HIST 813 Milstein Center
212-854-2159
Department Administrative Assistant: Sully Rios

Mission

History encompasses the whole of human experience, helping us understand ourselves in the context of our times and traditions through the study of times and traditions other than our own. History means not only the record of the past but also the discipline of investigating and interpreting the past. The study of history develops habits of critical thinking and effective writing, as well as it cultivates the careful analysis of various types of quantitative and qualitative evidence. It should be of value not only to undergraduates who intend to pursue advanced degrees in the field, but also to students interested in exploring the diversity and complexity of the human past, even as they hone their analytical and expository skills.

Student Learning Outcomes

Students graduating with a major in History should be able to attain the following objectives:

- Use and evaluate primary materials through critical reading and interpretation
- Understand the difference between primary materials and secondary materials
- Use and evaluate secondary materials through critical reading and interpretation
- Develop critical writing skills
- Gain exposure to theories and methods of historical study
- Explore in depth and gain a good acquaintance with the history of a geographic area, a period, or a theme

Chair: Lisa Tiersten (Professor)
Professors: Mark C. Carnes, Joel Kaye, Dorothy Ko, Robert A. McCaughey (Emeritus), Nara Milanich, Jose Moya, Premilla Nadasen, Celia Naylor, Rosalind N. Rosenberg (Emerita), Herbert Sloan (Emeritus), Deborah Valenze, Carl Wennerlind, Nancy Woloch (Research Scholar)
Associate Professors: Gergely Baics, Abosede George, Andrew Lipman, Anupama Rao
Assistant Professors: Angelo Caglioni

Other officers of the University offering courses in History:

Columbia History Faculty (https://history.columbia.edu/faculty/)

New Requirements for the Major

**Students who declare after September 1, 2019 will follow the new requirements; students who have already declared will have a choice between the old and new requirements- please scroll down for the old requirements!**

Students who are interested in majoring in History should consult a History professor or the Chair in their sophomore year to plan their academic programs. They may choose to focus their study of history on a region (such as Africa, Asia, Europe, Latin America, South Asia, U.S., transnational), period (such as ancient, medieval, early modern), or theme.

The History major consists of eleven courses: six in the area of concentration; the other five may be either within or without. Six of the eleven courses must be taken at Barnard or Columbia.

The eleven required courses should include:

1. Three introductory lecture courses (at least one 1000-level course; the two others may be 1000- or 2000-level courses. Note that a Columbia global core course is listed at 2000 level but counts as a 1000-level course);
2. Two seminars (3000- or 4000-level courses), one of which must be taken at Barnard or Columbia;
3. At least one course (lecture or seminar) must demonstrate your temporal breadth. This usually means one course that covers themes and topics related to the pre-modern period (generally taken to mean the period before the nineteenth century);
4. At least one course (lecture or seminar) must demonstrate a geographic range unless your area of concentration already does so. If your concentration is geography-based, this means a geographical area or region that is outside your field of study;
5. The two-semester senior research seminar (HIST BC3391 Senior Research Seminar-HIST BC3392 Senior Research Seminar), normally taken in sequence, beginning in the Fall and continuing into Spring of the senior year.

Majors may, with the approval of their advisers, include two non-history courses in their list of eleven if the subjects are closely related to their concentrations.

Old Requirements for the Major

**For Students declaring before September 2019 ONLY!**

Students who are interested in majoring in History should consult a History professor or the Chair in their sophomore year to plan their academic programs. They may choose to focus their study of history on a region (such as Africa, Asia, Europe, Latin America, South Asia, U.S., transnational), period (such as ancient, medieval, early modern), or theme (self-designed; see samples of popular ones under the “Thematic Concentration” tab).

The History major consists of eleven courses, eight in the area of concentration and three outside. Six of the eleven courses must be taken at Barnard or Columbia.

The eleven required courses should include:

1. Three introductory survey courses (all 1000- and some 2000-level lecture courses);
2. Two seminars (3000- or 4000-level courses), one of which must be taken at Barnard or Columbia;
3. The two-semester senior research seminar (HIST BC3391 Senior Research Seminar-HIST BC3392 Senior Research Seminar), normally taken in sequence, beginning in the Fall and continuing into Spring of the senior year.

Majors may, with the approval of their advisers, include two non-history courses in their list of eleven if the subjects are closely related to their concentrations.
## Thematic Concentrations

### Urban History

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Course Code</th>
<th>Course Title</th>
<th>Credits</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>HIST BC2980</td>
<td>World Migration</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>HIST BC3327</td>
<td>Consumer Culture in Modern Europe</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>HIST BC3332</td>
<td>The Politics of Leisure in Modern Europe</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>HIST BC3360</td>
<td>London: From Great Wren to World City</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>HIST W3441</td>
<td>Making of the Modern American Landscape</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>HIST W3535</td>
<td>History of the City of New York</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>HIST BC3651</td>
<td>Jewish Tales from Four Cities: The Immigrant Experience in New York, Buenos Aires, Paris and London</td>
<td>4</td>
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Related courses from other departments:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Course Code</th>
<th>Course Title</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>ARCH V3114</td>
<td>Making the Metropolis: Urban Design and Theories of the City since 1850</td>
</tr>
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### Gender, Sexuality, and the Family

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Course Code</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>HIST BC2567</td>
<td>Women, Gender and Sexuality in the 20th Century U.S.</td>
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<tr>
<td>HIST BC2681</td>
<td>Women and Gender in Latin America</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>HIST BC2840</td>
<td>Topics in South Asian History</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>HIST BC3323</td>
<td>The City in Europe</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>HIST BC3402</td>
<td>Science and Society: From Galileo to Climate Change</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>HIST W3460</td>
<td>Topics in the History of Women and Gender</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>HIST BC3861</td>
<td>Body Histories: The Case of Footbinding</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>HIST W4103</td>
<td>Empires and Cultures of the Early Modern Atlantic World</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>HIST W4120</td>
<td>Witchcraft and the State in Early Modern Europe</td>
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Related courses from other departments:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Course Code</th>
<th>Course Title</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>WMST BC3509</td>
<td>Gender, Knowledge and Science in Modern European History</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>HSEA W4886</td>
<td>Gender, Passions and Social Order In China Since 1500</td>
</tr>
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### Labor

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Course Code</th>
<th>Course Title</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>HIST BC2180</td>
<td>Merchants, Pirates, and Slaves in the Making of Atlantic Capitalism</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>HIST BC3323</td>
<td>The City in Europe</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>HIST BC3332</td>
<td>The Politics of Leisure in Modern Europe</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>HIST W3528</td>
<td>The Radical Tradition in America</td>
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<tr>
<td>HIST W3411</td>
<td>The Rise of American Capitalism</td>
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<tr>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>WMST BC3509</td>
<td>Gender, Knowledge and Science in Modern European History</td>
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### Empires and Colonialism

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<tr>
<th>Course Code</th>
<th>Course Title</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>HIST UN1020</td>
<td>The Romans and Their World</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>HIST BC1801</td>
<td>Colonialism and Nationalism in South Asia</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>HIST BC2180</td>
<td>Merchants, Pirates, and Slaves in the Making of Atlantic Capitalism</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>HIST BC2321</td>
<td>Colonial Encounters: Europe and the Culture of Empire</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>HIST BC2494</td>
<td>Era of Independence in the Americas</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>HIST BC3905</td>
<td>Capitalism, Colonialism, and Culture: A Global History</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>HIST W3020</td>
<td>Roman Imperialism</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>HIST W3220</td>
<td>Imperial Russia, 1682-1918</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>HIST W3491</td>
<td>U.S. Foreign Relations, 1890-1990</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>HIST W3719</td>
<td>History of the Modern Middle East</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>HIST W3764</td>
<td>History of East Africa: Early Time to the Present</td>
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### Thematic Concentrations (continued)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Course Code</th>
<th>Course Title</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>HIST W3772</td>
<td>West African History</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>HIST W3800</td>
<td>Gandhi’s India</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>HIST W4404</td>
<td>Native American History</td>
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Related courses from other departments:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Course Code</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>ANTH UN3921</td>
<td>Anticolonialism</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>HSEA UN3898</td>
<td>The Mongols in History</td>
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</table>

### Money and Markets

<table>
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<tr>
<th>Course Code</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>HIST BC2116</td>
<td>The History of Money</td>
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<tr>
<td>HIST BC2180</td>
<td>Merchants, Pirates, and Slaves in the Making of Atlantic Capitalism</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>HIST BC3062</td>
<td>Medieval Economic Life and Thought ca 1000 to 1500</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>HIST BC3119</td>
<td>Capitalism and Enlightenment</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>HIST BC3327</td>
<td>Consumer Culture in Modern Europe</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>HIST BC3332</td>
<td>The Politics of Leisure in Modern Europe</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>HIST W3411</td>
<td>The Rise of American Capitalism</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>HIST BC3886</td>
<td>Fashion</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>HIST BC3905</td>
<td>Capitalism, Colonialism, and Culture: A Global History</td>
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Related courses from other departments:

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<tr>
<th>Course Code</th>
<th>Course Title</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>ECON BC3013</td>
<td>Economic History of the United States</td>
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### Science and Society

<table>
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<tr>
<th>Course Code</th>
<th>Course Title</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>CSER W3222</td>
<td>Nature and Power: Environmental History of the US</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>HIST BC2305</td>
<td>Bodies and Machines</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>HIST BC3368</td>
<td>History of the Senses</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>HIST BC3903</td>
<td>Reacting to the Past III: Science and Society</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>HIST BC3909</td>
<td>History of Environmental Thinking</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>HIST BC3064</td>
<td>Medieval Science and Society</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>HIST W3103</td>
<td>Alchemy, Magic &amp; Science</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>HIST W3112</td>
<td>The Scientific Revolution in Western Europe: 1500-1750</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>HIST W3441</td>
<td>Making of the Modern American Landscape</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>HIST BC3592</td>
<td>Maritime History Since the Civil War</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>HIST W4584</td>
<td>Race, Technology, and Health</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>HIST W4305</td>
<td>The European Enlightenment</td>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>WMST BC3509</td>
<td>Gender, Knowledge and Science in Modern European History</td>
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### Nationalisms

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Course Code</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>HIST BC1801</td>
<td>Colonialism and Nationalism in South Asia</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>HIST BC3672</td>
<td>Perspectives on Power in 20th Century Latin America</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>HIST W3719</td>
<td>History of the Modern Middle East</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>HIST W3628</td>
<td>History of the State of Israel, 1948-Present</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>HIST W3800</td>
<td>Gandhi’s India</td>
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### War, Revolution, and Social Change

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Course Code</th>
<th>Course Title</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>HIST BC2180</td>
<td>Merchants, Pirates, and Slaves in the Making of Atlantic Capitalism</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>HIST BC2494</td>
<td>Era of Independence in the Americas</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>HIST BC3323</td>
<td>The City in Europe</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>HIST W3663</td>
<td>Mexico From Revolution To Democracy</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>HIST BC3672</td>
<td>Perspectives on Power in 20th Century Latin America</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
HIST W3432  The United States in the Era of Civil War and Reconstruction 3
HIST W4404  Native American History 4
HIST W3346  Historical Origins of Human Rights 3
HIST W4305  The European Enlightenment 4
HIST W4659  Crime in Latin America 4

Related courses from other departments:
SOCI UN3235 Social Movements 3

Intellectual History
HIST BC2466  American Intellectual History Since 1865 3
HIST BC3423  Origins of the Constitution 4
HIST BC3546  The Fourteenth Amendment and Its Uses 4
HIST BC3119  Capitalism and Enlightenment 4
HIST BC2457  A Social History of Columbia University 3
HIST BC3064  Medieval Science and Society 4
HIST BC3062  Medieval Economic Life and Thought 1000 to 1500 4
HIST BC3324  Vienna and the Birth of the Modern 4
HIST BC3909  History of Environmental Thinking 4
HIST BC3423  Origins of the Constitution 4
HIST W3103  Alchemy, Magic & Science 3
HIST W3528  The Radical Tradition in America 3
HIST W4305  The European Enlightenment 4
HIST W3926  Historical Origins of Human Rights 3

The Atlantic World
HIST BC2180  Merchants, Pirates, and Slaves in the Making of Atlantic Capitalism 3
HIST BC3592  Maritime History Since the Civil War 4
HIST BC2682  Modern Latin American History 3
HIST BC2494  Era of Independence in the Americas 3
HIST W4404  Native American History 4

Related courses from other departments:
ANTH V3983 Ideas and Society in the Caribbean 4

Premodern History
HIST W1061  Introduction to the Early Middle Ages: 250-1050 3
HIST BC1062  Introduction to Later Middle Ages: 1050-1450 4
HIST BC3062  Medieval Economic Life and Thought ca 1000 to 1500 4
HIST BC2980  World Migration 3

HIST UN1010  The Ancient Greeks 800-146 B.C.E. 4
HIST UN1020  The Romans and Their World 3
HIST W3020  Roman Imperialism 3
HIST UN1002  Ancient History of Mesopotamia and Asia Minor 3
HIST W3660  Latin American Civilization I 3

Related courses from other departments:
CLCV V3162  Ancient Law 3
HSEA W4869  History of Ancient China to the End of Han 3
HSEA W3862  The History of Korea to 1900 3
HSEA UN3898  The Mongols in History 3
HSME W3854  East Mediterranean in the Late Bronze Age 3
PHIL UN2101  The History of Philosophy I: Presocratics to Augustine 4
ANTH W4344  Inka Empire 3

Barnard history courses are numbered to reflect the type of course and world region:

By course type:
1000-level: introductory lecture courses
2000-level: other undergraduate lecture courses
3000-level: undergraduate seminars

By world region/epoch:
x000-x059: Ancient
x060-x099: Medieval
x1xx-x199: Early Modern Europe
x2xx-x299: East Central Europe
x3xx-x399: Modern Western Europe
x4xx-x599: United States
x600-x659: Jewish
x660-x699: Latin America
x700-x759: Middle East
x760-x799: Africa
x800-x859: South Asia
x860-x899: East Asia
x9xx-x999: Research, Historiography, Trans-National

Senior Research Seminar
The senior research seminar, in which students write their senior essays (30-50 pages), represents the culmination of the undergraduate history major. Students should discuss tentative topics with their advisers by the end of the junior year. Halfway through the first semester of the senior year students must submit a formal prospectus defining the problem under investigation, outlining the issues involved, and identifying the primary and secondary sources consulted. They must draft part of the essay by the end of the Fall semester, then complete their research and writing in the Spring.

Requirements for the Minor
The minor in history requires five courses, four in an area of concentration and one outside the concentration. The five courses must include one seminar. At least three of the minimum five courses must be Barnard or Columbia courses. Students planning to minor in history should consult the department chair.
HIST BC1062 Introduction to Later Middle Ages: 1050-1450. 4 points.

Social environment, political, and religious institutions, and the main intellectual currents of the Latin West studied through primary sources and modern historical writings.

HIST BC1101 Introduction to European History: Renaissance to French Revolution. 4 points.

Political, economic, social, religious, and intellectual history of early modern Europe, including the Renaissance, Reformation and Counter-Reformation, absolutism, Scientific Revolution, and Enlightenment.

HIST BC1302 Introduction to European History: French Revolution to the Present. 4 points.
Emergence of revolutionary and counter-revolutionary mass political movements; European industrialization, nationalism, and imperialism; 20th-century world wars, the Great Depression, and Fascism.

Spring 2021: HIST BC1302
Course Number  Section/Call Number  Times/Location           Instructor     Points  Enrollment
HIST 1302     001/00106           M W 10:10am - 11:25am  Lisa Tiersten  4        8/120
Room TBA

HIST BC1401 INTRODUCTION TO AMERICAN HISTORY TO 1865. 4.00 points.
Themes include Native and colonial cultures and politics, the evolution of American political and economic institutions, relationships between religious and social movements, and connecting ideologies of race and gender with larger processes such as enslavement, dispossession, and industrialization.

HIST BC1402 INTRODUCTION TO AMERICAN HISTORY SINCE 1865. 4.00 points.
Examines the major social, political, economic, and intellectual transformations from the 1860s until the present, including industrialization and urbanization, federal and state power, immigration, the welfare state, global relations, and social movements.

HIST BC1760 Introduction to African History: 1700-Present. 4 points.
Survey of African history from the 18th century to the contemporary period. We will explore six major themes in African History: Africa and the Making of the Atlantic World, Colonialism in Africa, the 1940s, Nationalism and Independence Movements, Post-Colonialism in Africa, and Issues in the Making of Contemporary Africa.

HIST BC1801 Colonialism and Nationalism in South Asia. 3 points.

Not offered during 2020-21 academic year.

Introduction to South Asian history (17-20 c.) that explores the colonial economy and state formation; constitution of religious and cultural identities; ideologies of nationalism and communalism, caste and gender politics; visual culture; and the South Asian diaspora.

HIST BC2101 History of Capitalism. 3 points.
The aim of this course is to provide students with analytical tools to think critically and historically about the concept of capitalism. By studying how philosophers, economists, and political theorists have defined and described the concept of capitalism throughout its history, students will be provided with a set of terminologies and analytical frameworks that enable them to interrogate the various dimensions of capitalism.

HIST BC2116 The History of Money. 3 points.
Examining the history of money and the history of ways of thinking about money. We investigate how different monetary forms developed and how they have shaped and been shaped by culture, society, and politics. Tracing money from gift-giving societies to the European Monetary Union, the focus is on early modern Europe.

HIST BC2180 Merchants, Pirates, and Slaves in the Making of Atlantic Capitalism. 3 points.

Examines how the Atlantic Ocean and its boundaries were tied together through the flow of people, goods, and ideas. Studies the cultures of the communities formed by merchants, pirates, and slaves; investigates how their interactions and frictions combined to shape the unique combination of liberty and oppression that characterizes early modern capitalism.

HIST BC2230 Central Europe: Nations, Culture, and Ideas. 3 points.

Not offered during 2020-21 academic year.

The making and re-making of Central Europe as place and myth from the Enlightenment to post-Communism. Focuses on the cultural, intellectual, and political struggles of the peoples of this region to define themselves. Themes include modernization and backwardness, rationalism and censorship, nationalism and pluralism, landscape and the spatial imagination.

HIST BC2255 Democracy and Dictatorship: Italy, the Balkans, and Turkey Between the Two World Wars. 3 points.

The course examines the social, economic and political impact World War I had on the Balkans, Italy, and Turkey. In particular, the growing influence of fascism from its birthplace in Italy to its emergence in various forms throughout the Balkans will be the central theme in the course.
HIST BC2305 Bodies and Machines. 3 points.
Not offered during 2020-21 academic year.

Situates key scientific and technological innovations of the modern era in their cultural context by focusing on the interactions between bodies and machines. Through our attention to bodily experience and material culture, we will explore the ways in which science and technology have shaped and been shaped by the culture of modernity.

HIST BC2321 Colonial Encounters: Europe and the Culture of Empire. 3 points.
Examines the shaping of European cultural identity through encounters with non-European cultures from 1500 to the post-colonial era. Novels, paintings, and films will be among the sources used to examine such topics as exoticism in the Enlightenment, slavery and European capitalism, Orientalism in art, ethnographic writings on the primitive, and tourism.

Fall 2020: HIST BC2321
Course Number  Section/Call Number  Times/Location  Instructor  Points  Enrollment
HIST 2321  001/00042  M W 10:10am - 11:25am  Lisa Tiersten  3  61/70
Room TBA

HIST BC2366 Climate & History: Intersecting Science Environment & Society. 3 points.
Climate change poses an imminent threat to the future of humanity and is a crucial feature of the Anthropocene, namely the age of anthropogenic transformations of the Earth’s environments on a global scale. How did we get here? History is fundamental to answer this question. This course examines the relationship between climate, scientific knowledge, and human societies. The class will first survey the role of climate as an historical actor of global history, rather than as the backdrop of political, social and economic events. In the second part of the course, we will examine the history of weather and climate science, as well as climate change denialism. The class offers a wide range of case studies around the world of the tight relationship between climate and history. The instructor encourages all majors to register from the humanities, social sciences, and natural sciences.

HIST BC2374 France in Modern Times, 1789-Present. 4 points.
Not offered during 2020-21 academic year.

Explores the history of modern France in its wider European Mediterranean and imperial contexts. Major themes include: republicanism and rights; revolution and reaction; terror and total war; international rivalry and imperial expansion; cultural and political avant-gardes; violence and national memory; decolonization and postcolonial migration; May ’68 and temporary challenges to the republican model.

HIST BC2380 Social and Cultural History of Food in Europe. 3 points.
Prerequisites: Previous course in history strongly recommended.
Course enables students to focus on remote past and its relationship to social context and political and economic structures; students will be asked to evaluate evidence drawn from documents of the past, including tracts on diet, health, and food safety, accounts of food riots, first-hand testimonials about diet and food availability. A variety of perspectives will be explored, including those promoted by science, medicine, business, and government.

HIST BC2388 Introduction to History of Science since 1800. 3 points.

How has modern science acquired its power to explain and control the world? What are the limits of that power? Topics: the origins of scientific institutions and values; the rise of evolutionary thought and Darwin’s impact; the significance of Einstein’s physics; ecology and environmental politics; the dilemmas of scientific warfare.

HIST BC2401 The Politics of Crime and Policing in the US. 3 points.
This course will examine the historical development of crime and the criminal justice system in the United States since the Civil War. The course will give particular focus to the interactions between conceptions of crime, normalcy and deviance, and the broader social and political context of policy making.

Fall 2020: HIST BC2401
Course Number  Section/Call Number  Times/Location  Instructor  Points  Enrollment
HIST 2401  001/00046  M W 6:10pm - 7:25pm  Matthew Vaz  3  53/40
Room TBA

HIST BC2408 Emerging Cities: 19th Century Urban History of the Americas and Europe. 4 points.

Urban history of 19th century cities in Europe and the Americas. First, we study the economic, geographic, and demographic changes that produced 19th century urbanization in the Western world. Second, we examine issues of urban space: density, public health, housing conditions, spatial reforms, and the origins of the modern city planning.

HIST BC2413 The United States, 1940-1975. 3 points.

Emphasis on foreign policies as they pertain to the Second World War, the atomic bomb, containment, the Cold War, Korea, and Vietnam. Also considers major social and intellectual trends, including the Civil Rights movement, the counterculture, feminism, Watergate, and the recession of the 1970s.

Fall 2020: HIST BC2413
Course Number  Section/Call Number  Times/Location  Instructor  Points  Enrollment
HIST 2413  001/00035  M W 11:40am - 12:55pm  Mark Carnes  3  52/72
Room TBA

HIST BC2423 The Constitution in Historical Perspective. 3 points.

Development of constitutional doctrine, 1787 to the present. The Constitution as an experiment in Republicanism; states’ rights and the Civil War amendments; freedom of contract and its opponents; the emergence of civil liberties; New Deal intervention and the crisis of the Court; and the challenge of civil rights.
HIST BC2440 Intro to African American History. 3 points.

Fall 2020: HIST BC2440
Course Number Section/Call Number Times/Location Instructor Points Enrollment
HIST 2440 001/00039 M W 2:40pm - 3:55pm Room TBA Celia Naylor 3 29/29

HIST BC2457 A Social History of Columbia University. 3 points.
Not offered during 2020-21 academic year.
Traces the University's history from 1754 to the present; will focus on institutional interaction with NYC, governance and finance, faculty composition and the undergraduate extra-curriculum; attention also to Columbia professional schools and Barnard College.

HIST BC2466 American Intellectual History Since 1865. 3 points.
Not offered during 2020-21 academic year.
Examination of the major ideas engaging American intellectuals from Appomattox to the present, with special attention to their institutional settings. Topics include Darwinism, the rise of the professoriate, intellectual progressivism, inter-war revisionism, Cold War liberalism, and neoconservatism.

HIST BC2477 RACE, CLASS, AND POLITICS IN NEW YORK CITY. 3 points.
The objectives of this course are: to gain familiarity with the major themes of New York History since 1898, to learn to think historically, and to learn to think and write critically about arguments that underlie historical interpretation. We will also examine and analyze the systems and structures—of race and class—that have shaped life in New York, while seeking to understand how social groups have pursued change inside and outside of such structures.

HIST BC2482 Revolutionary American 1763-1815. 3 points.
How did thirteen diverse British colonies become a single boisterous but fragile new nation? Historians still disagree about the causes, motives, and meanings surrounding the founding of the United States of America. Major themes include the role of ideologies, material interests, global contexts, race, gender, and class.

HIST BC2500 Poverty, Race, and Gender. 3 points.
This course will begin with a theoretical overview of the relationship between race, gender and poverty. We will look at definitions and sources of economic inequality, emerging discourses of poverty in the early 20th century, and changing perceptions of "the poor" over the course of American history. We will examine race and gender segmentation in the labor market, racial and gender conflict in the union movement, ideological foundations of the welfare state, cultural constructions of single motherhood, political debates about the "underclass," as well as contemporary campaigns to alleviate poverty. Our goal is to think critically about discourses of poverty and welfare as well as antipoverty, labor and feminist organizing.

HIST BC2549 Early America to 1763. 3 points.
This course examines the three critical centuries from 1492 to 1763 that transformed North America from a diverse landscape teeming with hundreds of farming and hunting societies into a partly-colonized land where just three systems empires held sway. Major themes include contrasting faiths, power relationships, and cultural exchanges among various Native, European, and African peoples.

HIST BC2567 Women, Gender and Sexuality in the 20th Century U.S.. 3 points.
Using an intersectional framework, this course traces changing notions of gender and sexuality in the 20th century United States. The course examines how womanhood and feminism were shaped by class, race, ethnicity, culture, sexuality and immigration status. We will explore how the construction of American nationalism and imperialism, as well as the development of citizenship rights, social policy, and labor organizing, were deeply influenced by the politics of gender. Special emphasis will be placed on organizing and women’s activism.

Not offered during 2020-21 academic year.
Prerequisites: NONE
The founding, growth, and present condition of American colleges and universities, with particular attention to the social history of Columbia University. Issues of governance, faculty rights and responsibilities, student activism and the public perception of institutions of higher learning will be considered.

HIST UN2661 LATIN AMERICAN CIVILIZATION II. 4.00 points.
CC/GS/SEAS: Partial Fulfillment of Global Core Requirement
This course explores major themes in Latin American history from the independence period (ca 1810) to the present. We will hone in on Latin Americas "chronic" problems of social inequality, political polarization, authoritarianism, incomplete democratization, and troubled memory politics. The course covers economic, social, and cultural histories, and gives special weight to the transnational aspects of Latin American ideological struggles – from its dependency on Western capital to its ideological "inner Cold War" – and the way they influenced the subaltern strata of society. The section discussions are a crucial component of the course, and will focus on assigned historiography. While the lecture centers on constructing a cogent meta-narrative for Latin America’s modern era, in the section we will explore not only the historical “facts," but will instead ask: how do historians know what they know about the past? What sources and analytic methods do they use to write history? And what ethical dilemmas do they confront when narrating politically-sensitive topics?

Spring 2021: HIST UN2661
Course Number Section/Call Number Times/Location Instructor Points Enrollment
HIST 2661 001/10188 M W 1:10pm - 2:25pm Room TBA Jose Moya 4.00 0/150
HIST BC2664 Reproducing Inequalities: Families in Latin American History. 3 points.
Explores changing structures and meanings of family in Latin America from colonial period to present. Particular focus on enduring tensions between “prescription” and “reality” in family forms as well as the articulation of family with hierarchies of class, caste, and color in diverse Latin American societies.

Fall 2020: HIST BC2664
Course Number  Section/Call  Times/Location  Instructor  Points  Enrollment
HIST 2664  001/00038  T Th 11:40am - 12:55pm  Nara Milanich  3  32/36

HIST BC2676 Latin America: Migration, Race, and Ethnicity. 3 points.
Not offered during 2020-21 academic year.
Examines immigrations to Latin America from Europe, Africa, and Asia and the resulting multiracial societies; and emigration from Latin America and the formation of Latino communities in the U.S., Europe, and elsewhere. Analyzes the socioeconomic and discursive-cognitive construction of ethno-racial identities and hierarchies, and current debates about immigration and citizenship.

HIST BC2681 Women and Gender in Latin America. 3 points.
Not offered during 2020-21 academic year.
Examines the gendered roles of women and men in Latin American society from the colonial period to the present. Explores a number of themes, including the intersection of social class, race, ethnicity, and gender; the nature of patriarchy; masculinity; gender and the state; and the gendered nature of political mobilization.

HIST BC2682 Modern Latin American History. 3 points.
Not offered during 2020-21 academic year.
See W3661 Modern Latin American History (Latin American CivII). Explores major themes in Latin American history from independence to the present, with a special focus on the evolution of socio-racial inequality, political systems, and U.S.-Latin America relations. We will discuss not only “what happened” in Latin America’s past, but how historians know what they know, the sources and methods they use to write history, and the theoretical frameworks they employ to interpret the past.

HIST BC2803 Gender and Empire. 3 points.
Not offered during 2020-21 academic year.
Examines how women experienced empire and asks how their actions and activities produced critical shifts in the workings of colonial societies worldwide. Topics include sexuality, the colonial family, reproduction, race, and political activism.

HIST BC2840 Topics in South Asian History. 3 points.
Not offered during 2020-21 academic year.
Prerequisites: Some background in non-Western history is recommended. Examines caste and gender as an important lens for understanding the transformations of intimate life and political culture in colonial and post-colonial India. Topics include: conjugality; popular culture violence, sex and the state; and the politics of untouchability.

HIST BC2855 Decolonization: Studies in Political Thought and Political History. 3 points.
Not offered during 2020-21 academic year.
This course will take the historical fact of decolonization in Asia and Africa as a framework for understanding the thought of anticolonial nationalism and the political struggles that preceded it, and the trajectories of postcolonial developmentalism and the contemporary new world order.

HIST BC2865 Gender and Power in China. 3 points.
This course explores the power dynamics of gender relations in Chinese history and contemporary society. Specifically, we seek to understand how a range of women–rulers, mothers, teachers, workers, prostitutes, and activists–exercised power by utilizing available resources to overcome institutional constraints.

HIST BC2978 20th Century Cities: Americas and Europe. 4 points.
Not offered during 2020-21 academic year.
Prerequisites: None
Urban history of 20th century cities in the Americas and Europe. Examines the modern city as ecological and production system, its form and built environment, questions of housing and segregation, uneven urban development, the fragmentation of urban society and space. Course materials draw on cities in the Americas and Europe. General Education Requirement: Historical Studies (HIS). General Education Requirement: Social Analysis (SOC).

HIST BC2980 World Migration. 3 points.
Overview of human migration from pre-history to the present. Sessions on classical Rome; Jewish diaspora; Viking, Mongol, and Arab conquests; peopling of New World, European colonization, and African slavery; 19th-century European mass migration; Chinese and Indian diasporas; resurgence of global migration in last three decades, and current debates.
HIST BC3062 Medieval Economic Life and Thought ca 1000 to 1500. 4 points.

Prerequisites: Permission of the instructor. Enrollment limited to 15. Preregistration required.
Traces the development of economic enterprises and techniques in their cultural context: agricultural markets, industry, commercial partnerships, credit, large-scale banking, insurance, and merchant culture. Examines usury and just price theory, the scholastic analysis of price and value, and the recognition of the market as a self-regulating system, centuries before Adam Smith.

HIST BC3064 Medieval Science and Society. 4 points.
Prerequisites: Permission of the instructor. Enrollment limited to 15. Preregistration required.
The evolution of scientific thinking from the 12th to the 16th centuries, considering subjects such as cosmology, natural history, quantification, experimentation, the physics of motion, and Renaissance perspective. At every point we link proto-scientific developments to social and technological developments in the society beyond the schools.

HIST BC3119 Capitalism and Enlightenment. 4 points.

Prerequisites: Permission of the instructor. Enrollment limited to 15. Preregistration required.
Traces the lively debates amongst the major European Enlightenment figures about the formation of capitalism. Was the new market society ushering in an era of wealth and civilization or was it promoting corruption and exploitation? Particular emphasis on debates about commerce, luxury, greed, poverty, empire, slavery, and liberty.

HIST BC3177 SCARCITY: ECONOMY AND NATURE. 4 points.
Current patterns of economic growth are no longer environmentally sustainable. Global industrialization and the associated transference of carbon from the ground to the air are leading to a rapid exhaustion of resources and a warming of the planet. These changes have triggered a set of dangerous climatic transformations that are likely to cause massive ecological disruptions and disturbances of food production systems. These changes, in turn, might have a profound impact on poverty, migration, and geopolitics. To better understand how we have arrived at the present predicament, this seminar explores the history of how social and economic theorists have conceptualized the interaction between the economy and nature. The focus will be on the concept of scarcity as a way of understanding the relationship between economic growth and environmental sustainability. The course begins in the Renaissance and traces the evolution of the nature/economy nexus to the present.

HIST BC3301 Science and Fascism. 4.00 points.
In 1942, the American sociologist Robert Merton described modern science as an intellectual enterprise that can produce truthful and factual knowledge only if inspired by democratic values. Yet such concept contrasted starkly with the reality of science in the interwar period and World War II, at the peak of the clash between liberal democracies and fascist dictatorships. What was the role of science in the global conflict between liberalism and the fascist ‘New Order’? What did science and technology look like under fascism? This class examines the relationship between science and fascism in Fascist Italy, Nazi Germany, Franco’s Spain, and Salazar’s Portugal. During the Great War (1914-1918), science and technology were enlisted as critical assets for the war effort and the international scientific community was shattered across national lines. The Great War proved the importance of the scientific organization of society and state-controlled scientific advancement. Fascism developed this lesson in the interwar period to pursue its nationalist and imperialist goal: the creation of a new world order. Thus, the seminar explores the entanglement between science, technology and fascism by examining a wide range of disciplines, such as physics, medicine, eugenics, statistics, demography, agronomy, and engineering. Focusing in particular on fascism’s central themes of race and empire, the course examines the relationship between state power and scientific expertise, the persecution of Jewish scientists in Nazi Germany and Fascist Italy, and scientists’ critical competition in World War II ahead of the creation of the atomic bomb, which ushered in the new era of the Cold War.

HIST BC3323 The City in Europe. 4 points.
Not offered during 2020-21 academic year.

Prerequisites: Permission of the instructor. Enrollment limited to 15. Preference to upper-class students. Preregistration required.
A social history of the city in Europe from early modern times; the economic, political, and intellectual forces influencing the growth of Paris, London, Vienna, and other urban centers.

HIST BC3324 Vienna and the Birth of the Modern. 4 points.
Not offered during 2020-21 academic year.

Prerequisites: Permission of the instructor. Enrollment limited to 15. Preregistration required.
Examines Vienna from the 1860s through the 1930s as the site of intellectual, political, and aesthetic responses to the challenges of modern urban life. Through readings in politics, literature, science, and philosophy, as well as through art and music, we explore three contested elements of personal identity: nationality, sexuality, and rationality.
HIST BC3327 Consumer Culture in Modern Europe. 4 points.
Prerequisites: Permission of the instructor. Enrollment limited to 15. Preregistration required.
The development of the modern culture of consumption, with particular attention to the formation of the woman consumer. Topics include commerce and the urban landscape, changing attitudes toward shopping and spending, feminine fashion and conspicuous consumption, and the birth of advertising. Examination of novels, fashion magazines, and advertising images.

HIST BC3332 The Politics of Leisure in Modern Europe. 4 points.
Not offered during 2020-21 academic year.
Prerequisites: Permission of the instructor. Enrollment limited to 15. Preregistration required.
Transformations in the culture of leisure from the onset of industrialization to the present day. Relations between elite and popular culture and the changing relationship between the work world and the world of leisure will be among the topics considered in such settings as the department store, the pub, the cinema, and the tourist resort.

HIST BC3360 London: From Great Wen to World City. 4 points.
Prerequisites: Permission of the instructor. Enrollment limited to 15. Preregistration required.
Social and cultural history of London from the Great Fire of 1666 to the 1960s. An examination of the changing experience of urban identity through the commercial life, public spaces, and diverse inhabitants of London. Topics include 17th-century rebuilding, immigrants and emigrants, suburbs, literary culture, war, and redevelopment.

HIST BC3368 History of the Senses. 4 points.
Prerequisites: Permission of the instructor. Enrollment limited to 15. Preregistration required.
Examination of European understandings of human senses through the production and reception of art, literature, music, food, and sensual enjoyments in Britain and France. Readings include changing theories concerning the five senses; efforts to master the passions; the rise of sensibility and feeling for others; concerts and the patronage of art; the professionalization of the senses.

HIST BC3391 Senior Research Seminar. 8 points.
4 points each term.
Prerequisites: Open to Barnard College History Senior Majors. Individual guided research and writing in history and the presentation of results in seminar and in the form of the senior essay. See Requirements for the Major for details.

HIST BC3402 Science and Society: From Galileo to Climate Change. 3.00 points.
This course explores the intersection of scientific ideas and society in three historical contexts: the trial of Galileo by the Roman Inquisition in early 17th-century Europe, which examined the validity and implications of Galileo's ideas on motion physics and astronomy; 2) the 2009 United Nations Climate Change Conference in Copenhagen, which sought an international accord to limit carbon emissions; and 3) the problem of obesity, diet, and cholesterol as debated by the CDC, USDA, and the U.S. Congress during the 1990s. Because this course will be offered in an online format, it uses multiple active-learning strategies to promote student interaction and engagement.

HIST BC3403 Mexican Migration in the US. 3 points.
Examines the history of Mexican migration in the United States since the end of the XIX century. The course will analyze the role played by U.S. immigration policy, the labor demands of U.S. employers, the social and economic conditions of Mexico, and the formation of Mexican immigrant communities.

HIST BC3423 Origins of the Constitution. 4 points.
Not offered during 2020-21 academic year.
Prerequisites: Permission of the instructor. Enrollment limited to 15. Preregistration required.
An examination of the creation of the Constitution; consequences of independence; ideological foundations; the Articles of Confederation and the Critical Period; the nationalist movement and the Convention; anti-federalism and ratification; and the Bill of Rights. Readings from selected secondary and primary sources, including The Federalist.
HIST BC3444 Freedom Dreams: Struggles for Justice in the U.S. and Beyond. 4 points.

Prerequisites: Permission of the instructor. Enrollment limited to 15. Preregistration required.
This course will interrogate freedom as a conceptual category and explore how the meaning and practice of freedom has been deployed in different historical moments. We will consider how gender, race, sexuality, slavery, colonization, work and religion influenced thinking about individual and collective notions of freedom.

HIST BC3456 The Craft of Urban History. 4 points.
Not offered during 2020-21 academic year.

Prerequisites: Permission of the instructor. Enrollment limited to 15. Preregistration required.
This seminar introduces students to the key issues and the interdisciplinary practice of modern urban history. Readings draw from the scholarly literature on 19th and 20th century cities from across Europe and the Americas. We explore economic, spatial, ethnographic, and cultural approaches to studying modern cities.

In this seminar students will conduct oral histories of essential service and care workers on the front lines of the COVID-19 crisis, develop a conceptual and theoretical framework for service and care work, and be trained in the art of oral history. They will interrogate the archive, discuss oral history as a methodological approach and historical source and will be trained in the technical skills of preparing a consent form, formulating questions, using recording equipment, and transcribing interviews. We will be collaborating with the Columbia Oral History Archive, the Columbia M.A. Oral History Program and IMATS. This course builds upon the instructor’s research and writing about care and domestic work. Students will analyze how the notion of care has become a form of emotional labor that is central to service work and be trained in the art of oral history.

HIST BC3479 Colonial Gotham: The History of New York City, 1609-1776. 4 points.
Prerequisites: Permission of the instructor. Enrollment limited to 15. Preregistration required.
How did a tiny Dutch outpost become a bustling colonial urban society and a major port in the British Empire? New York City’s first two centuries offer more than just “pre-history” to the modern metropolis. Topics include frontier wars, slave conspiracies, religious revivals, conflicts between legitimate and contraband economies.

HIST BC3491 Making Barnard History: The Research Process. 4 points.
Prerequisites: Permission of the instructor. Enrollment limited to 15. Preregistration required.
Introduction to historical research through a range of the historical sources and methods available for a comprehensive history of Barnard College. Will include a review of the secondary literature, the compiling and analysis of qualitative and quantitative data through archival research, the conduct of an oral history interview, and the construction of a historical narrative.

HIST BC3500 Maids and Madams: Nannies, Maids, and Care Workers in a Global Economy. 4 points.
Prerequisites: Permission of the instructor. Preregistration required.
Examines construction of home as private space and gender expectations defining reproductive labor as “women’s work.” Emphasis on US, but also explores global patterns of race, labor and migration, shifting notions of “Rights” and citizenship as well as domestic workers’ strategies of resistance in a context of labor and feminist organizing.

HIST BC3504 Nineteenth-Century New York City: A Spatial History. 4 points.
History of 19th-century New York City with a focus on spatial history. We explore three major themes, including the city’s rapidly changing built environment, its social environment, and urban metabolism. Methodologically, we focus on spatial analysis, especially historical Geographic Information Systems.

HIST BC3546 The Fourteenth Amendment and Its Uses. 4 points.
Not offered during 2020-21 academic year.
Prerequisites: Permission of the instructor. Enrollment limited to 15. Preregistration required.
The role of the 14th Amendment in shaping the modern American Constitution; theories of judicial review; the rise and fall of economic due process; the creation of civil liberties; the civil rights revolution; and the end of states’ rights.

HIST BC3549 A History of Violence: Bloodshed and Power in Early America. 4 points.
Prerequisites: Permission of the instructor. Enrollment limited to 15. Preregistration required.
Coercion, war, rape, murder, and riots are common in American History from the European invasion to the Civil War. How did violent acts transform early American societies? Readings are a mix of primary sources and scholarship. First and second year students are welcome with permission.
HIST BC3580 Mississippi Semester: Child Care, Race, and the History of Welfare. 4 points.

This upper-level seminar brings together a small group of students for intensive study about the history of welfare using Mississippi as a case study. The course involves several components: theoretical and historical reading about the evolution of the welfare state, specific analysis of welfare in Mississippi, an eight-day trip to Mississippi to map the availability of child care for welfare recipients and conduct interviews with users and providers of low-income child care centers, and post-trip analysis/digitizing of the data and writing of op-eds. The course is designed in conjunction with a local advocacy organization, Mississippi Low-Income Child Care Initiative.

HIST BC3592 Maritime History Since the Civil War. 4 points.


Not offered during 2020-21 academic year.

Prerequisites: Permission of the instructor and prior course in 19th - 20th century European/American History. Enrollment limited to 15. Preregistration required.

Critical consideration of the maritime aspects of American life and culture since the Civil War: rise of American sea power; peaking of American maritime commerce and labor; historic seaports and coastal areas as recreational resources; marine science and environmentalist concerns in shaping recent American maritime policies. Seminar will make extensive use of the web for resources and communication.

HIST BC3599 Remembering Slavery: Critiquing Modern Representations of the Peculiar Institution. 4 points.

Prerequisites: Permission of the instructor. Enrollment limited to 15. Preregistration required.

The enslavement of people of African descent signifies a crucial historical and cultural marker not only for African-Americans but also for Americans in general. We will interrogate how and why images of slavery continue to be invoked within the American sociocultural landscape (e.g., in films, documentaries, historical novels, and science fiction).

HIST BC3658 Jewish Tales from Four Cities: The Immigrant Experience in New York, Buenos Aires, Paris and London. 4 points.

Prerequisites: Permission of the instructor. Enrollment limited to 15. Preregistration required.

Examines Jewish immigrant experience in New York, Buenos Aires, London, and Paris, c.1880-1930. Focus on the Old World origins of the arrivals, the formation of neighborhoods, ethnic institutions, family, work, cultural expressions, and relations with the rest of society. Based on readings and primary research (newspapers, letters, songs, photographs, etc.).

HIST BC3666 Origin Stories: Race, Genealogy, and Citizenship. 4 points.

Not offered during 2020-21 academic year.

Explores historical constructions of heredity, origins, and identity in the modern world in terms of family/genealogy; race/ethnicity; and citizenship. Drawing on evidence from diverse societies around the globe, considers how science, law, and culture define origins and how definitions have changed over time. Interdisciplinary focus ranges across history, anthropology, sociology, and cultural studies.

HIST BC3669 Inequalities: Interdisciplinary Perspectives on Latin America. 4 points.

Not offered during 2020-21 academic year.

Prerequisites: Permission of the instructor. Enrollment limited to 15. Preregistration required. A general background on Latin America recommended but not absolutely required. Course limited to 15 students. Latin America has long been characterized by extreme and enduring inequalities - of class, income, race, and ethnicity. Examines patterns of inequality from different disciplinary perspectives, both historically and in the present. Examines not only causes and solutions but how scholars have approached inequality as an intellectual problem.


Note: This course meets as a lecture but it is a seminar.

Prerequisites: NA

This seminar explores the roots of and responses to the contemporary refugee “crisis” at the U.S.-Mexico border. We examine the historical factors that are propelling people, including families and unaccompanied minors, to flee the so-called Northern Triangle of Central America (El Salvador, Honduras, Guatemala); the law and politics of asylum that those seeking refuge must negotiate in the U.S.; and the burgeoning system of immigration incarceration that detains ever-greater numbers of non-citizens. The course is organized around a collaboration with the Dilley Pro Bono Project, an organization that provides legal counsel to detainees at the country’s largest immigration detention prison, in Dilley, Texas.

HIST BC3672 Perspectives on Power in 20th Century Latin America. 4 points.


Not offered during 2020-21 academic year.

Prerequisites: Permission of the instructor. Enrollment limited to 15. Preregistration required.

Examination of recent Latin American historiography concerns with power in the context of 20th-Century Latin America. Focus on such diverse topics as the Mexican Revolution and migrant culture in Costa Rica, labor mobilization in Chile and the dirty war in Argentina. Themes include the relationship between popular culture and the state; the power of words and the power of symbols; structure and agency; the role of the law; the relationship between leaders and followers; and the intersections of gender, race, and power.
HIST BC3761 Childhood and Youth in African History. 4 points.
This course focuses on the history of childhood and youth in African societies and how young people as historical agents have impacted the social histories of their communities. How did young Africans live in past times? What forces shaped understanding of their status as children or youth? How have major historical processes such as colonialism, industrialization, apartheid, and liberation, neocolonialism, and neoliberalism impacted and been impacted by children and youth in Africa? What roles have young people themselves played in the making of African histories? These questions will be explored in course readings, discussions, and students' original research projects.

HIST BC3763 Children and Childhood in African History. 4 points.
Not offered during 2020-21 academic year.
Prerequisites: Permission of the instructor. Enrollment limited to 15. Preregistration required.
This course focuses on the history of childhood and youth in African societies and how young people as historical agents have impacted the social histories of their communities. How did young Africans live in past times? What forces shaped understanding of their status as children or youth? How have major historical processes such as colonialism, industrialization, apartheid, and liberation, neocolonialism, and neoliberalism impacted and been impacted by children and youth in Africa? What roles have young people themselves played in the making of African histories? These questions will be explored in course readings, discussions, and students' original research projects.

HIST BC3771 Critical Perspectives on the Mobilization of Race and Ethnicity on the Continent and in the Study of Africa. 4 points.
Not offered during 2020-21 academic year.
Prerequisites: Sophomore Standing.
Critically examines the relationship between social difference and narratives and practices of power in historical and contemporary African publics. Race and Ethnicity are the key axes of social difference that will be examined. Other axes of difference such as gender, sexuality, class, caste, generation and nationality will also be examined through points of intersection with race and ethnicity.

HIST BC3776 Mapping the Ekopolitan Project: A Spatial Approach to Pan-African Circulations. 4 points.
*In this course, we will be studying African migrations to Africa, and within the continent, in the 19th and 20th centuries. We will be reading scholarly works on spatial history, African migrations, and 'Back-to-Africa' movements.
*We will also be analyzing primary sources on African migrations, which shall form the bases of a series of digital scholarship workshops. These workshops will cover mapping with ArcGIS, translating qualitative knowledge into quantitative data, and effective digital storytelling.

HIST BC3788 Gender, Sexuality, and Power from Colonial to Contemporary Africa. 4 points.
Prerequisites: Permission of the instructor. Enrollment limited to 15. Preregistration required.
This course deals with the scholarship on gender and sexuality in African history. The central themes of the course will be changes and continuities in gender performance and the politics of gender and sexual difference within African societies, the social, political, and economic processes that have influenced gender and sexual identities, and the connections between gender, sexuality, inequality, and activism at local, national, continental, and global scales.

HIST BC3791 Lagos: From Pepper Farm to Megacity. 4 points.
Not offered during 2020-21 academic year.
Prerequisites: Permission of the instructor. Enrollment limited to 15. Preregistration required.
Examines the many Lagoses that have existed over time, in space, and in the imagination from its origins to the 21st century. This is a reading, writing, viewing, and listening intensive course. We read scholarly, policy-oriented, and popular sources on Lagos as well as screening films and audio recordings that feature Lagos in order to learn about the social, cultural, and intellectual history of this West African mega-city.

HIST BC3805 Caste, Power, and Inequality. 4 points.
Not offered during 2020-21 academic year.
Prerequisites: Permission of the instructor. Enrollment limited to 15. Preregistration required.
Draws on the experiences of life and thought of caste subalterns to explore the challenges to caste exploitation and inequality.
B. R. Ambedkar is arguably one of Columbia University’s most illustrious alumni, and a democratic thinker and constitutional lawyer who had enormous impact in shaping India, the world’s largest democracy. As is well known, Ambedkar came to Columbia University in July 1913 to start a doctoral program in Political Science. He graduated in 1915 with a Masters degree, and got his doctorate from Columbia in 1927 after having studied with some of the great figures of interwar American thought including Edwin Seligman, James Shotwell, Harvey Robinson, and John Dewey.

This course follows the model of the Columbia University and Slavery course and draws extensively on the relevant holdings and resources of Columbia’s RBML, [Rare Books and Manuscript Library] Burke Library (Union Theological Seminar), and the Schomburg Center for Research in Black Culture among others to explore a set of relatively understudied links between Ambedkar, Columbia University, and the intellectual history of the interwar period. Themes include: the development of the disciplines at Columbia University and their relationship to new paradigms of social scientific study; the role of historical comparison between caste and race in producing new models of scholarship and political solidarity; links between figures such as Ambedkar, Lala Lajpat Rai, W. E. B. Du Bois and others who were shaped by the distinctive public and political culture of New York City, and more.

This is a hybrid course which aims to create a finding aid for B. R. Ambedkar that traverses RBML private papers. Students will engage in a number of activities towards that purpose. They will attend multiple instructional sessions at the RBML to train students in using archives; they will make public presentations on their topics, which will be archived in video form; and students will produce digital essays on a variety of themes and topics related to the course. Students will work collaboratively in small groups and undertake focused archival research. This seminar inaugurates an on-going, multiyear effort to grapple with globalizing the reach and relevance of B. R. Ambedkar and to share our findings with the Columbia community and beyond. Working independently, students will define and pursue individual research projects. Working together, the class will create digital visualizations of these projects.

HIST BC3830 Bombay/Mumbai and Its Urban Imaginaries. 4 points.
Prerequisites: Permission of the instructor. Enrollment limited to 15. Preregistration required.
Explores the intersections between imagining and materiality in Bombay/Mumbai from its colonial beginnings to the present. Housing, slums, neighborhoods, streets, public culture, contestation, and riots are examined through film, architecture, fiction, history and theory. It is an introduction to the city; and to the imaginative enterprise in history.

HIST BC3866 Fashion in China. 3 points.
Not offered during 2020-21 academic year.

This course challenges the long-standing association of fashion with the West. We will trace the transformation of China’s sartorial landscape from the premodern era into the present. Using textual, visual, and material sources, we will explore: historical representations of dress in China; the politics of dress; fashion and the body; women’s labor; consumption and modernity; industry and the world-market. We will also read key texts in fashion studies to reflect critically on how we define fashion in different historical and cultural contexts. Our approach will be interdisciplinary, embracing history, anthropology, art, and literature. Field(s): EA

HIST BC3870 Gender and Migration: A Global Perspective. 4 points.

Prerequisites: Permission of the instructor. Enrollment limited to 15. Preregistration required. Sophomore Standing.
Explores migration as a gendered process and what factors account for migratory differences by gender across place and time; including labor markets, education demographic and family structure, gender ideologies, religion, government regulations and legal status, and intrinsic aspects of the migratory flow itself.

HIST BC3879 Feminist Traditions in China. 4 points.
Not offered during 2020-21 academic year.

Prerequisites: Permission of the instructor. Background in Women's Studies and/or Chinese Studies helpful, but not necessary. Sophomore standing. Enrollment limited to 15. Preregistration required.
Explores the intellectual, social and cultural grounds for the establishment and transmission of feminist traditions in China before the 19th century. Topics include pre-modern Chinese views of the body, self, gender, and sex, among others. Our goal is to rethink such cherished concepts as voice, agency, freedom, and choice that have shaped the modern feminist movement.

HIST BC3886 Fashion. 4 points.
Not offered during 2020-21 academic year.

Prerequisites: At least one course in a Non-U.S. Area in History, Literature, Anthropology, Film Studies or Art History. Permission of the instructor. Enrollment limited to 15. Preregistration required.
Investigates the cultural, material and technological conditions that facilitated the development of "fashion systems" in early modern Europe, Japan and contemporary Asian diasporic communities. In the global framework, "fashion" serves as a window into the politics of self-presentation, community formation, structure of desires, and struggles over representation.
HIST BC3901 Reacting to the Past II. 4 points.
Not offered during 2020-21 academic year.
Prerequisites: Permission of the instructor. Enrollment limited to 20. Preregistration required. Reacting I, a First-Year seminar, is recommended.
Collision of ideas in two of the following three contexts: "Rousseau, Burke and Revolution in France, 1791," "The Struggle for Palestine: The British, Zionists, and Palestinians in the 1930s," or "India on the Eve of Independence, 1945".

HIST BC3903 Reacting to the Past III: Science and Society. 4 points.
BC: Fulfillment of General Education Requirement: Reason and Value (REA), BC: Fulfillment of General Education Requirement: Historical Studies (HIS),
Not offered during 2020-21 academic year.
Prerequisites: Not offered 2008-09. Permission of the instructor. Enrollment limited to 15. Preregistration required.
HIST BC3904 Introduction to Historical Theory and Method. 4 points.
Prerequisites: Permission of the instructor. Enrollment limited to 15. Preregistration required. Preference to JUNIOR and SOPHOMORE Majors. Fulfills General Education Requirement (GER); Historical Studies (HIS); Reason and Value
Confronts a set of problems and questions attached to the writing of good history by examining the theories and methods historians have devised to address these problems. Its practical focus: to prepare students to tackle the senior thesis and other major research projects. The reading matter for this course crosses cultures, time periods, and historical genres. Fulfills all concentrations within the history major.

HIST BC3905 Capitalism, Colonialism, and Culture: A Global History. 4 points.
BC: Fulfillment of General Education Requirement: Historical Studies (HIS),
Not offered during 2020-21 academic year.
Prerequisites: Permission of Instructor. Enrollment limited to 15. Preregistration required.
From Indian Ocean worlds of the seventeenth century, to Atlantic world slavery, to the establishment of colonies in Asia and Africa during the nineteenth century, colonization was critical to the development of metropolitan ideas regarding politics and personhood. This seminar will examine these histories, along with emerging constructions of race and gender, as precursors to debates about human rights and humanitarianism in the twentieth century.

HIST BC3907 Edible Conflicts: A History of Food. 4 points.
BC: Fulfillment of General Education Requirement: Historical Studies (HIS),
Not offered during 2020-21 academic year.
Prerequisites: Permission of the instructor. Enrollment limited to 15. Preregistration required.
Conflicts emerging from the production and consumption of food from prehistoric to modern times. Settled agriculture and the significance of geography and social stratification in determining food consumption; ideologies of social status and "taste" in Europe; impact of knowledge about health and hygiene on European dietary habits; drink in diets and social life; dining out in European culture; role of transport and technology in consumer culture; food and the welfare state; mass production and globalization of food.

HIST BC3909 History of Environmental Thinking. 4 points.
Not offered during 2020-21 academic year.
Prerequisites: Permission of the instructor. Enrollment limited to 15. Preference to upper-class students. Preregistration required.
A consideration of how experiences of the natural world and the meaning of "nature" have changed over the past three centuries. Follows the development of the environmental sciences and the origins of environmentalism. The geographical focus will be Europe, with attention to the global context of imperialism.

HIST BC3910 Global Politics of Reproduction: Culture, Politics, and History. 4 points.
Prerequisites: Permission of the instructor. Enrollment limited to 15. Preregistration required.
Comparative, cross-cultural examination of social organization and historical construction of human reproduction, with emphasis on 20th century. Topics include role of states and local and transnational "stratification" of reproduction by race, class, and citizenship; eugenics; population politics; birth control; kinship as social and biological relationship; maternity, paternity; new reproductive technologies.

HIST BC3953 Anarchism: A Global History. 4 points.
BC: Fulfillment of General Education Requirement: Historical Studies (HIS),
Not offered during 2020-21 academic year.
Prerequisites: Permission of the instructor. Enrollment limited to 15. Preregistration required.
Examines anarchism both as an ideology and as a set of cultural and political practices.

HIST BC3973 20th Century Cities: Americas and Europe. 4 points.
Not offered during 2020-21 academic year.
Prerequisites: Permission of the instructor. Enrollment limited to 15. Preregistration required.
Urban history of 20th century cities in the Americas and Europe. Examines the modern city as ecological and production system, its form and built environment, questions of housing and segregation, uneven urban development, the fragmentation of urban society and space. Course materials drawing on cities in the Americas and Europe.
HIST BC3999 Transnational Feminism. 4 points.

Prerequisites: Permission of the instructor. Enrollment limited to 15. Preregistration required.
Examines the theory and practice of transnational feminist activism. We will explore the ways in which race, class, culture and nationality facilitate alliances among women, reproduce hierarchical power relations, and help reconstruct gender. The course covers a number of topics: the African Diaspora, suffrage, labor, development policy, colonialism, trafficking, consumerism, Islam, and the criminal justice system.

Cross-Listed Courses
CU History (http://bulletin.columbia.edu/columbia-college/departments-instruction/history/#coursestext)