16 ways for you to make HISTORY this summer

All majors are welcome!

Choose from 16 different Summer 2020 Term courses in History and the History of Science

Not in Madison?
All of our summer courses will be fully online
History 201: Shanghai Life and Crime
Instructor: Joseph Dennis

ONLINE COMM B

After the first Opium War concluded in 1842, Shanghai became a focal point of encounters between China and the outside world and it became famous for its cosmopolitan culture. Using extensive English-language, online archival materials on Shanghai held by the Memorial Library, especially the Shanghai Municipal Police Files and expatriate newspapers, you will explore this cosmopolitan city and develop your research, analysis, and writing skills.

4 week session: May 26 – June 21
3 credits
level: intermediate | breadth: humanities

-----------------------

History 201: Religion and the American Culture Wars
Instructor: Maggie Flamingo

ONLINE COMM B

Can culture be won? Spend a few minutes on the internet or listening to the discussions of politicians and religious leaders and it is clear that they certainly believe it can (and must!) be. Historians agree, though debate certainly exists about what should be categorized as part of the culture wars, or to what extent the term is helpful. In this course, we will examine some of the main arguments and conflicts that comprise the American culture wars. These debates were (and remain) high-stakes and the issues, at their core, deal with the very livelihood and self-concept of those engaged in them. This material is personal, complicated, politically charged, and religiously sensitive; choppy waters to navigate, particularly in our current climate. However, the lack of historical knowledge and tone-deaf, dismissive nature of many current, popular conversations surrounding these issues begs for a generation of students (that's you!) better equipped to talk about them in an informed, articulate, balanced, and respectful way. This is not an easy task, but it is a necessary one. This course serves the dual purpose of introducing a fascinating historical subject the culture wars and doing it in a way that also explores the practices of a good historian. In other words, we will be poking and prodding history itself and the way it is produced. We will pursue this together in a variety of ways. Our readings sample the many ways historians contribute to both the scholarly and public worlds they inhabit, as well as examine different types of sources historians use to craft their work.

8 week session: June 15 – August 9
3 credits
level: intermediate | breadth: humanities

------------------------

History 223: Roman Gladiators
Instructor: Marc Kleijwegt

ONLINE

Nothing associated with the ancient Romans has attracted more attention from a modern audience than the figure of the gladiator. Gladiators have entertained us in movies such as Spartacus (1960), Gladiator (2000), and (not so much) in Pompeii (2014; labelled as a romantic historical disaster film on Wikipedia), and in TV-series (Spartacus on Starz). Apart from a media presence, gladiators are also the subject of scholarly and non-scholarly (fiction and non-fiction) books, websites, ranging from visual evidence on Pinterest to blogs, documentaries, and video clips on YouTube of performances by reenactment companies. Although well-intentioned, not everything is historically accurate (to put it mildly) or supported with hard evidence (another sizeable portion). Enroll in this online summer course to find out that some gladiators were married and had children, why two gladiators in a training-school owned by the emperor Caligula were thought to be invincible, and why the sweat of gladiators was used in beauty products for women, and much more.

4 week session: June 15 – July 12
3 credits
level: intermediate | breadth: humanities

QUESTIONS?
Scott Burkhardt
History Undergraduate Advisor
stburkhardt@wisc.edu
Nothing associated with the ancient Romans has attracted more attention from a modern audience than the figure of the gladiator. Gladiators have entertained us in movies such as Spartacus (1960), Gladiator (2000), and (not so much) in Pompeii (2014; labelled as a romantic historical disaster film on Wikipedia), and in TV-series (Spartacus on Starz). Apart from a media presence, gladiators are also the subject of scholarly and non-scholarly (fiction and non-fiction) books, websites, ranging from visual evidence on Pinterest to blogs, documentaries, and video clips on YouTube of performances by reenactment companies. Although well-intentioned, not everything is historically accurate (to put it mildly) or supported with hard evidence (another sizeable portion). Enroll in this online summer course to find out that some gladiators were married and had children, why two gladiators in a training-school owned by the emperor Caligula were thought to be invincible, and why the sweat of gladiators was used in beauty products for women, and much more.

4 week session: July 13 – August 9
3 credits
level: intermediate | breadth: humanities

“...the Cold War. Through reading and watching both primary and secondary sources, students will gain an in-depth understanding of the Cultural Revolution and 20th Century China as well as develop skills for reading academic secondary sources and primary sources.

4 week session: May 26 – June 21
3 credits
level: intermediate | breadth: humanities

"The Great Proletarian Cultural Revolution that happened from 1966 to 1976 is a political movement that still had profound influence on the history of modern and contemporary China. This class will focus on the Cultural Revolution and use it as a starting point to think about Chinese history, leftist ideologies, gender, violence, and the Cold War. Through reading and watching both primary and secondary sources, students will gain an in-depth understanding of the Cultural Revolution and 20th Century China as well as develop skills for reading academic secondary sources and primary sources.

4 week session: May 26 – June 21
3 credits
level: intermediate | breadth: humanities

QUESTIONS?
Scott Burkhardt
History Undergraduate Advisor
stburkhardt@wisc.edu
History 229: Colonialism and the Environment in Southeast Asia

Instructor: Philip Cerepak

The environment of Southeast Asia has long been a region of ecological diversity. By the 20th century, the flourishing forests underwent dramatic changes as four imperial powers controlled modern day Vietnam, Malaysia, Indonesia, Burma and the Philippines. This course will examine the production of modern commodities -- rubber, timber, and sugar -- to navigate the global connections and environmental changes wrought by Western colonialism in Southeast Asia. The course will first discuss different methods of environmental studies and place Southeast Asia in the larger context of the Anthropocene -- the geological age when human activity was the dominant influence on climate and the environment. While discussion of the environment is meant to show the power dynamics between colonies and colonizers, this course will move beneath the flows of capital and examine how environmental knowledge is constructed and contested. We will view the environment from the perspective of plantation laborers, global markets, and the landscape. Major questions this course will ask are: How can commodities provide a lens to examine environmental change? How can scholars use various landscapes to understand colonialism? What can commodities tell us about our relationship to the environment and the processes of extraction?

6 week session: June 15 – July 26

3 credits

level: intermediate | breadth: humanities

History 229: Asian Popular Culture

Instructor: Lin Li

What makes popular culture a significant topic for historical study? In what ways does Asian popular culture reflect social life and political values in Asia? What does the consumption of one Asian country's popular culture by consumers in another tell us about intra-Asian networks and transnational exchanges? This course takes these broad questions as its starting point as we consider relationships between Asian popular culture and Asian history, culture, and politics. Refuting the commonplace perspective that dismisses popular culture as mere entertainment, we will explore how works of popular culture not only reflect larger sociopolitical phenomena and trajectories, but also play an instrumental role in driving social and political change in Asia. Another focus of this course is how race, class, gender, sexuality, and disability, among other identities, are framed and represented within diverse genres of Asian popular culture. This course is transnational and comparative in nature, covering works of popular culture originating in East, Southeast, and South Asia. We will learn to analyze and compare works of popular culture in relation to their historical and national backgrounds. Given that many works of popular culture are widely consumed across many Asian countries and beyond, as shown in the global reception of Bollywood cinema, Japanese animation (anime), and Korean popular music (K-Pop), we will also look at the global conditions and regional networks that have allowed these transnational cultural interactions to take place.

4 week session: July 13 – August 9

3 credits

level: intermediate | breadth: humanities

History 245: Chicana and Latina History

Instructor: Jillian Jacklin

This course offers a comparative and transnational approach to understanding the history of Chicana/x and Latina/x working class cultures and communities in a seminar setting. We will investigate the ways in which race, gender, sexuality, class, and region have shaped the everyday lives of Chicana/xs and Latina/xs broadly. Our...
explorations will take us into the world of work and the workplace as well as working-class leisure and recreation. We will look not only at paid and unpaid labor but at the work and play of fashion, music, art, film, movement, and literature. Our overall goal is to make an original contribution to the historiography of Chicana/x and Latina/x working-class life and, in the process, gain a better understanding of how race, gender, class, sexuality, and especially systemic power relations, have shaped and continue to influence the everyday experiences of Chicana/xs and Latina/xs residing in the U.S. as well as those living transnationally.

4 week session: July 13 – August 9
3 credits
level: elementary | breadth: hum., social sci.

History 277: Africa: An Introductory Survey
Instructor: Neil Kodesh

This course is designed to be a multi-disciplinary introduction to the cultures and history of Africa. It is available to students as African Cultural Studies 277, Afro-American Studies 277, Anthropology 277, Geography 277, History 277, Political Science 277, or Sociology 277. Because Africa contains a remarkable array of languages, societies, and peoples, we cannot hope for exhaustive coverage. However, we will visit almost every major region of the continent at least once during the semester while we will explore a variety of themes and topics. I hope that you will take away from the course an understanding not just of what to think about the history, cultures, and politics of Africa but also how to think about this part of the world.

8 week session: May 26 – July 19
4 credits
level: intermediate | breadth: humanities

History 302: History of American Thought, 1859 to the Present
Instructor: Jennifer Stitt

Designed for students interested in the role of ideas and culture in modern American history. Examine developments in philosophy, science, political theory, social criticism, and the arts in American life from 1859 to the present. Read the works of a number of influential thinkers and writers, as well as explore a variety of intellectual movements, which shaped the cultural worlds of late 19th- and 20th-century Americans. Themes include: the influence of Darwinism on religion; the impact of industrialization on ideas about American society; the revolt against formalism in philosophy, literature, and the social sciences; early twentieth-century conceptions of race, ethnicity, and gender; the responsibility of the intellectual in times of national and global crisis; post-WWII liberalism and existentialism; the rise of postmodernism in the academy and American popular culture, and the persistent contestations over the meaning and scope of American national identity.

8 week session: June 15 – August 9
3 credits
level: intermediate | breadth: humanities
History 306: The United States Since 1945
Instructor: Dylan Kaufman-Obstler

ONLINE

The results of the 2016 presidential election left the nation stunned. In the days following, many turned to history for answers to the question: how did we end up in our present political moment? Some cited the steady dismantling of the New Deal's welfare state, others said it was a "backlash against civil rights gains or the neglect of the white working class -- as we know, the theories continue. Using this question of how the past created the present as its guiding frame, this course will cover the political, economic, and social history of the United States since 1945. In this four-week online course, students will come away from this course with familiarity with major events and turning points in United States history since World War II as well as the skills for thoughtful engagement within the discipline of History and beyond. Students will critically analyze primary and secondary source readings and carry out a short writing project that addresses the course's central theme of employing history to understand our present.

4 week session: May 26 – June 21
3 credits
level: intermediate | breadth: social science

History 459: Rule of Law: Philosophical and Historical Models
Instructor: Karl Shoemaker

ONLINE

"We are ruled by law, not men" is a famous quote often attributed to the Constitutional order of the United States. On the other hand, President Richard Nixon famously said "If the president does it, it isn’t a crime." This online summer session course will examine the origins and development of the “rule of law” across the ancient, medieval and modern legal orders. Among the questions we will have the opportunity to ask are: What is law? What is the relationship between law and the good? In what way can law be said to rule us? What is the relationship between law and human freedom? How are political leaders held accountable to law? In asking these questions, the course will also examine the claim that the rule of law signifies something distinctive to democratic societies.

4 week session: June 15 – July 12
3 credits
level: advanced | breadth:
History of Science 212: Bodies, Diseases, and Healers: An Introduction to the History of Medicine

Instructor: Suzanna Schulert

ONLINE

From stethoscopes and penicillin to informed consent and health insurance, professional medicine as we know it has a history. This course tells the story of our health care system from the ancient Mediterranean to twenty-first century America. We will examine how technologies, diagnoses, and ways of thinking about the body have changed over time through broad trends in healthcare including humoralism, pathological anatomy, infection, and risk. We will address questions such as who has done healing over time? How have patients chosen healers? What constitutes health and disease? What are the causes and treatments of disease? We will be thinking about how to use historical evidence and structure arguments to make compelling claims about medicine in historical context. In so doing we will see that while medicine has undoubtedly helped relieve suffering and extend lives, the evolution of medical systems is not a story of linear progress or a benign accrual of facts. Rather medical systems are embedded in the socio-cultural context of their given historical moment.

8 week session: May 26 – July 19

3 credits

level: elementary | breadth: humanities

History of Science 250: Disability, Medicine, and the Body in American History

Instructor: Emer Lucey

ONLINE

What defines a disabled body? What shapes the experiences of someone identified as disabled? How has medicine defined normality and abnormality in history, and with what consequences? This course will examine the history of disability in the United States, paying particular attention to its relationship to the institution of medicine and to the changing construction and meaning of the human body. From institutionalization to the disability rights movement, from eugenics to the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990, we will trace the shifting and complex meanings and experiences of disability in its social, cultural, medical, and legal contexts. We will consider how disability shapes and is shaped by its intersections with race, gender, sexuality, and class, and how the history of the disabled body influences the experience and understanding of disability today.

4 week session: May 26 – June 21

3 credits

level: elementary | breadth: humanities

Scott Burkhardt
History Undergraduate Advisor
stburkhardt@wisc.edu

QUESTIONS?

Want more details on courses?

https://public.enroll.wisc.edu/search