Department of History
Course Descriptions
Spring 2012
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SPRING 2012 COURSE DESCRIPTIONS

HIST 3108—United States in the Twentieth Century, from Pearl Harbor to 9/11
TuTh 9:30-10:45
Dr. Steven M. Avella
This upper division survey course covers a broad range of topics from World War II to the beginning of the War on Terror. Between the bookends of these two shocking attacks are major political, economic, diplomatic, social and cultural developments that created contemporary America. This course strongly emphasizes domestic political, social and cultural developments—but also intersects American into its wider global context. Among the topics that we cover include the World War II home front, the post-war presidencies, the Cold War, the social and cultural landscape of the 1950s and 1960s, the rise of the modern Civil Rights movement, the Vietnam War, the resurgence of conservatism, the environmental movement, the Women’s Movement, religion in American life, and the culture wars of the 1980s and 1990s. Lecture, readings, video clips and feature length films are our main texts.

HIST 3118—American Military History
MWF 10:00-10:50
Fr. Michael Zeps, S.J.
Though this is an upper division course it is treated more like a survey/lecture course emphasizing important people, places and events from colonial times to the present. We will concentrate on the wars themselves rather than on the social role of the military in American society. Developments between wars will be treated according to the schema: new weapons, military policy (organization, strategy, tactics), political objectives as the role of America in the world evolves, and moral attitudes. The makeup of the class will make discussion possible, even likely. The guiding philosophy will be that found in On War by the Prussian Karl von Clausewitz. Regular quizzes and three tests will encourage people to keep up with the reading. A research paper of 6-8 pages in length will also be required. Grading will be as follows: first 2 tests, 40% (20% each), final exam 30%, combined quizzes 20% and the paper 10%.

HIST 3127—The Vietnam War Era
TuTh 9:30-10:45
Dr. David McDaniel
The theme of this course is reflected in the words of one of the war’s chief architects Henry A. Kissinger who said: “Vietnam is still with us. It has created doubts about American judgment, about American credibility, about American power—not only at home, but throughout the world.” History 3127 will examine the history of the Vietnam War from the perspective of the United States. It will provide the student with the historical background that set the stage for the conflict, the events that led directly to the war, the primary political and military issues involved at home and abroad, and an overview of the major battles. Further, and quite significantly, this course will also consider the non-military aspects of the war, such as the changing political climate in the United States during the late 1960s, the rise of a determined anti-war movement that exerted a profound impact on the outcome of the struggle, the nature of the cultural and
political polarization wrought by America’s longest war, and finally the lingering scars caused by division and defeat.

**HIST 3165—History of Rock and Roll**  
**TuTh 12:30-1:45**  
**Dr. Phillip Naylor**  
HIST 3165 presents Rock and Roll as a metaphor reflecting twentieth century American history. Its lyrics, musical forms, technologies (instrumentation and production), and visual arts (album covers and stage displays) collectively illustrate how Rock is both a reflection and a reiteration of social, economic, and cultural conditions set in historical context. Rock's complex differentiation includes insurgency, synergy, and liturgy. Particular attention will be given to Rock's transcultural relations—social transmissions and transactions—as illustrated by its multiple crossovers.” An optional research paper will be offered in lieu of one of the examinations (with the exception of the final). The research paper may deal with the history of Milwaukee Blues and Rock taking advantage of the University Jean Cujé Milwaukee Music Collection and possibly the fledgling Milwaukee Music Oral History Archive. Examinations will be subjective and objective. The course also plans to include guest speakers. Mr. Bruce Cole, curator of the Cujé Collection and renowned Garage Rock drummer, also plans to attend and offer his insights.

**HIST 3235 —Twentieth Century Europe, 1914 to the Present**  
**MWF 10:00-10:50**  
**Fr. Michael Zeps, S.J.**  
This will be a traditional lecture course with plenty of room for discussion. It will be concerned primarily with the years 1914-1989 but it cannot start with the first shots fired in August, 1914 without regard for what led up to the war. Likewise, since history is living and based on present day interpretation, we cannot ignore the post-Soviet decades. Events in Europe during the century under review follow a pattern of disintegration when nationalism led to horrific wars and global decline, and reintegration when shared approaches to economics and culture led Europeans to downplay nationalism almost to the point of relinquishing sovereignty. We will have a text to keep events in order but there will also be assigned readings to complement the text. There will be a research paper as well. Grading will follow the formula: three tests, 70% (20%, 20%, 30%), paper 20% and class participation 10%.

**HIST 4101/5101—Applied History**  
**TuTh 2:00-3:15**  
**Dr. John D. Krugler**  
This class is part of a year-long program entitled “Clash of Cultures: Portraying the American Native Past to the Public.” Students in this class will apply history to a number of projects that develop skills needed by historians. One involves writing and producing a short video on the Jesuit Missionaries to the Lakota people (mainly at the Pine Ridge Reservation) one hundred years after the visit of Lewis and Clarke in the early 19th century. Topics will include an assessment of missionary objectives and activities, issues involving assimilation and cultural change, and Indian boarding schools in the early 20th century. Students will work with digitized images made by two Jesuit Missionaries and other primary sources in the MU archives. The second project, more contemporary, involves writing and producing a short video on the use of
various Indian mascots at MU and the Warrior logo. Students will work with collections housed in the MU archives. The third project involves the creation of a four-sided panel exhibit on MU’s First Warrior. In addition, students will have the opportunity to conduct oral history interviews and work on editing oral histories. There are no examinations or papers for this course. Assessment is based on the applied history projects and class participation.

HIST 4114/5114—American Foreign Relations 2
MWF 12:00-12:50
Dr. Michael Donoghue
This course examines the rise of the United States from one of the major powers in the early 1900s to the global superpower of the twentieth century. We will analyze the U.S. entry into World War I, the retreat from intervention in the 1920s, Depression era diplomacy including the Good Neighbor Policy of FDR, the U.S. participation in World War II, the origins of the Cold War, the Korean Conflict, America’s role in the creation and expansion of Israel, the Vietnam War, détente, the Iranian hostage crisis and the conflict with radical Islam, the collapse of the Soviet Union, and America’s confrontation with Iraq both before and after the 9/11 attacks on New York. The course will especially explore the role of race, gender, culture, and ideology in U.S. international relations and the intimate connections between foreign and domestic crises. The course will be reading intensive with a midterm, a final exam, short in-class writing exercises, and 3 short papers.

HIST 4135/5135 —African American History
MWF 10:00-10:50
Dr. Andrew Kahrl
This course focuses on the diverse experiences of people of African descent in America from the origins of the slave trade to the present. We will examine the progress and achievements, along with the frustrations, of African Americans in the long struggle for equality, and the evolving and multi-faceted manifestations of race and racial inequality over time. We will explore the formation and development of African American cultures and societies in the New World, and question how the institution of slavery shaped (and continues to shape) the practice and ideology of race. We will study the different arenas in which black Americans fought for freedom, including (but not limited to) the workplace, formal politics, religion, and expressive culture. Particular attention will be paid to the history of African Americans in Milwaukee as a window on the Great Migration, industrialization and de-industrialization, and the struggle for civil rights in the North. We will also seek to compare the experiences of African Americans with those of other minorities in America. Fundamentally, this course asks us to consider how the conditions people of African descent faced in the Americas, and their struggle to create a most just, democratic society, speak to larger issues and themes in American and world history.

HIST 4145/5145—History of Women in America
MWF 11:00-1:50
Dr. Kristen Foster
In this course, we will explore the history of women and the variety of women’s experiences in America from pre-European contact to the present. We will study the ways that women in particular have shaped their lives and the development of the United States. We will learn about the indigenous women who endured conquest and survival. We will explore the experiences of
African women who arrived in America as the human property of European settlers and the ways that they slowly became African Americans. We will work to understand the variety experiences of Euro-American women from first contact to the present. As we study this complex material, we will join together to develop an understanding of how being a woman in America cannot be defined by a singular racial, class, ethnic, or sexual experience. As with America itself, the history of women in the United States may be told many ways.

During each week we will combine lectures with discussions so that you have the opportunity to share your ideas and your reactions to both the readings and the lectures with the class. This setting will enable you to share ideas, test your beliefs, hone your communication skills, and develop the crucial skill of critical thinking.

HIST 4160/5160—A Cultural/Intellectual History of the United States
MWF 10:00-10:50
Dr. Kristen Foster
This class will offer undergraduates the opportunity to explore American history by looking closely at ideas and cultural development. We will work to find our own definition of what culture is, how it is bound by time and place, and how it affects human interactions. We will look at a variety of works that illuminate the role that culture plays in creating conflict, giving life meaning, and ultimately re-creating America. In addition to weekly reading assignments, you will be required to participate vigorously in discussions on a variety of topics including colonial America and the cultural clashes that came with European conquests of native peoples, the first flowering of a self-consciously American culture after the American Revolution, and a variety of group experiences in America. We will look at how culture is shaped by race, gender, ethnicity, religion, and class. We will explore topics like the fur trade, the Puritan “city upon a hill,” baseball, the American Renaissance, politics, slavery, nativisim, Victorianism, modernism, advertising, the infamous “Sixties,” and the legacy of it all. Finally, we will examine traditional literary sources, but we will also learn to use material culture as an analytical tool. Places, architecture, museums, movies, paintings and music will all become our tools for historical analysis. In the end, perhaps we will discover that culture and ideas, too, are powerful historical forces.

History 4264/5264—Modern Germany 1870 to the Present
MWF 1:00-1:50
Dr. Peter Staudenmaier
Germany stands at the center of some of the most famous and infamous events of the past century, including two world wars, the Holocaust, and the division of Europe between East and West in the Cold War. We will trace this tumultuous history from the creation of Germany as a unified country to its present status as one of the leading nations in the contemporary world. Examining the enormous social and cultural changes in German life over the past century and a half, our analysis will focus on individuals as well as institutions, ideas as well as actions. Special attention will be given to the interaction between political structures and personal beliefs. Our task will be to understand both the astonishing creativity and the unparalleled destructiveness of modern German history.
HIST 4298/5298—The Cold War  
MWF 11:00-11:50  
Dr. Alan Ball  
Study of the Cold War offers an opportunity to scrutinize diverse nations caught up in a conflict more wide-ranging and—in a nuclear age—more perilous than anything the world had witnessed previously. This course will survey the origins and nature of the Cold War, with a focus on the first twenty years or so after World War II. Along the way, topics will include not only international tensions but also the domestic consequences of the Cold War in some of the countries involved. Together with films from the period and segments from CNN’s Cold War documentary, the course features frequent discussions of primary documents, literature, and recent works by US and Russian historians.

HIST 4500/5500—Modern Japan  
MWF 1:00-1:50  
Dr. Michael Wert  
Japan and the Four Dragons—Singapore, Hong Kong, Taiwan and South Korea—have driven Asia's dramatic economic development for most of the second half of the 20th century. Today, Sony, Nikon, and Hyundai are familiar names in households from Anchorage to Zambia. How did these five relatively small, politically disparate states develop into such economic giants? What common factors—if any—have contributed to their phenomenal growth? Are they the vanguard of a new Asia, destined to dominate the 21st century? Will they be overwhelmed politically and economically by China’s dominating influence in the region? Is a new “Asian Bloc” emerging to challenge NAFTA and the EC? What role will these nations play in maintaining Asian stability in the face of North Korean brinkmanship, Indonesian terrorism, and separatist movements? These are only a few of the questions to be explored in this historical examination of modern Japan and the Four Dragons.

HIST 4931: Topics in History: The Vikings (cross-listed with English)  
MWF 10:00-10:50  
Dr. Tim Mahan  
This course will be devoted to the history, culture and literature of Scandinavia during the age of the Vikings. Our concerns will be both with the social and political events of the period and with the ways in which medieval Scandinavians used fiction, history, and mythology in order to present and interpret the world in which they lived. The issues that we will consider include Viking religion and mythology, the unification of the individual Scandinavian kingdoms, the Christianization of a heroic warrior culture, the Vikings’ own concerns with history and self-representation, and the raids and colonizing missions that they effected in Europe, the Mediterranean, and the North Atlantic. Readings: Ferguson, The Vikings: A History; the Poetic Edda; a selection of sagas including Njal’s Saga, Egil’s Saga, and the Vinland Sagas.  
Assignments: short paper; research paper; 2 tests.

HIST 4931—Topics in History: China in Interdisciplinary Perspective (cross-listed with Philosophy and Political Science)  
Tu 4:00-6:40  
Dr. Barry Mccormick  
Description will be added.
HIST 4931—Topics in History: Spain and the Invention of Race  
TuTh 2:00-3:45  
Dr. Laura Matthew  
Spain's early modern caste system hierarchically ordered the empire's subjects at home and abroad, according to a complicated rubric that assessed an individual's "purity of blood." The concept had both religious and racial connotations, and shifted considerably as the empire absorbed enormous numbers of native Americans and Africans. This course examines the evolution of the idea of race in the Spanish empire and postcolonial Latin America, from medieval times through the early twentieth century. We will discuss whether early modern Spaniards viewed race as a physiological condition; whether Africans were uniquely targeted as irrevocably impure; and how early modern ideas of race can be related to the scientific racism of the nineteenth century and beyond. We will also compare the Spanish history of race and race-mixing with English ideas in colonial North America and the United States. Class will combine lecture and discussion of secondary and primary readings; assessment will be based on short papers.

HIST 4953/5953—Witchcraft in New England, 1638-1697  
TuTh 11:00-12:15  
Dr. John D. Krugler  
Witchcraft in the 17th-century New England continues to fascinate the general public, students, and scholars alike. It is one of the best-known events from the colonial past and, perhaps, one of the least understood. This colloquium is a readings/discussion class. We will sample a portion of the vast literature on witchcraft produced since 1969. Students will read and discuss a number of accounts, both contemporary and secondary, about witchcraft. Our objective is to understand what happened and why in the context of a relatively short time span and a limited geographic space. We will also grapple with why historians seem incapable of reaching consensus on issues swirling around witchcraft. Assessment will be based on class discussions, class assignments, and a final examination.

HIST 4953/5953—Gender, Colonialisms, and Nationalism in History  
TuTh 12:30-1:45  
Dr. Chima Korieh  
This course concerns itself with the relationship between gender and the phenomena of colonialisms, imperialism, and nationalism in history. The course de-emphasizes the white Eurocentric focus of much of North American feminist women’s and gender history by focusing on the experiences of non-Western women. Thus, a significant part of the course is devoted to European empires in Africa and Asia. Another impetus for the course comes from the need to understand colonialisms, imperialisms and nationalisms as gendered processes. We begin with a textual analysis of the classical historical literature on colonialism, imperialisms and nationalisms and how they speak from a male perspective. A major goal of the course, however, is to enhance our ability to ferret out the implicit workings of gender in rhetoric and image rather than uncritical acceptance of the ideas and ideological underpinnings of the three phenomena.
HIST 4953/5953—Readings in Environmental History  
W 4:00-6:00  
Dr. Peter Staudenmaier  
Environmental history is a burgeoning field, producing an ever-growing body of research on the historical development of a fundamental aspect of earthly life: the complex interactions between human communities and the natural world. Through a variety of readings exploring the role of social structures in shaping the natural environment as well as the role of environmental factors in shaping social processes, the course provides an overview of the breadth of ongoing scholarship in environmental history and its implications for both the past and present. Focusing on case studies from Europe, the Americas, Asia, and Africa, we will critically examine the principles and potentials of a range of environmental perspectives on historical change.

HIST 4955—American Freedom: Research Seminar in American History  
M 2:00-4:00  
Dr. Kristen Foster  
During the year 2012-2013, in order to mark the sesquicentennial celebrations of the Civil War and the publication of Lincoln's Emancipation Proclamation, Marquette will be hosting a number of speakers and events that deal broadly with the idea of freedom. In anticipation of these exciting events, we will explore the meaning of freedom in the United States as it was introduced, changed, denied, celebrated and contested from the earliest settlements to the near present.

Designed broadly to allow any student interested in the history of the United States to pursue research in the field, all I ask it that you focus your work on some aspect of the theme of freedom. Because this research seminar is designed specifically for undergraduate history majors, we will spend the first few weeks exploring and discussing the idea of freedom and numerous questions raised by its absence and its existence while you formulate a research topic the focuses closely on some aspect of freedom in the United States.

As a required course in the major, History 4955 is designed to teach undergraduates solid research skills. As such, you will learn to formulate questions and topics, write a historiographical assessment essay, pursue primary source research, accurately cite sources, and build a compelling scholarly work. You will become research scholars. Your grade will be assessed by your work in class discussions and by the major research paper you will write.

HIST 4955—The Black Death  
W 2:00-4:00  
Dr. Lezlie Knox  
The pandemic that became known as the Black Death killed between one-third and one-half of Europe’s population between 1347-1352. Not surprisingly, this event left an impact on medieval literature, religion, arts, politics, economy, and society like few other events. This course takes an interdisciplinary approach to examine the phenomenon of the Black Death. Our starting point will be medieval accounts of the epidemic—its causes, immediate impact, and long-term consequences. In addition to traditional historical documents and literary texts, we also will investigate what cutting-edge science, including archeological research and DNA analysis, tells us about this historical event. As expected in a seminar, assessment will be based on active
discussion of the shared readings and an independent research project. While many students will focus on medieval plagues, any topic related to a historical pandemic, or broadly to disease in history, will be acceptable for the research project.

HIST 4955—The Northern Ireland Troubles
M 4:00-6:00
Dr. Timothy McMahon
The Northern Ireland Troubles will look at the period from the 1960s through the 1990s from multiple angles, seeking to understand not merely specific events but also the ways in which those events were turned to political advantage by various actors. Among the themes we will seek to address are the use of terror to achieve political ends by both governmental and non-governmental groups; the internationalization of the Northern Irish question; the formation and re-formation of political blocs; and the role of ordinary people in sustaining paramilitaries and in seeking peaceful solutions across community boundaries. As such, we will hope to better understand both the chaotic experience of life in a divided, war torn land and how people have sought to bring order out of that chaos.
SPRING 2012 GRADUATE COURSES
(See also selected 4000/5000 level courses)

HIST 5101—Applied History
TuTh 2:00-3:15
Dr. John D. Krugler
This class is part of a year-long program entitled “Clash of Cultures: Portraying the American Native Past to the Public.” Students in this class will apply history to a number of projects that develop skills needed by historians. One involves writing and producing a short video on the Jesuit Missionaries to the Lakota people (mainly at the Pine Ridge Reservation) one hundred years after the visit of Lewis and Clarke in the early 19th century. Topics will include an assessment of missionary objectives and activities, issues involving assimilation and cultural change, and Indian boarding schools in the early 20th century. Students will work with digitized images made by two Jesuit Missionaries and other primary sources in the MU archives. The second project, more contemporary, involves writing and producing a short video on the use of various Indian mascots at MU and the Warrior logo. Students will work with collections housed in the MU archives. The third project involves the creation of a four-sided panel exhibit on MU’s First Warrior. In addition, students will have the opportunity to conduct oral history interviews and work on editing oral histories. Graduate students will complete an additional project.

HIST 6120—The Sectional Conflict, Civil War Era and Gilded Age
M 2:00-4:00
Dr. Andrew Kahrl
This readings class will introduce graduate students to historians’ interpretations of the United States from roughly 1848 to 1900. During that period, a controversy over slavery became a war, Reconstruction gave way to Jim Crow, the United States industrialized and attracted immigrants, and the American empire spread west and eventually overseas. All the while, men and women struggled to prevent these developments from defining their lives. American Indians resisted the expansion of the United States, and groups of African Americans, immigrants, workers, farmers, and women demanded citizenship on their own terms. We will both examine classic historical works and grapple with new trends. Grades will depend on class participation, a book review, and a historiographical paper.

HIST 6250—Colloquium in European History: The Twentieth Century
M 2:00-4:00
Dr. Alan Ball
The topics covered by this course have varied over the years, along with the selection of books, but they commonly include themes associated with World War I and its aftermath, the Russian Revolution and the formation of the Stalinist state, the emergence of fascism, the Spanish Civil War, World War II, the Cold War, and efforts by historians to address the period in an overarching fashion. Something on a more specialized topic might also be included in the mix, depending on the availability of suitable recent books. Grades will hinge on participation in the weekly discussions and a significant paper.
HIST 6500– Readings in American History: The American Motion Picture in the 20th Century
Tu 4:00-6:00
Dr. Steven Avella
This graduate level reading course will consider the motion picture in the broader context of the mass production/mass consumption/cult of celebrity culture that flourished in twentieth century.

Tentatively, there are three segments to the semester:

Part I: The History of the American Motion Picture Industry. This includes general histories of this topic, biographies of leading film-makers and readings on the rise of television.

Part II: Film as Cultural Icon: Here we will compare the content of selected “historical” films with serious scholarship on the topics they cover. But even more, we will examine how contemporary social and cultural issues are embedded in film types such as westerns, science fiction and comedy.

Part III: Film as Catalyst and Historical Record: We will examine motion pictures that have affected American perceptions of “the other” e.g. World War II and Cold War propaganda films. Under this rubric as well we will view and evaluate the filmed coverage of the Civil Rights and the Vietnam War and their role in shaping public opinion. We conclude with an analysis of some popular documentaries, especially those produced by America’s “Homer” Ken Burns.

HIST 6510—Studies in Medieval History: Heresy and Dissent
Th 2:00-4:00
Dr. Lezlie Knox
This readings course takes as its starting point R.I. Moore’s controversial thesis that the rise of heretical groups during the High Middle Ages can be attributed more to social and political frustrations than any particular religious practice or belief. We will assess his two paradigm shifting books—The Origins of European Dissent and The Formation of a Persecuting Society—as well as how historians have responded to the challenges raised by his ideas. This debate then will provide the background for cases studies of how historians have approached two of the most “infamous” medieval heresies—the Cathars (Albigensians) and the Templars. While students focusing on medieval and Early Modern European history are the obvious target group for this course, others interested in the broad themes of group identity and political dissent, and indeed historical methodologies, also may be interested. Research projects can focus on related subjects during any historical era.

HISTORY 6525—Studies in European History: Great Britain in an Age of Revolution, 1688-1815
Tu 2:00-4:00
Dr. Carla Hay
During the period 1688-1815 Great Britain engaged in a “second Hundred Years War” with France played out on a global stage. Notwithstanding the loss of the American colonies, by 1815 Britain was the foremost imperial and economic power in Europe, further distinguished from its
European counterparts by its system of cabinet government. Readings in this course will focus on the dynamic social and political landscape during this pivotal period in British history. In addition to the British Glorious Revolution of 1688, the American Revolution, and the French Revolution, the long eighteenth century in Britain was also distinguished by a commercial revolution that served as prelude to the onset of the Industrial Revolution. Moreover, the intellectual ferment associated with the Enlightenment stimulated new thinking about the “Woman Question,” gender, and separate spheres. Grading will be based on class participation in discussion of assigned readings and an historiographical essay that will be due at the end of the semester.

**HIST 6958: Seminar in European History: Atlantic Revolution, 1760-1825**

**Th 4:00-6:00**

Dr. Julius Ruff

In the last decades of the eighteenth century and the first decades of the nineteenth century, the Atlantic world was the scene of widespread revolutionary unrest. Major revolutions in British North America, France, Haiti, and Latin America fundamentally reshaped the political landscape of the region, while additional political unrest in Ireland, Britain, the Netherlands, Poland, and Switzerland serves to remind us of the universality of the revolutionary impulse. This seminar will explore the Atlantic revolution through introductory readings on the general topic and through student preparation of research papers based on primary source materials addressing topics related to protest as it manifested itself in any of the regions affected by the Atlantic revolution. The course grade will be based on the research paper (90 per cent) and class participation (10 per cent). In addition to readings specific to areas affected by the Atlantic revolution, general readings will include Wim Klooster, *Revolutions in the Atlantic World: A Comparative History* and selections from Robert R. Palmer, *The Age of Democratic Revolution.*
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