Changing Europe, 1750-1880**
Between 1780 and 1880 enormous changes took place in Jewish religious, political, social, intellectual, and economic life.
These changes worked in tandem with developments in general European life to create new forces within Judaism and new ways of looking at the connections between Jews. In this course, we will study these developments as they affected the Jews on the European continent. In so doing, we will explore their consequences for both Jews and non-Jews, and the issues and questions they raised.

**HIST/RELG 264 Jewish Revolutions: 1881-1967**
Between 1881 and the period immediately following the Second World War, the world's Jews experienced momentous demographic, religious, political, economic, and social changes. These changes in turn shaped their relationship to non-Jews with whom they lived. This course will study the context of change across the globe from Europe and America to the Middle East and North Africa. Through primary and secondary documents, we will explore the forces that produced these changes and the results they produced for both Jews and non-Jews.

**HIST/RELG 265 Zionism: From Idea to State**
This course explores the origins, development, and manifestations of Zionism. The course examines the transformation of traditional religious conceptions of the connection between Jews and the Land of Israel (Palestine) into a nationalist ideology in the 19th century. This transformation entailed parallel changes to the idea of Jewish peoplehood. Through the use of primary documents we will follow these trends through intellectual, religious, social, and political changes that culminated in the establishment of the State of Israel in 1948.

**HIST/RELG 266 Women and Judaism**
This course explores the religious and social position women have historically occupied in Jewish society. We will discuss religious practice and theological beliefs as well as social and economic developments as a means of addressing questions such as: What role have women played in Jewish tradition? How are they viewed by Jewish law? How has their status changed in different historical contexts, and why might those changes have taken place? What are contemporary ideas about the status of Jewish women, and how have these ideas influenced contemporary Jewish practices and communal relations? What do the historical and religious experiences of Jewish women teach us about the way that Judaism has developed?

**HIST/SEMN/RELG 268 Jews on Film**
It will examine themes in Jewish history and culture as expressed through the medium of film. Through readings, lectures, and class discussions, students will explore issues such as assimilation and acculturation, anti-Semitism, group cohesion, interfaith relations, Zionism, and the Holocaust. We will consider questions, such as: How are Jewish characters portrayed on film? Which elements of these portrayals change over time, and which remain constant? How do these cultural statements speak to the historical contexts that produced them? What choices do filmmakers make regarding the depiction of Jewish life, and how do those choices influence perceptions of Jews in particular, or minorities generally?

**HIST 269 Special Topics in Jewish History**
This course will focus upon a topic in Jewish history that is not addressed in the department's regular offerings. The course can be repeated with different topics.

**HIST 270 The History of Latin America in Colonial**
This course explores Latin America during its colonial period, from the decades before European invasion in 1492, through to its independence in the 1820s. Using a range of primary sources and selected readings, the course will dive into the world(s) forged by Native Americans, Iberians, and Africans in Latin America during its colonial period.

**HIST/AFST/SEMN 271 Nelson Mandela & the Anti-Apartheid Movement**
There are times when specific people, places and moments in history capture the imagination of the world. This occurs when that specificity speaks volumes to the human condition and offers lessons that we all sense are important. Such has been the case with Nelson Mandela and anti-apartheid movement. This course will use Mandela and the evolution of, and struggle against, apartheid as a window into some of the 20th century's most complex issues.  
*Prerequisite: Sophomores Only*

**HIST/AFST/WGS 272 Gender Relations in Africa**
This course explores categories of masculinity and femininity that relate to and inform one another. It analyzes how these identity categories interact with other axes of social and political power, such as ethnic affiliation, economic status, and age in various places and times in Africa.

**HIST/AFST 273 Atlantic Slave Trade**
This course examines the complex web of connections that linked together the various lives and fates of Africans, Europeans, and Americans via the Atlantic slave trade. It analyzes the mode of enslavement of Africans by slavers in Africa, the experiences of slaves in the Middle Passage, and the impact of the trade on continental and Diasporan Africans. It also explores the role played by Africa-based abolitionist movements in ending the trade in Atlantic Africa.

**HIST/AFST/RELG 274 Islam in Africa**
This course explores the spread of Islam from the Arab peninsula to the African continent in the seventh century through the nineteenth century and limns the factors which facilitated this advance. It examines the methods and principles of Islam and
how the religion affected the life styles of its African neophytes and adherents. As a result of the interaction between Muslim and African civilizations, the advance of Islam has profoundly influenced religious beliefs and practices of African societies, while local traditions have also influenced Islamic practices. Muslims were important in the process of state-building and in the creation of commercial networks that brought together large parts of the continent. Muslim clerics served as registrars of state records and played a role in developing inner-state diplomacy inside Africa and beyond.

**HIST/AFST 275/SEMN 274 African Christianity**
This course explores the complex and disparate trends of Christianity in Africa since the first century C. E. It highlights Africa's role in the development and growth of Christianity as a global religion.
*Prerequisite: Sophomores Only*

**HIST/AFST 276 Civilizations of Africa**
Study of Africa south of the Sahara including the origins of man and the emergence of food producing communities; Ancient Egypt and pre-colonial African kingdoms and federations; medieval empires of western Sudan, Ethiopia, and Bantu-speaking Africa; and the Atlantic slave trade. Emphasis on socio-political and economic history.

**HIST/AFST 277 Contemporary Africa**
Study of Africa south of the Sahara including colonialism and the anti-colonial struggles of the post-WWII period.

**HIST/AFST 279 Special Topics in African History**
This course will focus upon a topic in African history that is not addressed in the department's regular offerings. The course can be repeated with different topics.

**HIST 280 Modern China**
Survey of Chinese history from the 17th century to the present; focus on major developments in China's interaction with the modern world, its struggle in modernization, the origins of the Chinese revolution, and China's reform policies in the late 20th century and their impact on Chinese society and the world.

**HIST 282 Early China**
Survey of Chinese history from earliest times to 1600. Topics include the emergence and evolution of Confucianism, the rise of centralized empires, the tributary system of foreign relations, dynastic rise and decline, the scholar-official system, shifting gender roles, and early China's place in world history.

**HIST 283 Occupiers/Occupied in Post-World War II East Asia**
How does one country occupy another? What is it like to live in an occupied society? By exploring the post-World War II occupations of Japan, Okinawa, and both North and South Korea, we will seek to address these questions and understand how this period of occupation shaped East Asia and its people in positive and negative ways. We will examine how the goals and attitudes of the occupiers, particularly those from the US and the USSR, influenced the region. In our comparative study of these occupations we will draw from the rich English-language archive of primary and secondary materials, including historical studies, memoirs, government and military documents, as well as works of fiction, cartoons, and film.

**HIST 285 Modern Japan**
Study of Japanese history from the 17th century to the present. Topics include samurai society, economic and political modernization, the rise of militarism, World War II, the American occupation, the postwar economic miracle, and the current challenges Japan is facing.

**HIST/SEMN 287 What If: Alternate Pasts**
This is a class about what might have been. Taking history itself as an object of analysis, this seminar will ask us to reconsider how we understand the past by thinking and acting in counterfactual ways. We will explore debates for and against counterfactualism and examine diverse counterfactual writings. We will also experience counterfactualism by participating in two role-playing activities, one set in a critical moment of reform in 19th century Korea, and the other set in Japan in the months before Pearl Harbor. As we seek to achieve the goals associated with specific roles, we will gain insights on the contingent, complex, and often messy reality of the past.

**HIST/ANSO 288 Sports in East Asia**
Whether it's Yao Ming on the basketball court, Ichiro in Seattle breaking records, or the ubiquitous martial arts, "East Asian" sports seem to be everywhere these days. How did this come about? What can we learn about East Asian societies -- and our own -- from studying sports? These are some of the questions we will be tackling as we explore the history and significance of sports in East Asia. Drawing from a combination of primary materials, theoretical writings, comparative studies, and secondary works focused on East Asia, we will consider sports in terms of several issues: invented traditions, nationalism, body culture, gender, stardom, and the modern Olympics, to name just a few.

**HIST 289 Special Topics: East Asia**
This course will focus upon a topic in East Asian history that is not addressed in the department's regular offerings. The course can be repeated with different topics.

**HIST 290 The History of the Modern Middle East**
This course follows the history of the Middle East from the late Ottoman period to the Arab Spring. We will begin by looking at how political pressures from Europe and the spread of new ideas led to the transformation and breakup of the Ottoman Empire. We will then consider how European powers attempted to control and reshape the Middle East in the years following World War I and trace the formation of the new nation-states that emerged in that era. Finally, we will explore the post-colonial societies that emerged in the mid-twentieth century.

HIST/CLAS 295 Greek and Roman Sport
Ancient Greece gave rise to traditions of competitive athletics that are still with us today - but how should we understand the legacy? Through a combination of illustrated lectures, in-class discussions, and interactive and creative exercises (e.g. composing your own Victory Poetry and ‘tweet-grams’, tweets modeled off of ancient epigrams of athletes), we will study the development of sport in ancient Greece and Rome. While we make our way through Greek and Roman history, we will spend considerable time comparing ancient athletic practice with modern athletic culture and formulate ways to undertake meaningful historical and cross-cultural analysis.

HIST 299 Historical Methods
This course will introduce the various approaches used by professional historians to reconstruct and interpret the past. Students will develop their research, writing, and critical thinking skills. The class focuses on the issues and questions historians explore and debate today. Open to Sophomore Majors or students with permission.
Prerequisite: Open to Sophomore history majors and minors

HIST 391 Seminar in United States History
What can objects tell us about the lives of people in the past and what they valued? Can we understand the meanings people of the past gave objects? How does studying material culture, instead of just documents, change our ideas about the American past? Can material objects offer a better window into the past? We will be interested in examining not only what objects mean, but how they work. The course will move both thematically and chronologically from the Colonial Era through the end of the twentieth century. This course is designed to improve your skills in “doing” historical research and writing and your historical critical thinking. It is a seminar-style class centered on discussion of required readings, in-class presentations, and a major research paper.
Prerequisite: One course in US History

HIST 393 Seminar in Medieval History
A reading- and discussion-based seminar in some topic of Medieval History, culminating in a substantial research paper. Intended for History majors and minors.
Prerequisite: HIST-101, HIST-231, HIST-232, HIST-234, HIST-236, HIST-237 OR HIST-238

HIST 394 Seminar in Modern European History
Examination of selected topics in modern European history from 1700 to the present.
Prerequisite: Junior History Majors or Minors only.

HIST 397 Seminar in East Asian History
A reading- and discussion-based seminar in some topic of East Asian History, culminating in a substantial research paper.
Prerequisite: One course in East Asian History or political science.

HIST 490 History Senior Seminar
Intended as a capstone to the History major, the senior seminar is an advanced class in the work that historians, the discipline of History, and the changing understanding of the past do in the world within and beyond the academy. It is also designed to help History majors with the SIP process. Required of all History majors; departmental permission required for non-majors.
Prerequisite: Senior History Majors only

HIST 593 Senior Individualized Project
History SIPs can be either one unit (generally Fall) or two units (Fall/Winter). History majors are not required to write History SIPs. Non-majors can write SIPs in History with the permission of the department and SIP supervisor. See the department chair or SIP supervisor for more information about the nature and format of one- and two-unit History SIPs.
Prerequisite: Permission of department and SIP supervisor required.