

DEPARTMENT OF HISTORY



**GRADUATE
COURSE
DESCRIPTIONS**



FALL 2014

FALL 2014 GRADUATE COURSE LISTINGS

I. Courses for PhD and MA Students

First Year Courses:

HIS 524/526	CORE SEMINAR: History, Theory and Practice	Y. Hong N. Landsman	M 4:30-7:30	SBS N-303
<p>This year-long course is your introduction to graduate study in history in general, and Stony Brook’s Ph.D. Program in History in particular. It has three goals: 1) to familiarize you with the techniques and resources of historical research; 2) to provide an overview of the four thematic areas emphasized by our graduate program; and 3) to explore some important historiographical and theoretical concepts that inform historical writing. The first semester will combine a series of hands-on workshops in interpreting primary sources with selective reading of important and interesting scholarship that represents the four themes of our graduate curriculum, and also offers instructive examples of using sources. Requirements for the first semester include active participation in class discussion of assigned readings, three or four short writing/analytical exercises, and a preliminary research proposal. The second semester will be devoted to researching and writing a substantial research paper.</p>				

Field, Theme, & Research Courses

FIELD:

HIS 502/ CEG 524	Introduction to Modern Europe	S. Hinely	Th 5:30-8:30	SBS N-318
<p>This graduate seminar is designed to provide and/or reinforce a solid foundation in the major events and themes of modern European history, from the 17th century through the fall of the Soviet Union. At the same time, the course seeks to introduce historiographical issues and techniques that will guide a parallel inquiry into what counts for a “major event”, whose stories and which chronologies comprise the “foundations” of modern Western history. These twin, contrapuntal goals--mastery of the “canon” and critique of its parameters—will take us into a close discussion of the inextricable relationship between Europe and other parts of the globe during this period, including an inquiry into the new methods of history that seek to expand European history to include this larger story. We will also cover the more conventional themes of classical liberal theory, revolution, nationalism, imperialism, and gender/race. The seminar will require substantial reading, energetic and informed participation, weekly quizzes, discussion leadership, and a final paper. For PhD, MA and MAT students. (MAT students must register under CEG 524)</p>				

FIELD:

HIS 521/ CEG 532	Intro to US History to the Civil War	J. Anderson	Tu 5:30 – 8:30	SBS N-318
	This course is a graduate reading seminar in the literature of early North American/U.S. history. The purpose of the course is to introduce students to major themes, interpretations, and methods of inquiry. It is intended to provide a broad command of the field. We will proceed through the course in roughly chronological order, with each session examining a conceptual approach, methodology, or debate that has been of particular interest to American historians.			

FIELD:

HIS 542/ CEG 517	Modern Latin America	E. Zolov	W 5:30 – 8:30	SBS N-303
	This Field Seminar introduces students to some of the principal debates and literatures about Latin American history since 1820. It is designed for students in the graduate program MA-level students who intend to go on to a PhD in Latin American History, although advanced students from other geographic concentrations and disciplines are also welcome. Requirements: Students will be asked to write several short papers and a longer final historiographic paper, as well as to present on a set of readings.			

THEME:

HIS 553	Cultures in Motion	A Masten	Th 4:30-7:30	SBS S-326
	This theme seminar focuses on new conceptual and analytical vocabularies for understanding how cultures trespass across geographic and social space. Imagining the movement of cultural goods and practices between societies means letting go of the one-to-one correspondence between place and culture. It means replacing place-rooted cultures with cultural practices, routes and itinerancies, fields of contest and collision, translations and misunderstandings, and systems of power that make imported cultural practices potent forms of communication or structures of immobilization. Readings will cover an array of cultural goods and practices in transit from and to a variety of geographical places (local and transnational) during temporal contexts that range from late antiquity to the twentieth century.			

THEME:

HIS 554	Global Borderlands	L. Flores	Tu 4:30-7:30	SBS S-326
<p>What is the definition of a “borderland” and who or what creates one? Who is a borderlander? How does living in a borderland shape one’s racial, class, gender, sexual, or cultural identity? How do peripheral places and people impact centers of power and policy? This seminar asks these questions and exposes students to the ways in which borderlands history and borderland theory can be applied to their own scholarship. Beginning with readings on American borderlands (U.S.-Canada, U.S.-Mexico, and Native American), this course moves to other regions of the world including northern Africa, western and eastern Europe, southeast Asia, and the Pacific Rim before each student is expected to co-lead a session on borderlands readings in their field of specialty. Topics covered during the semester include the globalization of labor, immigrant flows, and guestwork; border-making and enforcement; toxic and deadly borderlands; terrestrial and maritime borderlands; citizenship and human rights; diplomacy and war; commodities, vice, and tourism; borderland literature and film; and border-crossing cultural icons and phenomena.</p>				

RESEARCH:

HIS 601	Advanced Research Methods (History of the Emotions)	S. Lipton	M 4:30-7:30	SBS S-309
<p>This seminar is designed to help train graduate students in the research and writing of graduate-level research papers. We will start by reading some short primary sources, theoretical works, and case studies treating the construction, expression, representation, manipulation, and instrumentalization of human emotions in various historical periods and geographical areas. We shall be asking such questions as: Why was a record, text, or image of emotion produced, and by whom was it read or viewed? What were its modes of circulation? Whom does it privilege and whom does it exclude? How could different groups or communities of readers alter its use and importance? What were the social, cultural, political and intellectual contexts of its production? How does a historian frame a question, shape a research project, and present an argument and set of conclusions?</p> <p>Requirements consist of completing all reading assignments and participating actively in class, as well as researching and writing a research paper. In addition, each student will contribute at least one document for general analysis over the course of the term. The second half of the course will be devoted to researching, writing, and presenting working drafts of students’ research papers. The final research paper of ca. 20-30 pages will be due the last day of classes.</p>				

II. Courses for MAT & SPD Students

HIS 502/ CEG 524	Introduction to Modern Europe	S. Hinely	Th 5:30-8:30	SBS N-318
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HISTORY DEPARTMENT FACULTY

NAME	OFFICE	PHONE	EMAIL	SECTION #
Anderson, Jennifer	S-315		6jennifer6.anderson@stonybrook.edu	33
Barnhart, Michael,	N-309		6michael.barnhart@stonybrook.edu	23
Beverley, Eric	S-339		eric.beverley@stonybrook.edu	4
Chase, Robert	S-339		6robert.chase@stonybrook.edu	9
Cooper, Alix Grad. Director	S-345		alix.cooper@stonybrook.edu	51
Farmer, Jared	N-331B		jared.farmer@stonybrook.edu	49
Flores, Lori	TBA		lori.flores@stonybrook.edu	45
Frohman, Lawrence	S-651		lawrence.frohman@stonybrook.edu	30
Gootenberg, Paul	N-319		paul.gootenberg@stonybrook.edu	10
Hinely, Susan	S-351		susan.hinely@stonybrook.edu	19
Hong, Young-Sun	N-311		youngsun.hong@stonybrook.edu	20
Landsman, Ned	S-353		ned.landsman@stonybrook.edu	35
Larson, Brooke	S-333		brooke.larson@stonybrook.edu	18
Lebovics, Gene	S-323		herman.lebovics@stonybrook.edu	15
Lim, Shirley Fall 2014 Grad Director	N-327		shirley.lim@stonybrook.edu	48
Lipton, Sara	N-301		sara.lipton@stonybrook.edu	47
Man-Cheong, Iona	N-315		iona.mancheong@stonybrook.edu	26
Marker, Gary Department Chair	N-329	632-7510	gary.marker@stonybrook.edu	25
Masten, April	S-313		april.masten@stonybrook.edu	43
Miller, Wilbur UG Director	S-325		wilbur.miller@stonybrook.edu	06
Mimura, Janis	N-325		janis.mimura@stonybrook.edu	12
Newman, Elizabeth	S-349		elizabeth.newman@stonybrook.edu	17
Rilling, Donna	S-311		donna.rilling@stonybrook.edu	08
Rosenthal, Joel	S-341		joel.rosenthal@stonybrook.edu	24
Roxborough, Ian	S-445		ian.roxborough@stonybrook.edu	
Schäfer, Wolf	S-329		wolf.schafer@stonybrook.edu	21
Sellers, Christopher	N-301A		christopher.sellers@stonybrook.edu	46
Shankar, Shobana	S-319		shobana.shankar@stonybrook.edu	11
Tomes, Nancy	N-323		nancy.tomes@stonybrook.edu	28
Wilson, Kathleen	N-313		kathleen.wilson@stonybrook.edu	16
Zimansky, Paul	N-317		paul.zimansky@stonybrook.edu	5
Zolov, Eric	N-331A		eric.zolov@stonybrook.edu	22
Roxanne Fernandez Grad. Coordinator	S-303	631-7490	roxanne.fernandez@stonybrook.edu	
Grumet, Susan UG Coordinator	S-307	632-7480	susan.grumet@stonybrook.edu	