Spring 2016 History Courses:
Courses are subject to change. Please check Testudo for times and GenEd/Core credit.
All HIST208s and HIST408s require permission. Please contact the advising office for permission (historyadvising@umd.edu) or in person during walk in hours (Mondays-Wednesdays and Fridays: 9am-4pm; Thursdays 9am-3pm).

HIST110-The Ancient World
Elizabeth Connor
Interpretation of select literature and art of the ancient Mediterranean world with a view to illuminating the antecedents of modern culture; religion and myth in the ancient Near East; Greek philosophical, scientific, and literary invention; and the Roman tradition in politics and administration.

HIST111-The Medieval World
Colleen Ho
The development of Europe in the Middle Ages; the role of religious values in shaping new social, economic, and political institutions; medieval literature, art and architecture.

HIST131-The History of the American Dream
Michael Ross
An introduction to the way Americans thought of themselves in the past, and their often conflicting visions of what constituted the American Dream. Central questions will include whether or not Americans have always envisioned their country as a land of equality, opportunity, democracy, and freedom and whether or not their ideas of what these values meant changed or remained the same over time.

HIST133-"God Wills It!" The Crusades in Medieval and Modern Perspectives
An examination of the identities and convictions both of the Western Europeans who participated in the Crusades and of the Easterners (Muslim, Christian, and Jewish) whom they encountered in the Holy Land. Focuses on the era of the first four great Crusades, from about 1095 to 1215. Consideration of the cultural impact of these movements on both Western Europe and the Middle East.

HIST189B-Topics in History; Sustainability and History: The Maryland Experience
Robert Friedel, Edward Landa
Few terms have so rapidly taken a central place in popular discourse and in policy concerns as “sustainability.” In communities and governments, on campuses and in corporations, sustainability has become a key concern. This course seeks to examine closely the roots of this concern through the environmental history of the state of Maryland. While we are often familiar with the global dimensions of the debates over sustainability in the 21st century, these dimensions have to be grounded in the experiences and expectations of real people in real places, and these are too seldom effectively brought into the discussion. A historical approach will allow
us to see both the enduring and the changing qualities of the search for sustainable patterns of living, and thus better equip us to understand how more effectively to frame the debates over our future.

**HIST200-Interpreting American History: Beginnings to 1877**  
**Christopher Bonner**  
The United States from colonial times to the end of the Civil War. Establishment and development of American institutions.

**HIST201-Interpreting American History: From 1865 to the Present**  
**Edwin Smead, Robert Chiles**  
This course surveys the history of America from the end of the Civil War through the 1970s and beyond. We explore the forces that shaped modern-day America, including the role of industrialization, technology, the impact of race and ethnicity, and the changing role of the federal government in the lives of American citizens. The goal is to figure out why we are the way we are.

**208D: “Auto/Biography in Medieval and Early Modern Eurasia”**  
**Jonathan Parkes Allen**  
This course will guide students in the craft of history research paper writing through an exploration of biographical and autobiographical texts from across medieval and early modern Europe, the Middle East, India, China, and Japan. We will be reading texts concerned with the lives of a wide range of people, including miraculous Chinese Buddhist nuns, Byzantine holy fools, Muslim world travelers, empire building warriors, ordinary people caught up in cataclysmic events, and many others. We will explore how medieval and early modern authors understood and depicted their own lives and selves, how and why they portrayed the lives of others, and how we as historians can make sense and use of these sorts of rich and fascinating texts in our writing of history. For the course’s main graded component, students will write a research paper, using the methods and techniques learned in class, analyzing a biographical or autobiographical work chosen in consultation with the instructor.

**Derek Leiniger**  
In History 208 students will learn the basic methods of historians, including analyzing historical sources, crafting an argument, and supporting their work with properly referenced citations. This section focuses on the political meanings embedded in popular culture. Popular culture, whether it be film, music, dress, leisure, literature, food, nightlife, or countless other forms, offers avenues of resistance and conformity to dominant and/or institution social and political attitudes. Your projects will use historical records to explain the norms, values, beliefs, politics, and ways of life of particular groups of people in a particular time and how they are reflected and/or challenged in popular culture.

**208F: “Latin American Revolutions”**  
**Jesse Zarley**  
Revolutionary and counterrevolutionary movements have characterized the political landscape of Latin America and the Caribbean from the eighteenth century to the present. The experiences of
Latin American people from the rebellion of Haitian slaves in 1791 through the Cold War will form the thematic backdrop for this course. Prior knowledge of Latin American history is not required. To exercise your skills and frame your research questions, you will read Kate Turabian’s Manual for Writers. You will also read and discuss primary and secondary sources—and the interplay among them—in various countries in Latin America and the Caribbean. Although, the readings we discuss as a class will be limited to the 19th and 20th centuries, you may choose to do a research project dealing with ca. 1776 onward.

**HIST211-Love, Labor, and Citizenship: History of American Women Since 1880**
*Katarina Keane*
An examination of women's changing roles in working class and middle class families, the effects of industrialization on women's economic activities and status, and women's involvement in political and social struggles including those for women's rights, birth control, and civil rights.

**HIST220-The Atlantic World in the Age of Exploration, Conquest, and Settlement**
*Alejandro Caneque*
Study of encounters, exchanges, and clashes between Native Americans, Europeans, and Africans in the early modern Atlantic World. Examines conquest and colonial systems; movement of men and women and mixing of peoples, and the persistence of native folkways.

**HIST235- History of Britain 1461 to 1714**
*Sabrina Baron*
This course considers questions vital to late-medieval and early modern monarchies such as succession of minors and women and the competency of monarchs; it also tracks regime change through ordinary succession, usurpation, incapacity, and military conquest. The course also considers English politics and culture through the periods of the European Renaissance and the Protestant Reformation. It highlights the Tudor and Stuart Dynasties from the accession of Henry VII to the death of Queen Anne. The seventeenth century as a century of crisis is also investigated through the financial difficulties of the crown, religious controversy, and the growing tensions between crown and parliament. The Civil Wars at mid-seventeenth century are studied along with the so-called Glorious Revolution at the end of the century. The course also considers the roots and growth of empire and the capitalist state, as well as the body of political thought that made these changes and transitions possible and indeed, unavoidable. It considers also England’s role in the European wars of the early eighteenth century and the Agricultural Revolution which paved the way for industrial revolution. While Henry VII ruled over a kingdom that was medieval, Queen Anne saw England, indeed Britain, into the modern age.

**HIST236-History of Britain 1688 to Present**
*Julie Taddeo*
British history from the Glorious Revolution of 1688 to the present. The revolution of 1688; the structure of 18th-century society and politics; economic and social change in the Industrial Revolution; 19th- and 20th-century political and social reform; imperialism; the impact of the First and Second World Wars on British society.
HIST237-Russian Civilization
Mikhail Dolbilov
An overview of Russian history stressing the main lines of development of the Russian state and the evolution of Russian culture to the present day.

HIST240-Europe in the Twentieth Century
Scott Moore
Political, cultural, and economic developments in 20th-century Europe.

HIST245-Reformers, Radicals, and Revolutionaries: The Middle East in the Twentieth Century
Peter Wien
The 20th century was a period of dramatic changes in the Middle East. Within the global context of the two World Wars and the Cold War, countries in the region struggled with the effects of colonialism and painful processes of decolonization. The course offers a thematic-comparative approach to issues such as social and political reform, nationalism, the colonial experience, independence struggles, models of governance, political violence, and Islamism. Course lectures and the analysis and discussion of primary sources will lead students to understand that the peoples of the Middle East found answers to the challenges posed by Western dominance based on their specific historical, cultural and socio-economic circumstances.

HIST251-Latin America Since Independence
Karin Rosemblatt
Introductory survey of the history of Latin America from the era of independence (c. 1810-1825) through the early 1980s. Major themes include independence and sovereignty, postcolonialism and neocolonialism, nation- and state-building, liberalism, citizenship, economic development and modernization, social organization and stratification, race and ethnicity, gender relations, identity politics, reform and revolution, authoritarianism and democratization, and inter-American relations.

HIST255-African-American History, 1865 – Present
Elsa Barkly Brown
An introductory course in the African-American experience in the United States from 1865 to the present. Topics include the aftermath of the Civil War on US race relations, the rise of segregation, northern migration, World War I and II, Civil Rights Movements, and the Black Power Movement.

HIST281-The Rabbinic Movement: History and Culture
Hayim Lapin
Introduction to the Rabbinic movement and its history, first to seventh century CE. Survey of the essential texts of ancient Rabbinic literature, both halakhic (legal) and aggadic (non-legal).
HIST285-East Asian Civilization II 
James Gao
This course is an introduction to East Asian civilizations from the 1800 to present days. It deals with three countries in the region: China, Korea, and Japan. It will begin with the first encounters between East Asia and Modern Europe, then trace the evolution of China, Korea, and Japan form isolated regional regimes to modern states of global importance. The course will examine the rich cultural heritages, people's experiences, and dramatic social transformation of East Asia. It will also discuss their different patterns of political and economic and the various interactions among the three countries.

HIST289O-Lawlessness: From Pirates to Body-snatchers, Exploring the Legitimacy of Illicit Activity 
Anne Rush
From pirates to body-snatchers, racketeers to smugglers – tales of lawlessness provoke strong reactions, be they delight, fascination or disgust. Yet how often do we seriously assess the meaning and legitimacy of the illicit activities that provide spice to such stories? From the 1600s to the present we will focus on specific instance of lawless behavior in a variety of places in the Caribbean, Britain, America, Africa, and Asia. Students will explore the motives of those engaged in the illicit activity, tease out different understandings of lawlessness over time and space, and consider responses to lawless behavior in both past and present. Among the issues addressed will be the roles of legend and reality, the nature of national sovereignty and international security, debates over human and property rights, and concerns about personal freedom, scientific progress, and community survival.

HIST289R-Pocketbook Politics: A History of American Buying and Selling 
Katarina Keane
This course is designed to provide a thematic approach to consumer culture as it emerged in the United States over the course of three centuries. Drawing on history, anthropology, sociology, and media/communication studies, this course will examine the key moments in American consumer history and the major debates in the meanings of consumption. Consumerism has been described as the basis of widespread prosperity and social equality, the enemy of moral values, and a basic right of citizenship. The history of consumption is a prism through which many aspects of social and political life may be viewed. How does what we wear, what we listen to, or what we eat shape our identities?

HIST289V-What Does It Mean to be An American? 
Edwin Smead
What does it mean to you to be an American? Does being American mean the same thing if did for your parents, grandparents? Has your impression changed over the years? Being American is deeply bound up with America's topography and climate, its culture and demographic make-up, its religious and spiritual outlook, its violence, its culture, economy and history, and its role on the world stage. Being American also rests on the intent of the nation's founders. This course examines the multiplicity of factors that go into the big stew known as America and asks students to seek answers to the tough question about national identity and purpose. In doing so
and by using the past as a source material for the present, they will gain a greater comprehension and appreciation of the complex and inter-connected lives and experiences of all those who have shared these borders from the famous and infamous, the oppressed and tolerated, the poor and down-and-out, to the exalted and honored, wealthy and powerful- to the hardworking yeomanry occupying the vast middle.

**HIST289Y-Zombies, Fear, and Contagion: A Cultural History of Public Health, Medicine, and Technology**  
**Chantel Rodriguez**  
From *White Zombie* to the Center for Disease Control’s *Zombie Apocalypse Preparedness Guide*, zombies have captured the American imagination for nearly a century. The big question we will be addressing in this course is: *why do we fear zombies?* Using “zombie culture” as an entry point, this history course examines the medical knowledge and technology that we have used to understand and manage the body, from antiquity to the present. We will explore how specific turning points—Bacteriology, the Birth of Public Health, American Imperialism, Film and Mass Media, the Cold War and Big Science, Bioethics, Medical Miracles, and 9/11—simultaneously generated new technologies to know and manage the body, and a host of cultural anxieties about the body, human nature, and mortality. We will also trace how changing fears about the body were reflected in the evolution of the “zombie” figure in the American imagination.

**HIST299-Directed Research**  
Contact department for information to register for this course.

**HIST304-The Baddest Decade: The 1970s in American Film and American History**  
**Saverio Giovacchini**  
The history of the United States and of its cinema in the 1970s.

**HIST307-The Holocaust of European Jewry**  
**Marsha Rosenblit**  
Roots of Nazi Jewish policy in the 1930's and during World War II: the process of destruction and the implementation of the "final solution of the Jewish problem" in Europe, and the responses made by the Jews to their concentration and annihilation.

**HIST319J-Special Topics in History; Rome from Republic to Authoritarian Rule (100BC to 100AD)**  
**Arthur Eckstein**

**HIST319N-Special Topics in History; Modern History of Korea**  
**Charles Lilley**  
"A Modern History of Korea” seeks to understand and critique the role that the “nationalist paradigm” has played in shaping Korea’s past and present. Until the last decade and a half, “the nationalist paradigm” has dominated the perspective of filmmakers, novelists, and historians. Using “the nationalist paradigm” as our point of departure means that the course will begin, chronologically, ca. 1895-present. Then, we will “flashback” to the Origins of the Choson
Dynasty (ca. 1350s-90s) and work our way back to the twentieth century. This “modern” narrative will attempt to avoid the ideologically pitfalls of the nationalist paradigm. Course content addresses the central problem of modern Korean history, the transition to modernity and its complications. We shall examine the creative ways in which Koreans solved that problem and in solving it willed their way to greatness during the course of the twentieth century.

**HIST319R-Special Topics in History; Genghis Khan and the Mongols: Destroyers of Worlds and Patrons of Culture**
Colleen Ho

This course examines the Mongols’ conquests and their impact on world history. We will look at the transformation of religions, institutions, and social structures in Eurasia c.1100-1500, before, during, and after Mongol expansion. Themes of the course include military expansion, interfaith exchanges, trade and the transfer of culture along the Silk Road, and the portrayal of the Mongols in film and pop culture. Students will read sources to understand contemporary perceptions of the Mongols not only as conquerors and overlords, but as patrons and fosterers of culture as well.

**HIST319X-Special Topics in History; Travel Writing in the Americas**
David Sartorius

**HIST321-Biblical History and Culture**
Matthew Suriano

Study of the political, social, and religious development of the Jewish nation from its inception to its return from exile in Babylonia around 536 C.E. Focus on biblical texts, archaeological finds, and source materials from neighboring cultures to reconstruct political history and the development of religious concepts.

**HIST324-Classical Greece**
Arthur Eckstein

The ancient Greeks from Homer to Socrates, 800-400 B.C. Society and religion of the city-state, the art and literature of Periclean Athens, the Peloponnesian War, and the intellectual circle of Socrates.

**HIST328M-Selected Topics in History; Red, White, and Black: Peoples and Communities in Early America**
Christopher Bonner

Colonialism in North America through the eyes of African, European, and Native peoples from the 16th through the 18th centuries. Emphasizes peoples' ideas about human difference in the broader transformations of the colonial period.

**HIST328P-Selected Topics in History; Popular Culture in Late Imperial China**
Ting Zhang
HIST329X-Special Topics in History; Mobility in History: Planes, Trains, Automobiles
Thomas Zeller
Examines the ways in which different societies and individuals have imagined, shaped, used, and understood different modes of transportation: walking, hiking, bicycling, riding ships and trains, driving cars, and flying. Through lectures, in-class discussions, and writing assignments, students will be able to gain a historically grounded perspective on the processes by which different human societies have shaped these transportation technologies and how these technologies are situated in society. The goal of the class is to understand how mobility reflected society and culture in history. Most case studies involve countries in Europe and North America. No engineering knowledge is required.

HIST331-Europe in the High Middle Ages: 1000-1500
Marie Ito
Medieval civilization in the 11th through 15th centuries. Emphasis on cultural and political developments of the high Middle Ages with study of the principal sources of medieval thought and learning, art and architecture, and political theory prior to the Renaissance.

HIST333-The European Reformations
Stefano Villani
Examination of developments in European religion between 1450 and 1700; the late-medieval Church and its critics; rise of Protestant thought in Germany and its spread throughout Europe; reform efforts in the Catholic Church; religious wars and violence and their impact on state and society; consequences of religious reform in society and its impact on the family and women.

HIST352-America in the Colonial Era, 1600-1763
Miles Bradbury
The founding of the English colonies in America and their European backgrounds, the reasons for the instability of colonial society to 1689 and the emergence of stable societies after 1689; the development of colonial regionalism, political institutions, social divisions, the economy, religion, education, urban and frontier problems in the eighteenth century.

HIST354-Ante-Bellum America 1815-1861
Robert Chiles
Traces how the strong nationalism after the War of 1812 transformed into the sectionalism that led to Civil War. The course concentrates on the controversies over slavery and other issues contributing to North-South antagonism, including Jacksonian democracy, capitalism, racism, immigration, manifest destiny and religious, social, and intellectual movements, each of which produced its own social tendencies and tensions.
HIST357-Recent America: 1945-Present
Robert Chiles
American history from the inauguration of Harry S. Truman to the present with emphasis upon politics and foreign relations, but with consideration of special topics such as radicalism, conservatism, and labor.

HIST386-Experiential Learning
Restriction: Permission of ARHU-History department; and junior standing or higher.
The History Department's Internship program. Pre-professional experience in historical research, analysis, and writing in a variety of work settings.
Contact department for information to register for this course.

HIST396-Honors Colloquium II
Saverio Giovacchini
Prerequisite: Permission of ARHU-History department; or HIST395. Restriction: Must be in History program.
Uses a seminar approach to examine a major problem of historical interpretation across two or more diverse cultures in different periods. Topics vary and include: religion and society, the city in history, gender, slavery and emancipation, and modernization.

HIST399-Honors Thesis II
Holly Brewer

HIST405-Environmental History
Robert Friedel
An introduction to the key issues and methods of environmental history. The scope of the subject is discussed, as well as its relationship with other disciplines, such as ecology, anthropology, and geography. A primary focus is environmental change in history with emphasis on the American experience.

HIST408F-Senior Seminar; Building Nations and Empires, Remaking the Land: Readings in Global Environmental History
Thomas Zeller
This is a readings seminar. This readings class introduces students to the field of environmental history. Looking at case studies from Europe, Asia, Africa, and the Americas, we will explore how historians have interpreted the relationships between humans and their environments in different geographical and historical settings.

HIST408I-Senior Seminar; Literature and Jewish Life in Eastern Europe
Rachel Manekin
Class discusses literary works by different authors describing Jewish life in Eastern Europe, and examine their contribution to the myths, images, and historiography of Eastern European Jewry.
Scholarly articles will help us analyze the specific historical conditions that served as background for the different literary works.

**HIST408O-Senior Seminar; The Classical Polis: Athens and the Golden Age**  
Elizabeth Conner  
Explores the classical Athenian polis as a unique social project that defined itself through the organization of space, political life, pleasure, and religion.

**HIST408Q- The Recent Past through Personal Narratives: The Practice of Oral History**  
Karin Rosemblatt  
In this course you will learn about the promises and pitfalls of oral history by conducting your own oral history and analyzing it as source for understanding recent history. In preparation for carrying out this project, you will read oral histories of different types. You will also read essays on how to conduct oral histories and on how they can be used to reconstruct the past. You will then prepare for and carry out your own oral history interviews; transcribe the interviews; edit and analyze the transcript; and write a final paper based on the interviews and outside readings.

We will focus on the following questions: How reliable are oral histories? How are oral histories different from other forms of historical documentation? How are the memories of individuals and personal narratives related to collective memories and written histories? How does the interviewer shape oral history? What are the ethical implications of oral history?

We will also gain a greater understanding of how historical change influences an individual life and about the events, in the United States and abroad, that have had the greatest impact on people alive today. *This is a research seminar.*

**HIST408V-Senior Seminar; Power and Authority in Early America and the Atlantic World**  
Holly Brewer  
This course will focus on allowing students to write their own research papers on a topic that concerns power and authority in early America and/or the early modern Atlantic world. Common readings on topics as diverse as slavery, colonial politics, and the actual functioning of the British Empire during the period through the American Revolution will help students with background and framing their own individual topics. Students will be introduced to the main databases of primary sources for early American history and to resources in the DC area that will help them to do their research. We are at a point in early American history where access to sources has increased exponentially and students can make real contributions to historical knowledge. *This is a research seminar.*

**HIST408X-Senior Seminar; Britain at War: A Cultural History**  
Julie Taddeo  
This seminar will examine the British experience of the First and Second World Wars from a cultural and social perspective. Both wars are known as “total wars”, impacting soldiers and civilians, and everything from military strategy to fashion. We will sample some of the memoirs, poetry, and films produced during and after the events, and examine how these two wars
continue to shape popular memory to this day. Specific topics include war’s impact on masculinity; the shell shocked soldier; female emancipation in wartime; the mythology of the Blitz and “the People’s War,” Cold War culture, and the depiction of war on film and TV—as melodrama and comedy. *This is a readings seminar.*

**HIST408Y-Senior Seminar; Hollywood and Politics**  
Saverio Giovacchini

This senior reading, writing and research seminar offers students the opportunity to write a research paper on a particular aspect of the history of American politics and culture in the 20th century. In addition to the acquisition of a firmer grasp of the political, social, and cultural, history of Hollywood, American political history, and American cultural and intellectual history, this seminar will also give us the opportunity to deepen our understanding of historical knowledge and to sharpen our professional tools as historians.

We shall begin our seminar with 6 weeks of introductory readings focusing on historiography of Hollywood and politics as well as some methodological issues. We shall then get to the nuts and bolts of writing a publishable research essay. We shall, thus, also focus on particular tools and techniques that foster our ability to present our work in public in a clear and effective way.

In the course of developing her/his topic, researching it, and communicating the results of her/his research to the seminar group, each student will, thus,

1. Refine her/his understanding of the history of American film industry in the 20th century
2. Refine her/his understanding of the entanglement of American politics and American media in the 20th century.
3. Refine her/his research tools
4. Refine her/his understanding of cultural history
5. Refine her/his way of presenting her/his work in public
6. Refine her/his capacity to assess her/his peers’ work.

**HIST419A-Special Topics in History; The New Mediterranean Studies and Islam**  
Ahmet Karamustafa

This course is about recent scholarship on Mediterranean cultural contacts. The focus will be on the study of contacts and interactions around the theme of the “great sea” as a theater for cross-cultural trade and for the exchange of ideas, practices and populations. Throughout there will be a particular emphasis on the Muslim presence in the Mediterranean, especially in the late medieval and early modern periods. Topics addressed include trade and traders, images and ideas, literature and learning, art and architecture, religion, politics and society, cultural intermediaries as well as gender. Apart from active participation in classroom discussion, course work will involve oral introductions to weekly reading selections, several written book reviews and a research or literature review paper.
HIST419B-Special Topics in History; Empires, Revolutions, and Cold Wars: Modern Central and Eastern Europe
Piotr H. Kosicki
Now—in the face of democratic revolution and Russian-inspired war in Ukraine—is a crucial moment for students to study Central and Eastern Europe's past in empire, revolution, and nation-building. Covers 1800-present, using both primary and secondary sources.

HIST419D-Special Topics in History; Islam in Europe
Madeline Zilfi
Also offered as RELS419D. Credit will be granted for only one of the following: HIST419D or RELS419D. The course looks at the historical experiences and impacts of the Muslim presence in Eastern and Western Europe before and since the mass migrations of the twentieth century. The course introduces conceptual and practical issues in Islam-Europe studies, and then considers the varied and complex relationships of historical and contemporary Muslim communities and immigrant groups to their European political and civilization environment. Although the course begins with an examination of Muslims in Eastern Europe in the era of the Islamic Ottoman Empire, the focus is on the twentieth century, Western Europe, and Muslims as non-governing minorities. Readings and discussions encourage students to understand the ethnic, cultural, and experiential diversity of Europe’s Muslim populations, the nation-specific responses to their presence, and the multiplicity of accommodations, conflicts, and trends in the meeting between Muslim populations and European states and societies.

HIST419E-Special Topics in History; Ethnicity and Tribalism in Africa
Paul Landau

HIST419Q-Special Topics in History; Jews of Eastern Europe
Rachel Manekin

HIST419T-Special Topics in History; The Study of the Hebrew Bible in the Middle Ages
Bernard Cooperman

HIST419W-Special Topics in History; The Other Side of the Black Atlantic
Paul Landau

HIST419Z-Special Topics in History; Law and Society in the Middle East and Present Madeline Zilfi
The development of law and legal practice in the Middle East, from Islamic law's foundations to the contemporary era of multiple sources of law, both secular and religious. The course considers: the major components of law and law making in the Middle East and how these were shaped by the societies in which they emerged; the transformations in civil, criminal, and constitutional law in the modern era. The main focus is the modern era and legal pluralism. Apart from preparedness for discussions each week, students will be responsible for providing introductions to two or more of the individual reading selections. Written work for
undergraduates consists of two exams and one paper on a legal case study (10-15 pages) ---33% each. Graduates will contribute two papers and one exam—33% each. Students are expected to be active participants in the class. The instructor reserves the right to require additional quizzes and oral presentations if students are not keeping up with the readings and discussion responsibilities. (Prerequisite = previous coursework in Middle East history or politics or permission of instructor.)

HIST428A - Selected Topics in History; Chinese Cities and Frontiers
James Gao
This course will survey Chinese urban development from 1800 to the present. Emphasis will be placed on Chinese urbanization and frontier exploration over time and their impacts on Chinese social and cultural life. Studying urban spaces and changes, the course will discuss issues of modernity, identity, ethnicity, and gendered experiences. A special section of the course will devoted to study of Chinese ethnic minorities and frontier cities. The course is topically organized, each class will discuss one of the above questions through a case study or comparative approach. The course will acquaint students with principal works in the field of urban history and/or cultural studies with many of the arguments are presently engaging historians of modern China whereby the course requires intensive reading and independent research.

HIST428V - Selected Topics in History; Founding Fathers and American Religion
Miles Bradbury
This course examines broadly the role of religion in the American Revolution and attempts to free it from the claims and categories imposed by those who search in it simply for a usable past. It sees the Revolution as one of the defining moments in American history, when the Founding Fathers enshrined in the Constitution different political and constitutional understandings from the one that the first European settlers had. Freedom of religion is one of the most radical of those decisions. Amidst the disagreements and contingencies of the time the Founders came to believe that understanding religious freedom as participation in the marketplace of ideas was the best way to express and guarantee the freedom they sought.

HIST428Z - Selected Topics in History; Europe Since 1939
Jeffrey Herf
“This course examines European history from the beginning of World War II to the present. The focus is on political, intellectual, economic and international history. Topics include: the causes, nature and consequences of the Second World War and the Holocaust; postwar reckoning in East and West Europe; causes of the Cold War; the conditions of democratic revival, economic recovery, and social market economies in Western Europe; migrations and expulsions following World War II; origins and development of European economic integration and the European Union in Western Europe; Stalinism and de-Stalinization; British and French decolonization; nuclear strategy and Cold War diplomacy; protest in 1968 in Western and Eastern Europe; economic problems in the 1970s; terrorism in Italy and West Germany; the political debates about nuclear weapons in Western Europe, 1977-1987; debates over
Keynesianism, the welfare state and economic growth in the 1970s and 1980s; the revolutions of 1989, the end of Cold War and the collapse of Communism in Eastern Europe and the Soviet Union; wars in the Balkans in the 1990s; economic crises and economic disparities in the European Union; the Russian challenge; Europe and issues of migration, multi-ethnicity and refugees in recent years.”

HIST429F-Special Topics in History; MAC to Millennium: History of the University of Maryland
Jason Speck, Anne Turkos
Taught by University Archivist Anne Turkos and Assistant University Archivist Jason Speck, the class will cover such topics as the founding of the Maryland Agricultural College, the university’s land grant status and what it means in the 21st century, diversity on campus, the university’s legacy of leadership, Terrapin athletics, external relationships, and student life. The course is open to both undergraduate and graduate students. For more information about the class, please contact the instructors:
    Anne Turkos, aturkos@umd.edu or 301.405.9060
    Jason Speck, jgspeck@umd.edu or 301.405.9297

HIST429I-Special Topics in History; History of Premodern China: Neolithic to 1800
Ting Zhang

HIST429R-Special Topics in History; Imperial Russia's World Connections
Mikhail Dolbilov

HIST431-Stuart England
Sabrina Baron
An examination of the political, religious, and social forces in English life, 1603-1714, with special emphasis on Puritanism and the English revolutions.

HIST436-Napoleon, the French Revolution, and the World
Donald Sutherland
An argument for the broad continuity between the revolutionary and Napoleonic wars.

HIST455-Constitutional History of the United States: Since 1865
Michael Ross
The purpose of this course is to introduce you to main ideas in American legal history from the Civil War through the 1980s. Unlike a constitutional law course, this class will focus on both how law shaped and was shaped by the larger historical context. Often Americans take their legal system for granted and do not question how or why it became the system it is today. In this class we will discuss the ways in which American law evolved over time and the factors that caused that evolution. Key questions we will ask include: Who has benefited from American law? Have any groups—rich or poor, black or white, male or female—benefited disproportionately from our legal system? Has American law been unfairly skewed in favor of businesses and property holders or has it been crucial to the nation’s economic success? Has
American law shaped or been shaped by historical events? Which civil liberties have been important to U.S. citizens and why? And were those civil liberties protected during the period between the Civil War and today?

HIST462-Slavery, Sectionalism, and the U.S. Civil War
Leslie Rowland
This course examines the most momentous crisis in U.S. history. The Civil War tested in the most elemental way the principles on which the nation had been founded and settled by conflict of arms otherwise unresolvable differences about the nature of the union. In the eyes of both Americans and the rest of the world, it addressed the question of whether republics were inherently unstable, as well as doubts about the ability of democratic forms of government to survive serious challenge. Like other wars of national unification during the same era, it mobilized mass armies and consolidated a nation. It also accomplished a profound social revolution, defeating the world's most powerful slaveholding class, destroying a way of life based upon the ownership of human beings, liquidating without compensation private property valued at billions of dollars, restoring to the former slaves proprietorship of their own persons, and forcibly substituting the relations of free labor for those of slavery.

The course begins with a consideration of salient features of American society, North and South, in the decades preceding the Civil War, followed by examination of the growing sectional conflict and the coming of war. The second half of the course focuses on the war itself, including the resources and strategies of the Confederacy and the Union, the experiences of both combatants and civilians, the politics of emancipation, the changing character of the conflict, the role of slaves and ex-slaves in the destruction of slavery and the achievement of Union victory, developments on the home front, and the wartime origins of Reconstruction. Although the course considers the most significant military campaigns in some detail, little attention is devoted to the tactics of particular battles.

Writing is a central component of the course. Three formal papers (5-6 pages each) are required, two of which are based on primary sources. Informal, in-class writing about the assigned readings constitutes a significant proportion of the course grade; students must therefore complete the assigned readings on schedule in order to do well in the course. Reading assignments average 140 pages per week. Midterm and final examinations are essay in form.

HIST463-History of the Old South
Ira Berlin
The golden age of the Chesapeake, the institution of slavery, the frontier South, the antebellum plantation society, the development of regional identity, and the experiment in independence.

HIST473-History of the Caribbean
David Sartorius
The Caribbean region has played a significant role in world history that belies its small size and population. From the development of colonialism and mercantile capitalism to the trans-Atlantic slave trade to emancipatory and revolutionary social movements, the history of the Caribbean sheds light on phenomena of global significance that are still in view today. This course will
introduce you to that history through sustained attention to two simultaneous and related long-term developments: the maintenance of European and North American imperial enterprises and the elaboration of racial ideologies around the diversity that has characterized the island populations. Through this prism, we will be able to explore such issues as colonialism, piracy, export agriculture, slavery and emancipation, national independence movements, and tourism. The course has three sections: the early history of the Caribbean, leading up to the Haitian Revolution; nineteenth-century developments, including slave emancipation and early nationalist and independence movements; and the twentieth century, which pays particular attention to how Caribbean peoples have acted on their understandings of those two prior periods.

HIST483-History of Japan Since 1800
Charles Lilley
Japan's renewed contact with the Western world and emergence as a modern state, industrial society, and world power, 1800-1931; and Japan's road to war, occupation, and recovery, 1931 to the present.

HIST499-Independent Study
Prerequisite: permission of department.
Contact department for information to register for this course.