

Program of Study

Fall 2017

Gender and War in Modern Europe **Minor: Military** **Dr. Carol Lilly** **Grade: A**

This class will investigate the ways in which gender and war have intersected in the region and era of modern Europe from the 18th c to the present. Among the topics to be considered will be women in the military, as victims, peace activists, and as proponents of war in the Napoleonic Wars, the First and Second World Wars, and the wars of the 1990s in the former Yugoslavia. We will also consider how war affects men, including such topics as why men fight or choose not to, cross dressers in the military, and LGBTQ issues in the military.

American Women's History **Major: Modern US** **Dr. Linda Van Ingen** **Grade: A**

This readings course is both a chronological and historiographical study of women in American history from the colonial period to the present. Readings will focus on the political, economic and social complexities in women's lives and how these factors have changed over time. In order to study women in relationship to politics and the economy, we will broaden the meaning of both concepts so they include women's experience. We will also consider the concept of intersectionality and how women's experiences are shaped by gender, race, class and other dimensions of inequality. Discussions throughout the course, furthermore, will focus on the way historians have rediscovered and written women back into the historical narrative and how this history has informed our understanding of America.

Spring 2018

801 America Interpreted **Dr. David Vail** **Grade: A+**

America Interpreted is a required introductory graduate readings course in American historiography. This course will introduce students to the major schools (interpretations) of American History from the founding of the nation through the modern era. After a brief review of pre-1900 historiography, we will pay close attention to twentieth-century interpretations from the Progressive, Consensus, New Left, and New Social History schools. The course will conclude with recent trends in American historiography. The goal of this course is to prepare graduate students for comprehensive exams and advanced graduate work in the field.

US in the Cold War Era **Major: Modern US** **Dr. Linda Van Ingen** **Grade: A**

This course explores the history of the United States in the Cold War period from 1945 to 1990. We will take a chronological approach through the decades following World War II as well as a thematic and historiographical approach. Political, social and cultural interpretations of this history include racial, gender and class analysis with a focus on the social construction of both femininities and masculinities in the 20th century.

Summer 2018

Environment & Warfare 20th Century Minor: Military Dr. David Vail Grade: A+

HIST 898: Environment and Warfare in the 20th Century will explore readings and topics that situate both environmental and military history into larger international and global exchanges. By examining the dynamic relationships between warfare and the environment, this course will provide students with a deeper understanding of how these histories intersect with other sub-specialties as well as more familiar accounts in military and foreign relations history. Environment and Warfare in the 20th Century will also introduce you to the most influential monographs and scholars of both fields as well as the newer works. This class can apply to either the United States or Non-United States History course requirements.

The Civil Rights Movement Major: Modern US Dr. Linda Van Ingen Grade: A

This course explores the historiography of the African-American Civil Rights Movement of the post-WWII period. It includes a liberal synthesis of the movement as a whole, a comparative analysis of the leadership of Martin Luther King Jr. and Malcolm X, a social analysis of grassroots activism and the rise of Black Power, a women's history perspective, a gendered analysis of class and power within the movement, a study of the international context shaping the movement, and a global comparative with the simultaneous struggle for rights in South Africa. Each approach to our subject is an opportunity to discuss how historians' interpretations of the Civil Rights Movement for African Americans have changed over time.

Fall 2018

803 Historical Methods Dr. Douglas Biggs Grade: A

Historical Methods is a required course for all History graduate students. Students will be introduced to the historical tools and methods used by historians to write analytical and interpretative historical studies. This section of Historical Methods will explore the American Home Front during World War One. The Great War had been raging in Europe for nearly two-and-one-half years before the United States became involved in the spring of 1917. The war was not a particularly popular one at home. The United States was composed then (as now) with many German immigrants. Many of these were first generation immigrants, German was still spoken in their homes and in their churches. Many American soldiers of German ancestry had to face the fact that they could be killing their own relatives. Also too, in some quarters of the country there was a heavy anti-British bias that colored motivations. Students will read a number of secondary works on the American Home Front in the war, some primary documents, films and music, and then utilize primary documents, reports, newspapers, etc. to produce an original piece of scholarship.

World War I Minor: Military Dr. Torsten Homberger Grade: A

This course explores the history of the United States in the Cold War period from 1945 to 1990. We will take a chronological approach through the decades following World War II as well as a thematic and historiographical approach. Political, social and cultural interpretations of this history include racial, gender and class analysis with a focus on the social construction of both femininities and masculinities in the 20th century.

Spring 2019

American Constitutional History

Dr. Vernon Volpe Grade: A

An on-line graduate reading and research course. Through assigned readings, written reviews, research papers, web-site investigation, group discussions and virtual conversation with the instructor, students will explore critical issues in American Constitutional History. Special attention will be devoted to the development of the U.S. Constitution and the ongoing historiographic debate about its origins, nature, and continuing influence. Additional attention will focus on critical constitutional questions throughout American history.

Digital History

Dr. Jeff Wells Grade: A

This course explores the use of digital tools and sources in historical research and the sharing of historical information with public and scholarly audiences.

Summer 2019

Nazi Germany

Dr. Torsten Homberger Grade: A+

After almost seventy-five years, the rather short eleven years of Nazi rule in Germany remain one of the most intensively studied topics in European history. Most of the prevalent myths about Nazism, however, can be traced back to narratives the Nazis constructed about themselves. This course will explore the history of Germany between 1933 and 1945 by investigating National Socialism as a political, social, and cultural phenomenon, and by placing it within the larger framework of German history. We will concentrate on some of the most crucial questions surrounding this period: Why did the Nazi Party come to power? What were the sources of the Nazi regime's ideology? Why did the Nazis gain widespread popular support? What roles did women play in the Nazi dictatorship? When, why, and how did Nazi leaders decide to exterminate European Jewry? What motivated the murderers? How do we define "collaboration" or "resistance" in Germany between 1933 and 1945? The magnitude of the events has led some scholars to suggest that the Shoah defies explanation. The premise of this course, however, is that Nazi Germany and the Shoah can and, must be scrutinized by historians.

Age of Eisenhower

Major: Modern US Dr. David Vail Grade: A+

HIST 848: Age of Eisenhower will explore readings and topics that situate the 1950s into larger national and global exchanges. By examining the dynamic relationships between American society, culture, politics, and international affairs, this course will provide students with a deeper understanding of how the early Cold War era made and remade American culture and life throughout mid-twentieth century. The Age of Eisenhower will also introduce you to the most influential monographs and scholars on this era as well as the newer works.