Department Overview

History is the study of the human past as it is constructed and interpreted with human artifacts, written evidence, and oral traditions. It requires empathy for historical actors, respect for interpretive debate, and the skillful use of an evolving set of practices and tools.

As an inquiry into human experience, history demands that we consider the diversity of human experience across time and place.

As a public pursuit, history requires effective communication to make the past accessible; it informs and preserves collective memory; it is essential to active citizenship.

As a discipline, history requires a deliberative stance towards the past; the sophisticated use of information, evidence, and argumentation; and the ability to identify and explain continuity and change over time. Its professional ethics and standards demand peer review, citation, and acceptance of the provisional nature of knowledge.

The History Department offers a signature course in the General Education Program (GEP) that is required of all undergraduates at the University. HIS 154, Forging the Modern World, provides students with the opportunity to use the tools of historical inquiry to gain insight on the key events, ideas, individuals and groups that have shaped the world in which we live. The Department’s advanced courses continue to emphasize the investigation of the ideas and institutions—religious, political, social, and economic—through which people have endeavored to order their world. Advanced courses, with their more precise focus on place, time, and method, allow students to gain a deeper understanding of the field and its practices. The Department also offers internships and independent research opportunities to enhance students’ preparation for the future.

Professor: Alison Williams Lewin Ph.D.; Katherine A. S. Sibley Ph.D.; Randall M. Miller Ph.D.; Richard Warren Ph.D.

Associate Professor: Amber Heather Abbas Ph.D.; Christopher Close Ph.D.; Melissa Chakars Ph.D.

Assistant Professor: Brian James Yates Ph.D.; Jeffrey Hyson Ph.D.

Other Title: Julia Mansfield Ph.D.

Undergraduate Major

- History (https://academiccatalog.sju.edu/arts-sciences/history/history-major/)

Undergraduate Minor

- History (https://academiccatalog.sju.edu/arts-sciences/history/Minor-history/)

HIS 150 First Year Seminar (3 credits)

HIS 154 Forging the Modern World (3 credits)

Students will analyze primary and secondary sources to understand the predominant structures and relationships that have transformed our world from the early modern era to the twentieth century. Topics will include the development of political and economic ideas and systems (e.g., democracy, liberalism, conservatism, nationalism, fascism, colonialism, capitalism, socialism), changing conceptions of culture and identity (e.g. race, gender, ethnicity, art), and the conflicts and opportunities born of this transformation (e.g., anti-colonial movements, social revolutions, world wars, international organizations, globalization, religious and cultural conflicts). Readings and discussions will emphasize understanding how modern systems of political, economic and social meaning and exchange, including Western dominance, emerged.

Attributes: Signature Course, Undergraduate

HIS 170 Special Topics in History (3 credits)

Content and structure of the course are determined by the course supervisor. The special topic for a given semester will be announced prior to registration.

Attributes: Undergraduate

HIS 201 History of the United States (3 credits)

A survey dealing with the origin and development of American institutions and traditions, with emphasis on the political, economic, and social history of the period after 1763. These courses may be taken in any order.

Attributes: American Studies Course, Undergraduate

HIS 202 History of the United States (3 credits)

A survey dealing with the origin and development of American institutions and traditions, with emphasis on the political, economic, and social history of the period after 1763. These courses may be taken in any order.

Attributes: American Studies Course, International Relations Course, Undergraduate

HIS 203 Historical Intro to Latin Am (3 credits)

A survey of the development of Latin American society, emphasizing the era from the independence movements of the nineteenth century to the present day. The course will focus on the changing social, economic and political structures of the region.

Attributes: International Relations Course, Non-Western Studies (GEP), Undergraduate

HIS 204 Latin American-U.S. Migration (3 credits)

This course will provide students with a deeper understanding of the processes that led migrants from Latin America and the Caribbean to the United States, and their experiences after arrival. The course focuses on three interdisciplinary topics: community formation, the variety of individual and group experiences; and current policy questions for the hemisphere.

Prerequisites: PHL 154

Attributes: Diversity Course, Ethics Intensive, Faith Justice Course, International Relations Course, Justice Ethics and the Law, Latin American Studies Course, Undergraduate
HIS 205 His Intro to the Islamic World (3 credits)
The course will provide students with a deeper understanding of the
Islamic world from the seventh century to the present, including: the
expansion and consolidation of Islamic states; relations with Western
powers; the rise and fall of empires; and social, cultural, and intellectual
developments.
Attributes: Africana Studies Course, International Relations Course, Undergraduate

HIS 208 Historical Intro to Asian Civ (3 credits)
This course will introduce students to the culture, politics, geography, art,
and religious traditions of the major countries of East and South Asia. It
will also give a historical overview from earliest times to the present. The
course will focus primarily on the Indian subcontinent, China and Japan,
with some attention also to Korea and Southeast Asia. Throughout the
course students will also learn how questions of history and culture
shape identities and animate public life in contemporary Asia.
Attributes: International Relations Course, Undergraduate

HIS 209 AP European History Credit (3 credits)
Students who receive a 4 or 5 on the AP European History exam, or the IB
equivalent, will receive credit for this course.
Attributes: International Relations Course

HIS 210 Historical Intro to Africa (3 credits)
The social, political, and economic history of Africa from pre-colonial
times to the twentieth century. It will emphasize themes such as the
early formation of states and empires, the impact of the Trans-Atlantic
slave trade, the European colonization of the continent, and the struggles
and successes of modern African nation states. The course is designed
to provide the students with a background for understanding the most
important forces that have shaped Africa and continue to affect the lives
of people throughout the continent.
Attributes: Africana Studies Course, Diversity Course, International
Relations Course, Non-Western Studies (GEP), Undergraduate

HIS 270 Special Topics in History (3 credits)
Content and structure of the course are determined by the course
supervisor. The special topic for a given semester will be announced prior
to registration.
Attributes: Undergraduate

HIS 296 AP World History Credit (3 credits)

HIS 301 United States and Latin Am (3 credits)
The complex relationship between the United States and the Latin
American nations in the nineteenth and twentieth centuries.
Attributes: International Relations Course, Undergraduate

HIS 302 Colonial Mexico (3 credits)
Social and cultural relations and conflicts in the Spanish colony that later
became Mexico and the southwestern United States. Emphasis is placed
on the seventeenth and eighteenth century.
Attributes: Non-Western Studies (GEP), Undergraduate

HIS 303 History of Modern Mexico (3 credits)
The major social, political, and economic factors that have shaped
Mexico in the twentieth century.
Attributes: International Relations Course, Latin American Studies Course,
Non-Western Studies (GEP), Undergraduate

HIS 304 Social Protest in Latin Am His (3 credits)
An examination of upheaval in Latin American history, from village riots
to social revolutions. Students will analyze relevant theoretical and
historiographical literature on social protest and explore case studies
that will test the explanatory strength of these different models.
Attributes: International Relations Course, Non-Western Studies (GEP),
Undergraduate

HIS 313 The Crusades (3 credits)
In 1095, Pope Urban II gave a speech that launched the First Crusade,
a speech that ushered in a new and violent age of relations among
Christians, Muslims, and Jews. The actual gains of that Crusade and
many others were minimal, but their legacy of intolerance and mistrust
among the three monotheistic religions that claim common ancestry
from Abraham persists to the present. This course will emphasize the
Crusades of the eleventh through fifteenth centuries, and will conclude by
examining the modern inheritance of these medieval campaigns.
Prerequisites: THE 154 and HIS 154
Attributes: Faith-Reason Course, Undergraduate

HIS 315 The Glory that was Greece (3 credits)
From Homer to Alexander, the Greeks of antiquity made their mark on the
world both of their own time and of the present. While many know the
names of great philosophers and artists, such as Plato and Sophocles,
few are acquainted with the historical circumstances that often served to
inspire these founders of Western civilization. Through original historical
and literary texts, this course will help students better to understand the
complex context of military prowess, intellectual curiosity, and artistic
inspiration that created the glory that was Greece.
Attributes: Ethics Intensive, Undergraduate

HIS 316 The Grandeur that was Rome (3 credits)
From its beginnings as a muddy village, Rome grew to create the largest
empire and greatest uniformity the Western world has ever known.
This course will: trace the course of Rome's development in the areas
of military, political, social and legal history; examine the effects of
Christianity and endless expansion upon the empire; and critically assess
various theories explaining its demise.
Prerequisites: HIS 154
Attributes: Ancient Studies Course, European Studies Course,
Undergraduate

HIS 317 The Rise of the West: 400-1000 (3 credits)
In recent years, scholarly debate has raged over the effects of "The Fall of
Rome"; what was once viewed as a catastrophe faces re-evaluation from
historians, archeologists, and sociologists. The slow merger of Roman,
barbarian, and Christian cultures created a unique civilization, focused
intently on survival in this world and salvation in the next. The course will
examine the mental and physical constructs of this civilization, with the
goal of appreciating the extraordinary creativity of a society with few hard
and fast rules or institutions to guide it.
Prerequisites: ENG 101
Attributes: Ancient Studies Course, Undergraduate, Writing Intensive
Course- GEP

HIS 318 Italian Renaissance 1100-1600 (3 credits)
Extraordinary creativity in all arenas flourished in Italy during the
Renaissance. New forms of political theory and organization, finance, art,
literature and views about human nature itself all drew on Roman and
medieval traditions, and bloomed against a backdrop of constant warfare.
The course will examine the formation and evolution of the northern
Italian city-states and the culture they created.
Attributes: Undergraduate
HIS 319 Reform/Rev in Europe 1500-1650 (3 credits)
The causes of the French Revolution of 1789, the revolutionary
governments and the Napoleonic era.
Attributes: International Relations Course, Undergraduate

HIS 320 Absltsm & Enlghtnmnt:1650-1789 (3 credits)
Absolutism and the rise of the nation state, the Scientific Revolution, the
English Civil War, European encounters with the "New World,"
Topics will include the Renaissance, the Reformation, the Dutch Revolt,
the Reformation's impact on the religious practice of regular people during
the sixteenth and seventeenth centuries, as well as the works of the
Reformers and the Catholic Church's response. Finally, we will look at the
long-term effects of the Reformation on European society and attempt to
evaluate it as a motor of modernity.
Prerequisites: PHL 154 and ENG 101 and (THE 154 or THE 221)
Attributes: Faith-Reason Course, Justice Ethics and the Law, Medieval,
Ren & Reform Studies, Undergraduate, Writing Intensive Course-GEP

HIS 321 French Revolution and Napoleon (3 credits)
The causes of the French Revolution of 1789, the revolutionary
and political reforms; the growth of the Liberal and Conservative
parties; religious, cultural, and intellectual developments; labor
movements; British foreign policy and growth of the British Empire.
Attributes: European Studies Course, International Relations Course,
Undergraduate

HIS 322 Europe in 20th Century (3 credits)
A study of the political, economic, social, and diplomatic history of the
period.
Attributes: International Relations Course, Undergraduate

HIS 323 France 1814-1914 (3 credits)
Political, diplomatic, social, economic and religious trends from the fall of
Napoleon Bonaparte to the outbreak of the First World War.
Attributes: International Relations Course, Undergraduate

HIS 324 The Age of Empire (3 credits)
A study of European imperialism and anti-imperialism in Africa and Asia
from the late eighteenth century to the present, with special emphasis on
the nineteenth century and on the British Empire.
Attributes: International Relations Course, Undergraduate

HIS 325 France 1814-1914 (3 credits)
Political, diplomatic, social, economic and religious trends from the fall of
Napoleon Bonaparte to the outbreak of the First World War.
Attributes: International Relations Course, Undergraduate

HIS 326 Trans in Early Mod Europe (3 credits)
Examines some of the key transformations in European history between
the years 1400-1800. This period is commonly referred to by historians as
"Early Modern Europe," a term that may seem somewhat odd to us
who claim to live in a "modern" world. This course will investigate the
term early modern, testing what it means and whether or not it is an
appropriate label to place on a period encompassing four centuries.
Topics will include the Renaissance, the Reformation, the Dutch Revolt,
the English Civil War, European encounters with the "New World,"
Absolutism and the rise of the nation state, the Scientific Revolution, the
French Revolution, and many more.
Attributes: Justice Ethics and the Law, Medieval, Ren & Reform Studies,
Undergraduate

HIS 327 Crime & Punishment (3 credits)
The development of European crime and punishment from 1200-1840.
It explores the evolution of different legal traditions by comparing the
growth of inquisitorial procedures in continental Europe to the practice of
common law in England. It examines in detail the social role of judicial
torture, physical punishment, and public execution in European society.
The operation of large institutional court systems such as the Roman
and Spanish inquisitions receive great attention, with students reenacting a
series of trials from Spanish Inquisition courts. After investigating the
legal backdrop to sensational crimes such as regicide, the course
concludes by studying the shift away from physical punishment toward
punishment by prison in the eighteenth and nineteenth centuries through the
lens of Philadelphia's own relic of the criminal justice past, Eastern
State Penitentiary.
Attributes: Justice Ethics and the Law, Medieval, Ren & Reform Studies,
Undergraduate

HIS 330 Eng: Danes to Tudors, 700-1485 (3 credits)
The ways in which official decrees—royal, noble, and ecclesiastical
—affect people in all walks of life, and will furthermore explore the
various roles English men and women constructed for themselves. In so
doing, students will gain insight into the ways inhabitants of this island
thought of themselves and the world around them.
Attributes: Undergraduate

HIS 331 Tudor-Stuart England:1485-1714 (3 credits)
Age of the Tudor and Stuart monarchs. Topics include Henry VIII and
the Reformation, Elizabethan England, Puritanism, the English Civil War,
Cromwell, the Restoration, the Glorious Revolution, the growth of the early
modern state, the scientific revolution, social change, and cultural life.
Attributes: European Studies Course, Undergraduate

HIS 332 Age of Aristcy: Brit 1689-1832 (3 credits)
The evolution of Britain from a preindustrial toward an industrial society
between the Glorious Revolution and the first reform of Parliament; the
political world of the Stuart and Hanoverian oligarchy; the industrial
revolution; the Empire, particularly the British Atlantic world, and
slavery; the Evangelical revival; radical social and political movements;
warfare and the consolidation of British national identity; reform and the
unraveling of the confessional state in the years after Waterloo; the arts,
from Classical to Romantic.
Attributes: International Relations Course, Undergraduate

HIS 333 Victorian Britain: 1815-1901 (3 credits)
The course is a study of Britain from 1815 to 1901 transformed by the
urban and industrial revolutions; the growth of the modern state; social
and political reforms; the evolution of the Liberal and Conservative
parties; religious, cultural, and intellectual developments; labor
movements; British foreign policy and growth of the British Empire.
Attributes: European Studies Course, International Relations Course,
Undergraduate

HIS 334 Twentieth-Century Britain (3 credits)
Topics include Edwardian England; Armageddon, 1914-1918; the trials of
the inter-war years and appeasement; The Finest Hour, 1939-1945; from
Empire to Commonwealth to European Union; the welfare state and the
politics of prosperity.
Attributes: International Relations Course, Undergraduate
HIS 335 Germany: Fr Rev through WWI (3 credits)
The impact of the French Revolution and Napoleon on the German states, the development of the German Confederation and the Zollverein, the contest between Austria and Prussia for German leadership, the Bismarck era and the rule of William II. 
Attributes: European Studies Course, International Relations Course, Undergraduate

HIS 336 Weimar Republic & Nazi Germany (3 credits)
Focuses on the German Revolution of 1918, the creation, development and collapse of the Weimar Republic, the rise of Adolf Hitler and the history of the twelve-year Third Reich.
Attributes: International Relations Course, Undergraduate

HIS 337 War & Peace in Imperial Russia (3 credits)
A survey of the major political, social, economic, and cultural developments in Russia from 980 to 1881. The course covers Kievan Rus, the Golden Horde, Muscovy, the consolidation of the Romanov autocracy, the expansion of the Russian Empire, the Napoleonic Wars, and the Great Reforms that emancipated the serfs. Students will read primary and secondary sources, as well as a memoir of their choosing.
Attributes: International Relations Course, Undergraduate

HIS 338 Russia & Soviet Union 1881-1991 (3 credits)
A survey of the major political, social, economic, and cultural events of Russia and the Soviet Union from 1881 to 1991. During this time, the lands of the Russian Empire and its successor, the Soviet Union, changed from a "backward" agricultural country to a technologically advanced superpower to fifteen new countries with diverse political and economic systems. The course will examine these developments through the decline of tsarism and the fall of the Romanov dynasty, the Russian revolutions and the foundation of the Soviet Union, Stalinism, World War II, the Cold War, and the reforms under Gorbachev that contributed to the collapse of the Soviet Union.
Attributes: International Relations Course, Undergraduate

HIS 339 Mongol Empire (3 credits)
In the thirteenth century, the Mongols built the largest contiguous land empire that the world has ever known. This course will cover the rise, running, and fall of this enormous Eurasian empire. It will explore the society and culture of the Mongols, as well as how the Mongol Empire impacted the many peoples whom they conquered. Students will read and analyze primary sources written by those who experienced the Mongol Empire.
Attributes: Asian Studies Course, Non-Western Studies (GEP), Undergraduate

HIS 340 Stalinism: Terr/Transf in USSR (3 credits)
An examination of the Soviet Union under the leadership of Joseph Stalin from 1928 to 1953. Course readings will focus on the experiences of ordinary people to demonstrate how Stalin's rule brought both opportunity and great tragedy. Stalinism, historians argue, was more than a political ideology such as Marxism and Leninism, but a way of life and civilization distinct from anything the modern world had yet experienced.
Attributes: International Relations Course, Undergraduate

HIS 341 Genocide & Human Rights: 20th Cen (3 credits)
Through an examination of four twentieth-century genocides (the Armenian Genocide from 1915 to 1917, the Holocaust from 1933 to 1945, the genocide in Cambodia from 1976 to 1979, and the genocide in Rwanda in 1994), the course will explore the concept of genocide and the development of national and global laws to prevent it, promote human rights, and prosecute abusers. Students will read primary and secondary sources and study genocidal violence as a particularly vicious form of state policy, as well as a human and personal experience of terror and murder.
Attributes: Ethics Intensive, Justice Ethics and the Law, Undergraduate

HIS 342 African Ethnics (3 credits)
Informs students on not only the general schools of ethnic construction, but also Africa's unique contribution to the development of the field. There will be several case studies given in the class which represent some of the extremely varied African experiences with ethnicity. In this course students will develop an understanding of ethnic construction that can be used as a foundation for further inquiry.
Attributes: Africana Studies Course, Ethics Intensive, International Relations Course, Non-Western Studies (GEP), Writing Intensive Course-GEP

HIS 343 The Middle East Since 1798 (3 credits)
The history of the Middle East from Napoleon Bonaparte's invasion of Egypt in 1798 to the current struggles the region related to the Arab Spring, the Syrian Civil War, the rise of ISIS, and the ongoing refugee crisis that has spread throughout the Mediterranean and into the Balkans and Central Europe. Learning about this area and period of history is not only valuable in itself but an essential part of understanding the modern world in general, from literature and the arts, to religion and culture, to global politics and economics.
Attributes: International Relations Course, Undergraduate

HIS 344 Rel Thought & Phil in Afr Comm (3 credits)
The role of religious thought and cultural philosophies in conflict and peace in Africa. The class will begin as a survey of the history, cultures and religions of Africa. After which, several case studies will be presented that put specific North-African interpretations of Judaism, Islam, Christianity or traditionalist beliefs at the center of either conflict or consensus in this region. A final extended case study will examine the Somalis, where one has a unity of language, culture and religion, but due to decades of civil wars, no functional state. These case studies will focus on the specific religious beliefs or practices that either endeared religious groups to each other or transcended religious denominations to provide concrete examples for the ways in which the proponents of faiths and secularity coexist or cause conflict in Africa.
Attributes: International Relations Course, Undergraduate

HIS 345 Witch, Law & Supranat Early Eur (3 credits)
Examines popular and educated belief in the supernatural during the early modern period in Europe, beginning with late medieval concepts of magic and finishing with the end of witchcraft trials during the eighteenth and nineteenth centuries. It focuses especially on the “witch-craze” that occurred across Europe and its American colonies during the sixteenth and seventeenth centuries. Readings include trial records, journals, and demonology tracts, as well as secondary sources treating witchcraft as a crucial component of early modern beliefs about law, religion, and culture.
Attributes: English Medieval/Renaissance, Gender Studies Course, Justice Ethics and the Law, Undergraduate
HIS 350 Exchng & Conq in Mod E. Asia (3 credits)
An analysis of East Asian history from 1500 to the present, emphasizing the reciprocal influences of East Asia and the West. The primary focus will be on China and Japan, with attention also to Korea and Vietnam. Major topics will include the Jesuits in East Asia; approaches to modernization in China and Japan; the decline of China and the rise of Japan in the nineteenth century; colonialism and anti-colonial movements; the challenges of global culture; and debates over human rights in the late twentieth century.
Attributes: Asian Studies Course, International Relations Course, Undergraduate

HIS 351 Gndr, Ideolgy & Rev in E. Asia (3 credits)
This course will examine the institutional and ideological connections between gender roles and social unrest in East Asia since 1900. Questions central to the class will be: changing notions of the ideal man and woman, and how changes in society and politics have been reflected in gender roles for men and women. Topics may include traditional East Asian societies, foot binding; revolutionary movements including communism, nationalism and feminism; family-planning; the Japanese samurai ideal; and gender roles in film and fiction.
Attributes: Asian Studies Course, Gender Studies Course, International Relations Course, Non-Western Studies (GEP), Undergraduate

HIS 352 Late Imperial China (3 credits)
A survey of Chinese social, political, intellectual, and cultural history during the Ming and Qing dynasties. Major topics will include Ming voyages of discovery, Ming art and literature, the Manchu conquest, War of the Three Feudatories, Taiping Rebellion, and the advent of Western imperialism.
Attributes: Asian Studies Course, International Relations Course, Non-Western Studies (GEP), Undergraduate

HIS 353 Modern China (3 credits)
A survey of Chinese social, political, intellectual, and cultural history from 1900 to the present. Major topics will include the Opium Wars, emergence of Chinese nationalism, the Boxer Rebellion, collapse and fall of the Qing dynasty, the May Fourth Movement in literature and politics, competing strands of Chinese communism, warlords, the anti-Japanese war, the founding of the People’s Republic, the Great Leap Forward, Cultural Revolution, Deng Xiaoping’s Reforms, social protest of the 1980s, and the challenges of rapid economic development.
Attributes: Asian Studies Course, International Relations Course, Non-Western Studies (GEP), Undergraduate

HIS 354 Japan Since 1600 (3 credits)
A survey of Japanese history since 1600. Major topics include traditional Japanese social structure, bushido and samurai culture, Perry and the opening of Japan, the Meiji Restoration, militarism and modernization, expansion onto the Asian continent, Showa democracy, the Pacific War, the American Occupation, political and economic reconstruction, cinema and literature of post-war Japan.
Attributes: Asian Studies Course, International Relations Course, Non-Western Studies (GEP), Undergraduate

HIS 355 Clnlsm & Ntnlism SE Asia (3 credits)
The course examines the experience of British and French colonialism and the development of independent modern nation-states in South and SE Asia, with a focus on Bangladesh, India, Pakistan, Sri Lanka, Burma and Singapore; Cambodia, Laos, Malaysia, and Vietnam and to some extent, Indonesia. The course seeks to help students understand how colonialism redefined per-existing relations among the peoples of the region and how modern nationalism and independence movements emerged in this context. The course will focus on intellectual, cultural, and social factors.
Attributes: Asian Studies Course, International Relations Course, Undergraduate

HIS 356 Modern South Asia (3 credits)
The nation-states of India, Pakistan, Bangladesh, Sri Lanka, Bhutan, Nepal and the Maldives Islands (and sometimes Afghanistan)—comprise incredible diversity of language, culture, religion, art, dress, architecture, and cuisine. This course places the region into historical, political and socioeconomic context. It offers a thematic and chronological study of modern South Asia with thorough examinations of the transition from the late Mughal to the British colonial period, the movements for independence and the social activism that grew out of them. The course will then examine selected topics in contemporary South Asia including gender, caste, minorities, territorial/sovereignty conflicts, popular culture and film, development economies, and the South Asian diaspora.
Attributes: International Relations Course, Non-Western Studies (GEP), Undergraduate

HIS 357 History of Islam in Asia (3 credits)
The early history of Islam, and the ways it grew beyond the Arabian peninsula and ultimately took hold in Central, South, Southeast Asia and East Asia. The course examines the expansion of Islam throughout Asia, its relationship with existing systems and geo-politics, the relationship between Islam and statecraft, and questions of gender, identity, belonging as well as the pressures of globalization, including the most current events affecting Asian Muslims.
Attributes: Asian Studies Course, International Relations Course, Non-Western Studies (GEP), Undergraduate

HIS 358 Contemporary China (3 credits)
History, politics, and China since 1976. Major topics covered will be the death of Mao and the end of the Cultural Revolution; the opening of relations with the United States; Deng Xiaoping’s rise; opening and reform; China’s “economic miracle”; the one-child policy; the 1989 democracy movement and its aftermath; China’s rise as a global economic and political power; the environmental challenge accompanying China’s economic development; and the Communist Party’s strategies and tactics to maintain power.
Attributes: Asian Studies Course, International Relations Course, Non-Western Studies (GEP), Undergraduate
HIS 359 India & Pak: Colony to Nation (3 credits)
The region currently known as South Asia and defined by the boundaries of several independent states, including India, Pakistan, Bangladesh, Nepal and Sri Lanka was colonized in part or in whole by the British Empire from approximately 1757-1947. The independent states of India and Pakistan emerged in 1947, the outcome of decades of nationalist mobilization led by several charismatic leaders including B.R. Ambedkar, Kamaladevi Chattopadhyay, Mohandas K. Gandhi, Mohammad Ali Jinnah, and. Jawaharlal Nehru. This course will examine the emergence of these leaders the evolution and interaction of their thinking; the politics of Indian nationalism; the history of the partition and its reverberations and the challenges of state building after independence from Britain. In addition, we will examine the movement for the independence of East Pakistan culminating in the independence of Bangladesh in 1971. This course includes the Reacting to the Past role-playing game “Defining a Nation: India on the Eve of Independence.”
Attributes: Asian Studies Course, International Relations Course, Non-Western Studies (GEP), Undergraduate

HIS 360 Colonial America (3 credits)
A survey of the social, economic, cultural, and political developments in colonial America with special emphasis on the origins and evolution of the plantation system, slavery, religious diversity, cities, and scientific inquiry.
Attributes: Diversity Course, Undergraduate

HIS 361 America in the Age of Revolution (3 credits)
A survey of American history from the era of the American Revolution through the mid-nineteenth century with special emphasis on Independence, the 1800 revolution in politics, the transportation, agricultural, and industrial revolutions, and the social revolution accompanying modernization in the nineteenth century.
Attributes: Undergraduate

HIS 362 The Civil War Era (3 credits)
A survey of the middle period of American history with special emphasis on the Civil War and Reconstruction—the causes, management, and consequences of the war in society, economics, politics, and culture.
Prerequisites: PHL 154
Attributes: Africana Studies Course, American Studies Course, Ethics Intensive, Undergraduate

HIS 363 The Elections of 2020 (3 credits)
An analysis of the presidential, congressional, and gubernatorial races of 2020. The course will offer the student a basis for understanding the ongoing election cycle of 2020, especially drawing upon the changes that have taken place in American politics since the 1980s and the history of electioneering in America, especially in the modern era. This will include discussion of partisan realignment, the growing importance of personality and interest group politics, and the role of issues in influencing electoral choice. Particular attention will be devoted to understanding the tactics and strategies of the two major parties as they position themselves for and then campaign in the Elections of 2020.
Attributes: Undergraduate

HIS 364 Ethnic America (3 credits)
A survey of ethnicity and ethnic groups in modern America with special emphasis on immigration patterns, nativism, assimilation, and alienation of ethnic groups, and the effects and place of ethnic groups in modern society.
Attributes: Africana Studies Course, Undergraduate

HIS 365 Urban America (3 credits)
A survey of the development of cities and the process of urbanization in America with special emphasis on urban institutions—government, police, voluntary associations—and the changing character and functions of cities in the modern period.
Attributes: Africana Studies Course, Undergraduate

HIS 366 Progressive Era to New Deal (3 credits)
Reform affected all levels of U.S. politics and society in the first half of the twentieth century, linking the first (Theodore Roosevelt) administration to the last (Franklin) one. Besides cleaning up at home, Progressives and New Dealers also tried to save the world abroad and preserve “normalcy” at home, with varying success. Two world wars complicated and deepened these trends. This course will examine the origins, nature, contradictions and social and political consequences of these important decades of reform, reaction, and transition.
Attributes: International Relations Course, Undergraduate

HIS 367 Postwar Am, 1945 to the Present (3 credits)
This course will explore recent American history through an examination of political, social, and cultural developments, with particular emphasis on the expanding role of the presidency, social movements embracing racial, class, and gender issues, and emerging cultural crosscurrents since World War II.
Attributes: International Relations Course, Undergraduate

HIS 368 Am Ideas: Col Era to Civil War (3 credits)
The history of American thought and culture from the Puritans to the Civil War, largely through primary source readings by major intellectual figures. The emphasis will be on social, political, and religious thought, but students will also discuss developments and trends in the arts, literature, and philosophy. Key topics include Puritanism and revivalism; liberal republicanism, and democracy; cultural nationalism and Transcendentalism; and abolitionism and antebellum reform.
Attributes: Undergraduate

HIS 369 Am Ideas: Gilded Age to Present (3 credits)
The history of American thought and culture from the late nineteenth century to the present, largely through primary source readings by major intellectual figures. The emphasis will be on social and political thought, but students will also discuss developments and trends in philosophy, religion, the arts, and literature. Key topics include Victorianism and modernism; pragmatism and Progressivism; liberalism and conservatism; and postmodernism and multiculturalism.
Attributes: Undergraduate

HIS 370 Special Topics in History (3 credits)
Topics of interest in History that are not covered in a regularly offered course. Content and structure of the course are determined by the course supervisor. The special topic(s) for a given semester will be announced prior to registration.
Attributes: Undergraduate

HIS 379 Afr Amer Hist Since Civil War (3 credits)
The history of African-Americans from Reconstruction to the present day. Students will examine the unity and diversity of the African-American experience, including the myriad social, cultural, political, and economic conditions that created this experience. They will also explore the ways in which African-Americans have shaped American history and culture, and African-American efforts, in concert with other Americans, to subvert, transcend, and otherwise reform a discriminatory landscape and reassert the founding principles of the American republic.
Prerequisites: HIS 154
Attributes: Africana Studies Course, Diversity Course, Undergraduate
HIS 380 Am Foreign Policy, 1775-1914 (3 credits)
The origins of United States foreign relations from their earliest days
during the Revolution until the First World War. The course takes a
broad approach, embracing such issues as independence, expansion,
sectionalism, nationalism, idealism, and imperialism.
Attributes: International Relations Course, Undergraduate

HIS 381 US in the World, Wilson-Reagan (3 credits)
The role of the United States in the world from 1917 until the end of
the Cold War. The nation's transformation from a hesitant embrace of
international commitments to an expansive vision of global involvement
is a major theme, as are the resultant crusades and conflicts this
generated domestically.
Attributes: International Relations Course, Undergraduate

HIS 382 American Foreign Policy (3 credits)
This course offers an interdisciplinary perspective on the United States's
role in global events emphasizing both historical understanding and
theoretical approaches. Beginning with World War I, the course will
develop major themes and challenges for U.S. foreign policy in the
20th century and beyond: isolationism vs. internationalism, hegemony
vs. empire, citizens' rights vs. state interests, and the extent to which
the pursuit of national security (national power and prosperity) should
recognize ethical limits.
Attributes: American Studies Course, Undergraduate

HIS 383 Food in American History (3 credits)
Examines how food and foodways have historically shaped and reflected
American culture, society, economy, and politics. Major topics include
agriculture and labor; technology and industrial food processing; ethnic
cuisines and traditions; restaurants and supermarkets; food, family, and
gender; and the impact of government policies and regulations.
Attributes: Undergraduate

HIS 384 The Civil Rights Mov in Am (3 credits)
A survey of the modern civil rights movement in the United States,
with special emphasis on the desegregation struggles in the American
South and the personalities, strategies, and ideologies of the civil rights
movement as it became a national movement through the 1960s and
1970s.
Attributes: Africana Studies Course, Justice Ethics and the Law ,
Undergraduate

HIS 385 His of Women in Am Since 1820 (3 credits)
The history of American women from the antebellum period to present.
It will focus upon the evolution of women's family and work roles as
well as their involvement in social reform and political movements and
will emphasize both the unity and the diversity of women's historical
experiences, based upon factors such as race, ethnicity, class, and region.
(DGNW overlay)
Attributes: Diversity Course, Gender Studies Course, Undergraduate

HIS 386 American Environmental History (3 credits)
Our historical place in the natural landscape. It will tell that story
through the methods of "environmental history," examining ecological
relationships between humans and nature, political and economic
influences on the environment, and cultural conceptions of the natural
world. Drawing on methods from the natural sciences, the social
sciences, and the humanities, the course will survey over 500 years of
North American environmental history, with topics ranging from urban
pollution and suburban sprawl to agricultural practices and wilderness
protection.
Attributes: Ethics Intensive, Undergraduate

HIS 387 Popular Culture in the US (3 credits)
The production and consumption of commercialized leisure in the United
States from the mid-nineteenth century to the present day. Throughout
the nation's history, American popular culture has both reflected and
shaped society's values, often serving as an arena of conflict among
classes, races, and genders. By investigating selected sites on this
contested terrain—from novels, stage shows, and movies to radio,
television, and popular music—students will learn to think seriously,
critically, and historically about the mass-produced culture that surrounds
us every day.
Attributes: Communication Studies ILC Crs, Undergraduate

HIS 388 Reacting to the Past (3 credits)
Immerses students in moments of historical controversy through a series
of extended role-playing games. By reading primary sources, conducting
additional research, and participating in first-person debates, students
will develop a more active, engaged, and empathetic understanding of
both historic events and historical practice. Students will also participate
in the playtesting of new "Reacting" games, thereby contributing to the
development of an innovative interactive pedagogy.
Attributes: Undergraduate

HIS 389 American Military History (3 credits)
The development of the American military from the period of the Spanish-
American War to the present. Emphasis will be placed on growth and
change in the military within a broader social, political and economic
context.
Attributes: Undergraduate

HIS 471 Seminar in American History (3 credits)
Lectures, readings, and discussions focusing on an announced theme in
United States history. Each student undertakes a major research project
associated with the selected theme.
Prerequisites: ENG 101 and HIS 154
Attributes: Gender Studies Course, Undergraduate, Writing Intensive
Course-GEP

HIS 472 Seminar in European History (3 credits)
Lectures, readings, and discussion focusing on an announced theme
in European history. Each student undertakes a major research project
associated with the selected theme.
Prerequisites: ENG 101 and PHL 154
Attributes: Ethics Intensive, European Studies Course, Undergraduate,
Writing Intensive Course-GEP

HIS 473 Seminar in Eurasian History (3 credits)
Lectures, readings, and discussion focusing on an announced theme
in Eurasian history. Each student undertakes a major research project
associated with the selected theme.
Prerequisites: ENG 101 and HIS 154
Attributes: Undergraduate

HIS 474 Seminar in Latin Am His (3 credits)
Lectures, readings, and discussion focusing on an announced theme
in Latin American history. Each student undertakes a major research project
associated with the selected theme.
Attributes: Undergraduate

HIS 476 Seminar in Asian History (3 credits)
Lecture, readings, and discussion focusing on an announced theme
in Asian history. Each student undertakes a major research project
associated with the selected theme.
Attributes: Asian Studies Course, Undergraduate
HIS 477 Seminar in African History (3 credits)
Lectures, readings, and discussion focusing on an announced theme in African history. Each student undertakes a major research project associated with the selected theme.
Attributes: Africana Studies Course, Diversity Course, Undergraduate

HIS 478 Seminar in Global/Comp His (3 credits)
Lectures, readings, and discussion focusing on an announced theme in global and comparative history. Each student undertakes a major research project associated with the selected theme.
Prerequisites: ENG 101
Attributes: International Relations Course, Undergraduate, Writing Intensive Course- GEP

HIS 480 Direct Read: Latin Amer Hist (3 credits)
A study of significant themes and periods in Latin American history under the direction of a tutor. Frequent consultations and written reports are required. Prior approval from the chair is required.

HIS 481 Direct Read: Asian Hist (3 credits)
A study of significant themes and periods in Asian history under the direction of a tutor. Frequent consultations and written reports are required. Prior approval from the chair is required.

HIS 482 Direct Read: European Hist (3 credits)
A study of significant themes and periods in European history under the direction of a tutor. Frequent consultations and written reports are required. Prior approval from the chair is required.

HIS 483 Direct Read: Amer Hist (3 credits)
A study of significant themes and periods in American history under the direction of a tutor. Frequent consultations and written reports are required. Prior approval from the chair is required.

HIS 484 Direct Read: African Hist (3 credits)
A study of significant themes and periods in African history under the direction of a tutor. Frequent consultations and written reports are required. Prior approval from the chair is required.

HIS 491 Philadelphia Area Internship (3 credits)
The Philadelphia Area Internship Program supports student internships in the public sector, private sector, or in a non-governmental organization (NGO) in the Philadelphia area. In addition, the course focuses on developing writing and analytical skills. Students work 10 hours per week (total 130 hours), write a resume and sample letter, keep a journal, read a book related to their internship and write a review, and attend and write about an SJU Career Development Center event. Students who complete the requirements will receive 3 credits for one upper-division course in History, Political Science, or International Relations.
Prerequisites: ENG 101
Attributes: International Relations Course, Undergraduate

HIS 493 Honors Resrch and Ind Study I (3 credits)
Independent research leading to the successful completion and defense of an Honors Thesis.
Attributes: Undergraduate

HIS 494 Honors Research & Ind Study II (3 credits)
Independent research leading to the successful completion and defense of an Honors Thesis.
Attributes: Undergraduate