

HISTORY

FACULTY:

Katherine Holt, Chair

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History is one of the oldest disciplines, but it has never been more relevant than in the fast-changing, interconnected world in which we live. The study of history is the foundation for a complex understanding of the world. It offers a rich view upon the developments that have shaped the society we live in; it helps us understand distant cultures; it provides a set of rigorous tools for understanding changes and continuities over time; it offers a high perspective to make sense of the tumult of current events.

The study of history cultivates skills and habits of mind that are essential to a liberal arts education. Students of history develop the ability to research complex topics, to analyze evidence, to assess conflicting interpretations, to convey ideas with clarity and persuasion, and to build strong arguments. History encourages a subtle understanding of difference. What is more, the study of history provides a set of deep pleasures. Vastly enlarging our experience, the study of the past is a profound source of personal meaning and collective identity.

We believe the best way to study history is to do history. In their coursework, students develop a wide knowledge of the past and a practical understanding of the skills of the historian, culminating in the year-long Senior Independent Study. The major in history is flexible, allowing students to design a course of study that fits their interests and builds upon work in other disciplines.

Major in History

Consists of eleven courses:

- Three History courses at any level
- Four History courses at the 200-level or above
- Among these seven courses:

Pre-1800 Perspectives. A minimum of one course in history before 1800

Global Perspectives. A minimum of one course in the history of a society outside the U.S. and Europe

- The Craft of History: HIST 201xx
- Junior Independent Study: HIST 40100
- Senior Independent Study: HIST 45100
- Senior Independent Study: HIST 45200

Minor in History

Consists of six courses:

- Two History courses at any level
- Three additional History courses at the 200-level or above
- Among these five courses:

Pre-1800 Perspectives. A minimum of one course in history before 1800

Global Perspectives. A minimum of one course in the history of a society outside the U.S. and Europe

- The Craft of History: HIST 201xx

Special Notes

- Majors and minors in history are strongly recommended to complete *The Craft of History* (HIST 201xx) in their sophomore year, after they've taken a first course in history at the College but before Junior I.S.
- Students *may not* count the same course toward the *Pre-1800 Perspectives* requirement and the *Global Perspectives* requirement.
- **Pre-1800 Perspectives Requirement:** The following courses count toward the *Pre-1800 Perspectives* requirement: Some sections of HIST 101xx (sections that are pre-1800 in their focus), 10600, 11000, some sections of HIST 201xx (sections that are pre-1800 in their focus), 20400, 20500, 20600, 20700, 21200, 21400, 21500, 23000, 23100, 23400, 24000, 24400, some sections of HIST 275xx (sections that are pre-1800 in their focus), some sections of HIST 301xx (sections that are pre-1800 in their focus).
- **Global Perspectives Requirement:** The following courses count toward the *Global Perspectives* requirement: some sections of HIST 101xx (sections that are non-U.S., non-European, global, or comparative in their focus), 10800, some sections of HIST 201xx (sections that are non-U.S., non-European, global, or comparative in their focus), 21500, 21600, 22700, 22800, 23100, 23200, 23400, 23500, 23600, 23700, 24000, some sections of HIST 275xx (sections that are non-U.S., non-European, global, or comparative in their focus), some sections of HIST 301xx (sections that are non-U.S., non-European, global, or comparative in their focus).
- **Advanced Placement:** A student obtaining a score of 4 or 5 on one of the CEEB Advanced Placement Examination in history will receive one course credit in history. A student will receive a maximum of two course credits in history for any combination of Advanced Placement Examinations. Students may count these credits toward a major or minor in history. Students receiving Advanced Placement credit should consult with the department before registering for 100-level survey courses in the department. The Advanced Placement policy of the College is explained in the section on Admission.
- Only grades of C- or better are accepted for the major or minor.

HISTORY COURSES

INTRODUCTORY TOPICS COURSES

HIST 10100-10196. INTRODUCTION TO HISTORY (some sections cross-listed with: **Africana Studies, Chinese Studies, East Asian Studies, Global & International Studies, Latin American Studies, Russian Studies, Women's, Gender, and Sexuality Studies**)

An introduction to the study of history through the examination of a specific historical theme. Class format includes lecture and discussion. *May be repeated for credit as offerings vary.*

INTRODUCTORY SURVEY COURSES

HIST 10600. WESTERN CIVILIZATION TO 1600

A survey of the rise of western civilization to 1600. European history. [Pre-1800] [HSS]

HIST 10700. WESTERN CIVILIZATION SINCE 1600 (Global & International Studies)

The development of western civilization from 1600 to the present. European history. [C, HSS]

HIST 10800. AN INTRODUCTION TO GLOBAL HISTORY (Global & International Studies)

Global history examines the interactions between different cultures across the globe from ancient times to the present. These interactions range from trade, to warfare, to the exchange of ideas, technology and disease. More specifically, global history explores the ways that those interactions have changed over time, and the impact they have had on economics, society, culture, politics and the environment at the local level. The course will introduce students to Global history through readings in the historiography of the field and in selected topics. The course will also critique the phenomenon of globalization from a historical perspective. [Global] [C, HSS]

HIST 11000. THE UNITED STATES EXPERIENCE TO 1877

A survey of the development of United States society to 1877. [Pre-1800] [HSS]

HIST 11100. THE UNITED STATES EXPERIENCE SINCE 1877

A survey of United States history from 1877 to the present. [HSS]

HIST 11500. HISTORY OF BLACK AMERICA: FROM WEST AFRICAN ORIGINS TO THE PRESENT (Africana Studies, Education)

This course covers the history of black Americans from their origins in West Africa to the present. Although this course is a survey, it will have a topical approach. Topics will include the following: West African origins, the southern slavery experience, Black Reconstruction, the Great Migration, the Civil Rights Movement, and the Black Power Movement. The current situation of black people is the result of this heroic and yet sometimes tragic history. This course will view the development of America from the black perspective, displaying a history that is not the traditional view of the United States. [C, HSS]

THE METHODS OF HISTORY

HIST 20100-20127. THE CRAFT OF HISTORY (some sections cross-listed with Global & International Studies)

An introduction to the critical skills of the historian—including the analysis of primary sources, historiography, historical research and writing, and historical argument—through the study of a specific historical theme. A writing-intensive course, the class is taught as a seminar. The course is strongly recommended for majors, but it is open to students from all departments and programs. It is normally taken in the sophomore year and before HIST 40100 — Junior I.S. *Prerequisite:* One course in History or permission of instructor. May be repeated for credit with permission of the Department Chair.

HIST 20201-20205. HISTORY WORKSHOP

This course will provide a theoretical foundation and practical training in a historical methodology. Topics offered may include: Public History, Oral History, Documentary History, Cultural History, and Digital History (.25 course credit). *Prerequisite:* One course in History or permission of instructor. May be repeated for credit as offerings vary. *Note:* these partial-credit courses do not count towards the major or minor.

THE UNITED STATES

HIST 23700. THE UNITED STATES AND CHINA (Chinese Studies, East Asian Studies, Global & International Studies)

The historical development of relations between the United States and China from the late eighteenth century to the present day, as seen through diplomatic, economic, political, and intellectual contacts. [C, HSS]

HIST 23800. THE AMERICAN WEST

This course examines the development of the American West as a recognized region over the past 500 years. It focuses on several primary themes: ideologies of expansion, ethnic conflict, environmental change, technology, politics, and myth. Moreover, the course will examine how shifting historical interpretations of the West (including those of novelists and filmmakers) have reflected contemporary society. [HSS]

HIST 23900. RECENT AMERICA: THE UNITED STATES SINCE 1945

An examination of selected themes and topics of importance in recent American history, such as the Cold War, the Vietnam War, political coalitions, Presidential leadership, the 1960s as a decade, and contemporary cultural and economic concerns. [HSS]

HIST 24400-24401. ISSUES IN EARLY AMERICAN SOCIAL HISTORY

The development of American societies through the early nineteenth century, focusing on the family, national character, and economic and cultural institutions. [Pre-1800] [HSS]

HIST 24600. UNITED STATES URBAN HISTORY (Africana Studies)

A study of the urbanization process from colonial settlements through the development of the modern metropolis. The course will focus on those forces that have shaped the modern American city. [HSS]

HIST 24700. WOMEN'S HISTORY IN THE UNITED STATES (Women's, Gender, and Sexuality Studies)

An exploration of women's experience as it was limited by their roles as daughter, wife, and mother; how women used their roles to participate in the construction of American society and change the course of American history, emphasizing race, class, and gender. [HSS]

HIST 24900. INTELLECTUAL HISTORY OF BLACK AMERICA

A basic survey of some of the leading black thinkers in American history. [W, C, HSS]

EUROPEAN HISTORY**AMST 20400. ANCIENT GREEK HISTORY (Archaeology, Classical Studies)**

A survey of the civilization of ancient Greece from the Bronze Age to the Hellenistic period, with concentration on the Classical period (490-340 B.C.). Readings in primary sources, especially the Greek historians, with particular attention to the problems of recording and interpreting historical data. [Pre-1800] [HSS]

AMST 20500. ROMAN HISTORY (Archaeology, Classical Studies)

A survey of the civilization of ancient Rome from the Iron Age to the age of Constantine, with concentration on the late Republic and early Empire (133 B.C. - A.D. 180). Readings in primary sources, especially the Roman historians, with particular attention to the problems of recording and interpreting historical data. [Pre-1800] [HSS]

HIST 20600. MEDIEVAL EUROPE, 500-1350 (Archaeology)

Organized thematically, the course examines the political and economic development of Europe in the Middle Ages, including feudalism and manorialism, and their social and cultural underpinnings. Special attention will be given to the problem of the "invisible" people of the Middle Ages: peasants, women, and Jews. [Pre-1800] [HSS]

HIST 20700. RENAISSANCE & REFORMATION EUROPE, 1350-1650

Examines the great intellectual and religious events of the fourteenth to the seventeenth centuries within their political and social contexts. In particular, the course will examine how the "new thought" of these centuries provided Europe with a new intellectual language for describing and evaluating the growth of absolutism and the conquest of the Americas. [Pre-1800] [HSS]

HIST 20800. EUROPE, 1890 TO 1945 (Global & International Studies)

An investigation into European politics, society, and culture from 1890 to 1945. Topics include: mass politics and their discontents, modernism in the arts, new theories of society and personality, European imperialism, the second industrial revolution and the rise of socialist parties, feminism, the First World War, the Russian Revolution, the Versailles Treaty, the rise of fascism, Stalin's Russia, the Depression, the Spanish Civil War, the Nazi threat to Europe, the Second World War, and the Holocaust. [C, HSS]

HIST 20900. EUROPE SINCE 1945: FILM AND HISTORY (Global & International Studies)

This course examines politics, society and culture in Europe from the immediate aftermath of the devastation of the Second World War to the present. Topics include: the reconstruction of Europe, the Cold War, the dilemma of Americanization, the expansion of the social welfare state, decolonization and immigration, student protest, the radical right, (the challenges of) European integration, and more. A large part of our studies will be devoted to a consideration of how the larger political and social struggles of Europe have been refracted and interpreted in the art of cinema. [C, HSS]

HIST 21200. PLAGUE IN THE TOWNS OF TUSCANY

When the Black Death arrived in Europe in the middle of the fourteenth century, Tuscany's advanced urban centers were hit first and hardest. Within the first two years of bubonic plague in Western Europe, such thriving commercial cities as Siena, Florence and Pisa, saw their populations cut in half. While these cities eventually recovered the experience of epidemic disease left its mark on the survivors. This course will explore the impact of the Black Death on the social, religious, and economic lives of these cities. By mapping the spread of the plague on location, we will consider how these cities responded with new public health measures and new interventions into the private and public lives of citizens. Offered as part of the "Wooster Summer in Tuscany" program. [Pre-1800] [C, HSS] Scheduled for Summer 2017.

HIST 21400. MYSTICS, POPES AND PILGRIMS

From the late twelfth to the late fourteenth century, western Christendom grew simultaneously in two very different directions. While the papacy became increasingly involved in temporal concerns, often competing with kings and emperors for earthly power, ordinary believers sought more personal means of engaging with their faith. In the cases of more extra-ordinary believers, mystics and pilgrims, extreme physical hardship and the sacrifice of worldly possessions was seen as an avenue toward salvation. This course will explore the nature of these alternative expressions of faith and examine how the popularity and influence of such famous mystics as Francis of Assisi and Catherine of Siena challenged the worldly aspirations of the hierarchy of the Church. Field trips to the Vatican, Assisi, the pilgrim route to Rome, and a working monastery will emphasize the role landscape and location played in the experience of popular religion. Offered as part of the "Wooster Summer in Tuscany" program. [Pre-1800] [C, R, HSS] *Scheduled for Summer 2017.*

HIST 22000. TUDOR-STUART ENGLAND, 1485-1688

The emergence of the Tudor state, the English Renaissance and the Reformation, the Age of Elizabeth and overseas expansion, the early Stuarts and the struggle over the constitution, parliamentary politics and the Civil War, Cromwell and the Interregnum, Restoration politics and culture, the Glorious Revolution. [Pre-1800] [HSS]

HIST 22100. MODERN BRITAIN

The Hanoverian Succession, rise of cabinet and party politics, the structure of oligarchy, the Trans-Atlantic Revolutions, the Industrial Revolution, the reform movements, Victorian prosperity, the rise of Labor, the World Wars, the rise of the Welfare State, decolonization, and the crisis of Europe. [HSS]

HIST 22200. THE INDUSTRIAL REVOLUTION IN BRITAIN AND EUROPE, 1760-1900

A comparative study of Britain and Europe from the mid-eighteenth through the end of the nineteenth centuries. Topics covered include the origins of the Industrial Revolution in England and its expansion in Britain and Western Europe, technological expansion, the transformation of rural and urban communities, workplace organizations, the division of labor, popular protest and trade unionism. [HSS]

HIST 22300. MODERN FRANCE

A survey of French politics, society, and culture from the mid-nineteenth century to the present. Topics include: the revolutionary tradition and the revolutions of 1848, Napoleon III and the Second Empire, consumer culture, the Franco-Prussian War, the Paris Commune, peasants and workers, the belle époque and the Dreyfus Affair, the First World War, avant-garde culture, the crises of the interwar era, Vichy France, the wars of decolonization, May 1968, Immigration. [C, HSS]

HIST 23000. RUSSIA TO 1900 (Russian Studies)

The rise and fall of the Kiev State, the origins and expansion of Muscovy, and the Tsarist empire. Emphasis on nineteenth century intellectual history. [Pre-1800] [C, HSS]

HIST 23300. RUSSIA SINCE 1900 (Russian Studies)

Modern Russia, focusing on the Bolshevik Revolution, the Stalin era, World War II, the fall of the USSR and the rise of the new Russia under Boris Yeltsin and Vladimir Putin. [C, HSS]

**AFRICAN, ASIAN, JEWISH, LATIN AMERICAN
& MIDDLE EASTERN HISTORY****HIST 21500. COLONIAL LATIN AMERICA (Latin American Studies)**

Latin American history from the pre-Columbian period to the 1830s. The course will emphasize the clash between European colonizers and indigenous populations, the development of Spanish and Portuguese colonial institutions and culture in America, and the overthrow of colonial rule in the early years of the nineteenth century. [Pre-1800, Global] [C, HSS]

HIST 21600. MODERN LATIN AMERICA (Global & International Studies, Latin American Studies)

Latin American history from the 1830s to the present. The course will emphasize the difficult problems encountered by Latin American nations forced to face the demands of the modern world with political, economic, and social institutions developed in a colonial past. [Global] [C, HSS]

HIST 22700. THE MODERN MIDDLE EAST (Global & International Studies)

Emphasis on the heritage of religious unity, the political tradition of universal empire, the contrast between cultural unity and ethnic division, the special role of cities, the ecological constants, and the heritage of imperialism. [Global] [C, HSS]

HIST 22800. ISRAEL/PALESTINE: HISTORIES IN CONFLICT (Global & International Studies)

The history of the current conflict from the late 19th century down to the immediate present. Emphasis will be on understanding Israeli and Palestinian national identities; the parties' incompatible interpretations of history and their role in perpetuating the conflict; and the specific terms of a possible solution to the conflict. In some years, the course is offered in conjunction with the "Wooster in Israel/Palestine" spring break study trip. [Global] [C, HSS]

HIST 23100. THE MAKING OF AFRICA (Africana Studies)

From early antiquity to the late 16th century, Africa and Africans have been key players in world affairs. Ancient Egypt, Kush, Aksum, Ancient Zimbabwe, the west African empires of Ghana, Mali, Songhai, and Asante, as well as the state of Kongo in central Africa, the various Muslim dynasties in North Africa, and the Swahili city-states on the Indian Ocean coast, to name but a few examples, were the centers of this fascinating historical development. From the 16th century, the Atlantic slave trade, which lasted for at least three hundred years, destroyed African political, social, and economic institutions that sustained the continent on the world scene up to that time. As a consequence of that, this trade paved the way to the colonization of almost every single corner of Africa by European powers, beginning in the nineteenth century. In this course we will be exploring the various ways in which these developments have been shaping African societies, politics, and cultures over this long period of time. [Pre-1800, Global] [C, HSS]

HIST 23200. AFRICA FROM COLONIZATION TO GLOBALIZATION (Africana Studies, Global & International Studies)

With the official abolition of the Atlantic Slave Trade in the early 19th century, the encounter between Africa and Europe took a new and dramatic turn, with the beginning of the "legitimate trade." This course will investigate how this change paved the way to the conquest and colonization of most of the continent by countries such as Belgium, France, Germany, Great Britain, and Portugal. We are also going to examine the important role played by Africans during the two World Wars, the severe impact of the Great Depression on them, and the origins of the nationalist movement that led to the end of colonialism in the 1960s. We will then turn to the ways in which the combined effects of the Cold War, neocolonialism, and the failure of many of the first postcolonial leaders created a deep sentiment of disillusionment among millions of Africans and ushered into a tumultuous period that literally engulfed the continent from the early 1970s to the late 1980s. Starting in the 1990s, strong civil society groups began to emerge and, against all odds in Africa and beyond, pushed forcefully for Africans to define their own place in the world. [Global] [C, HSS]

HIST 23400. TRADITIONAL CHINA (Archaeology, Chinese Studies, East Asian Studies)

Chinese civilization, thought, and institutions from earliest times to 1644: the development of the imperial system, the Buddhist influx, the rise of gentry society, foreign invasions, and late empire. [Pre-1800, Global] [C, HSS]

HIST 23500. MODERN CHINA (Chinese Studies, East Asian Studies)

Chinese history from 1644 to the present: the modernization of traditional institutions in response to the foreign challenge in the nineteenth and twentieth centuries; rebellion, reform, nationalism, and communism as components of a Chinese revolution in process. [Global] [C, HSS]

HIST 23600. MODERN JAPAN (East Asian Studies)

Japanese history from the nineteenth century to the present: the decline of feudal society and the Western impact, Meiji transformation and growth as a world power, militaristic expansion and the Second World War, post-war recovery, and industrial development in the contemporary world. [Global] [C, HSS]

HIST 24000. HISTORY OF THE JEWS

This course spans three millennia, from antiquity to 1948. It breaks the broad outline of Jewish civilization into these areas: the origins and early history of the nation and religion of Israel; the transformation of the Jews into a diaspora people and the emergence of classical/rabbinic Judaism; Jewish existence as a tolerated minority under Christian and Muslim rule and the salient cultural characteristics of Jewish life in each domain; the redefinition of the geographical, communal, and religious parameters of Jewish life as the result of expulsions and persecutions in the early modern period; the fragmentation of Jewish identity in the modern period; and the enormous upheavals in Jewish life of the twentieth century: mass migrations, the Holocaust, and the establishment of the State of Israel. Two themes provide the threads of continuity throughout this chronological narrative: Jewish culture and forms of group life, and political, social, and cultural interaction with others. [Pre-1800, Global] [C, HSS]

UPPER-LEVEL TOPICS COURSES

HIST 27500-27517. STUDIES IN HISTORY (some sections cross-listed with **Global & International Studies**)

An advanced course devoted to a specific historical topic. Format includes lecture and discussion. *Prerequisite: One course in History or permission of instructor. May be repeated for credit as offerings vary.*

JUNIOR-SENIOR SEMINARS

HIST 30100. HISTORY COLLOQUIUM (some sections cross-listed with: **Environmental Studies, Global & International Studies, Latin American Studies, Russian Studies, Women's, Gender, and Sexuality Studies**)

A reading-intensive seminar, focusing on a particular historical problem or field. *Normally, this course is only open to Juniors and Seniors. Prerequisite: One course in History or permission of instructor. May be repeated for credit as offerings vary.*

HIST 40000. TUTORIAL

A one-semester tutorial that explores a specialized field of study. Specific readings and assignments are worked out by the student and the supervising faculty member together. *Prerequisite: The approval of both the supervising faculty member and the chairperson is required prior to registration. Fall and Spring.*

HIST 40100. JUNIOR INDEPENDENT STUDY

A one-semester tutorial that focuses upon the research skills, methodology, and theoretical framework necessary for Senior Independent Study. *Fall and Spring.*

HIST 41000. INTERNSHIP

A structured, usually off-campus experience, in which a student extends classroom knowledge to a work position within a community, business, or governmental organization. Student interns work and learn under the joint guidance of a host organization supervisor and a College of Wooster mentor. The student must arrange the internship in advance through the appropriate department or program. No more than six internships, and a maximum of four Wooster course credits, will count toward graduation. The form for registering for an internship and the Internship Learning Plan are available in the office of the Registrar. *(0.25-4 course credits) S/NC course. Prerequisite: The approval of a College of Wooster mentor, department chair, the faculty adviser, and the Associate Dean for Experiential Learning is required. Annually.*

HIST 45100. SENIOR INDEPENDENT STUDY ONE

The first semester of the Senior Independent Study project, in which each student engages in creative and independent research guided by a faculty mentor and culminating in a thesis and an oral examination in the second semester. *Prerequisite: HIST 40100. Fall and Spring.*

HIST 45200. SENIOR INDEPENDENT STUDY TWO

The second semester of the Senior Independent Study project, culminating in the thesis and an oral examination. *Prerequisite: HIST 45100. Fall and Spring.*