HISTORY (HIST1-UC)

HIST1-UC 5802 Nations & Nationalities in Europe (4 Credits)
Typically offered occasionally
Covers the history of Europe, focusing on nationalities, national minorities, and nations. The impact of ethnic and religious identities that cross national boundaries are analyzed. Major political and scholarly interpretations of the covered periods and topics are considered.
Grading: UC SPS Graded
Repeatable for additional credit: No

HIST1-UC 5804 Renaissance to Revolution (4 Credits)
Typically offered occasionally
(Formerly Y20.5804, Renaissance to Revolution, and Y20.5805, The 19th Century) Explores the foundations of modern civilization from the Renaissance through the social and intellectual revolutions of the mid-19th century. Topics include the awakening of humanist values, the fragmentation of Christendom, the development of early capitalist society, the consolidation of absolute monarchies, the rise of modern constitutional reform and political liberalism, the new sciences of the Enlightenment, the American and French Revolutions, and industrialization.
Grading: UC SPS Graded
Repeatable for additional credit: No

HIST1-UC 5810 Welfare & The Construct of Poverty (4 Credits)
Typically offered occasionally
Examines the assumptions about poverty and the perceptions of the poor as the basis for the creation and maintenance of the welfare system from Roosevelt's New Deal through Johnson's Great Society programs in the 1960s to the Republican Revolution of the 1990s. Particular attention is given to the ongoing national debate over welfare reform, the crisis of liberalism and the Democratic Party, and the rise of conservatism.
Grading: UC SPS Graded
Repeatable for additional credit: No

HIST1-UC 5812 Modern Middle East in International History (4 Credits)
Typically offered occasionally
A survey of the main currents of Middle East international history since the mid-19th century. Its principal themes are Imperialism, Zionism, Nationalism, contemporary power struggles in the region, and their interaction with outside perspectives and interests. The overall objective is a comparative understanding of social, economic, and political change in the Middle East, its sources, evolution, significance, and impact on the modern world.
Grading: UC SPS Graded
Repeatable for additional credit: No

HIST1-UC 5815 History of the City of New York (4 Credits)
Typically offered occasionally
This course examines the history of New York City from its origins as a small Dutch settlement through its development as a mercantile British colony and its growth as a commercial and industrial metropolis, to its emergence as a center of capital and modernity and its ascendancy, decline and resurgence as a center of global capitalism. The class focuses on the social history of New York City, though it explores cultural, political, technological and economic developments and issues that defined its evolution. As such, the course topics include the influences of ethnicity and race on the city, the definitions, contestations and uses of social spaces, the social lives and roles of upper, middle and lower classes, the lore and intrigue of the larger than life personalities and infamous incidents in shaping the city's history, and the legendary conflicts over urban planning, use and design. Students will gain first-hand knowledge of the material culture of New York City through the use of walking and museum tours, historical societies, historical archives, and other historical institutions and landmarks.
Grading: UC SPS Graded
Repeatable for additional credit: No

HIST1-UC 5816 The Scientific Revolution & The Enlightenment (4 Credits)
Typically offered occasionally
Examines the changes in the vision of the universe and in the methods of scientific inquiry that occurred in the 16th and 17th centuries, and of the social and political theories of the 18th-century Enlightenment to which they gave rise.
Grading: UC SPS Graded
Repeatable for additional credit: No

HIST1-UC 5817 Riots & Revolutions of The Middle Ages (4 Credits)
Typically offered occasionally
This course explores the central issues and events behind the different uprisings, riots, and revolutions in the Middle Ages. It places particular emphasis on examining how ideas, social patterns, political institutions, and economic conditions interlock to form a distinct society characterized by crisis.
Grading: UC SPS Graded
Repeatable for additional credit: No

HIST1-UC 5818 Leisure in America (4 Credits)
Typically offered occasionally
Examines the major trends and developments in American cultural history during the 19th century that relate to labor and recreation. The ways in which various groups or classes spend their leisure and work hours reveal larger economic, political, social, and cultural changes and developments. Themes include the dawning of a consumer society, the formation of middle-class culture and Victorian values, and the regimentation and social habits of an immigrant work force.
Grading: UC SPS Graded
Repeatable for additional credit: No
HIST1-UC 5819 Early Civilizations (4 Credits)
Typically offered occasionally
Explores the rise of early civilizations from a global perspective. The history of the ancient cultures of Egypt, Mesopotamia, China, India, and the like are examined in part to learn what gives each a distinctive character, but also to understand the ways in which humans created the earliest complex societies. Focus is on the growth of urban centers, early state and empire building, the development of social and economic hierarchies (priests, warriors, and slaves), the beginnings of literacy, and the articulation of new religious systems, some of which still have influence today.
Grading: UC SPS Graded
Repeatable for additional credit: No

HIST1-UC 5820 The American Experience (4 Credits)
Typically offered occasionally
Examines the social, cultural, political, ecological, and economic forces that created the American nation and shaped its development from European colonization to the end of the Cold War. Major themes and issues discussed include Puritanism, slavery and race, the American Revolution, feminism, the Civil War and Reconstruction, immigration and industrialization, the Great Depression and reform, the World Wars, the Cold War, counterculture and the 1960s, and the rise of neoconservatism.
Grading: UC SPS Graded
Repeatable for additional credit: No

HIST1-UC 5821 Classical & Medieval World (4 Credits)
Typically offered occasionally
Considers the foundation of the political, intellectual, and social structures of the West. Topics include the development of Mediterranean urban society, the rise of Alexander and the spread of Hellenism, the imperial development and disintegration of Rome, the rise of Catholicism and Islam, and the emergence of feudal Europe.
Grading: UC SPS Graded
Repeatable for additional credit: No

HIST1-UC 5822 Contemporary World (4 Credits)
Typically offered occasionally
An historical survey of events and trends since 1875. Major themes and issues include imperialism, the emergence of the U.S. as a world power, the Great Depression, the two World Wars, the Cold War, Vietnam and the 1960s, the rise of the European Union, the changing power structure and economies of China, Japan, and other Pacific Rim countries, and the dissolution of the Communist world.
Grading: UC SPS Graded
Repeatable for additional credit: No

HIST1-UC 5823 America’s Forever Wars, Vietnam to Afghanistan (4 Credits)
Typically offered occasionally
This course examines the role of the United States in the Vietnam War and its effects on the nation in subsequent American “forever” wars in Iraq and Afghanistan during the post-WW II period. The topics covered include the role of nationalism, the origins and impact of the Cold War, postwar support of colonialism and self-determination, American involvement and international commitments, the successes and failures of military power and strategy, the impact of antiwar protests, and the legacies of the wars.
Grading: UC SPS Graded
Repeatable for additional credit: No

HIST1-UC 5824 The Historical Imagination (4 Credits)
Typically offered occasionally
This course introduces students to the key issues and debates in the making of history today. A central focus is on how ideas about the past are constructed, used and disseminated, in other words, how the past is made into ‘history’. By looking at the varied ways in which people encounter the past - from scholarly works to museum exhibits and films - this course analyzes how both professional historians and the public shape our ideas about history. Key questions addressed in the course include: Do we view the past as a ‘foreign country’? with little relation to ourselves? Or do we view it as a ‘living present’, a source of contemporary ideas and identities? What are the techniques and strategies that historians and others use to interpret evidence and narrate the past? Why have some narratives proved so enduring? This question raises the problem of social memory, hence we will also explore what, how, and why societies choose to remember and forget about the past.
Grading: UC SPS Graded
Repeatable for additional credit: No

HIST1-UC 5829 The Nineteen Sixties in America (4 Credits)
Typically offered occasionally
Few decades in American history have witnessed the amount of social, political and cultural upheaval as the 1960s. Although many of the movements and issues that have defined this era emerged during the 1940s and only partially faded by the 1970s, the decade continues to define a generation and constitute a watershed in American history. The significance of the 1960s also remains the subject of endless, passionate debate and consensus over its meaning and legacy. This course examines the people, events, and issues of the era through a thematic approach within a larger chronological framework and focuses on domestic social, cultural and political developments. Because the 1960s contained so many seemingly disparate topics and issues, the class will emphasize the connections between and across a broad variety of subjects and disciplines. Topics include the sees of change during the 1950s; the triumph and breakdown of postwar liberalism; the insurgent political and social movements, including the civil rights movement, feminism, antiwar protest, and the New Left; the counterculture; the sexual revolution; drug culture; the space race and technology; music; and the legacy of the sixties.
Grading: UC SPS Graded
Repeatable for additional credit: No

HIST1-UC 5830 The Middle Ages in Film (4 Credits)
Typically offered occasionally
Explores several key themes in medieval history through the medium of film. In part, students are expected to judge the films for their historical accuracy and, thus learn more about the Middle Ages. However, since most medieval movies are either based on or help to generate ‘myths’ about the period - and thus have very presentist concerns - a further goal is to understand the ways in which ideas about the past are filtered through popular culture.
Grading: UC SPS Graded
Repeatable for additional credit: No

HIST1-UC 5831 Cultural Hist of NYC (2 Credits)
Typically offered occasionally
Examines the cultural history of New York with emphasis on its influence on literature and art. New York’s museums, universities, and other cultural institutions are related to the development of the city in the 19th and 20th centuries.
Grading: UC SPS Graded
Repeatable for additional credit: No
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HIST1-UC 5848 European Expansionism in The Age of Colonialism (4 Credits)
Typically offered occasionally
How does one culture justify imperialism and conquest? What kinds of ideology permit a more technologically powerful nation to erase the culture of other peoples? This course considers the history of European conquest from the 16th to the 20th centuries in Asia, Africa, the Middle East, and the Americas. Myth, religion, literature, and political theory are examined. Topics studied might include the Conquistador's perceptions of the Aztecs, the British discourse on India, or the creation of apartheid in South Africa.
Grading: UC SPS Graded
Repeatable for additional credit: No

HIST1-UC 5849 The Revolutionary Era (4 Credits)
Typically offered occasionally
This course explores the revolutions that shook Europe and the Americas during the late eighteenth and early nineteenth centuries. These revolutions, which continue to play a vital role in myths of national identity, not only helped to foster modern democratic politics, but also caused enormous social change. In this course we will examine the causes, course and consequences of these revolutions. Topics covered will include comparative revolutions, the popular basis for revolution, universal rights (their origins and limitations), commerce and revolution, and the legacy of the revolutionary era.
Grading: UC SPS Graded
Repeatable for additional credit: No

HIST1-UC 5850 Riots, Rituals and Witch Hunts (4 Credits)
Typically offered occasionally
Between the 14th and 18th centuries the peoples of Europe created a vigorous 'popular culture' expressed through ballads, festivals, rituals and riots. Eventually, in the 16th & 17th centuries elites attempted to reform and repress many of these popular practices. At their most extreme these efforts created the conditions for the great witch trials, in which the issues of elite power and popular culture converged and clashed. Yet the recovery of this 'popular culture' has raised several theoretical controversies that still resonate today. Is it possible to distinguish between a 'popular' and an elite culture? Do the common folk produce their own culture or is it imposed on them from above? Why do elites seek to reform popular practices? How successful are such efforts?
Grading: UC SPS Graded
Repeatable for additional credit: No

HIST1-UC 5851 Knights & Chivalry (4 Credits)
Typically offered occasionally
Explores the formation of a distinctive aristocratic or chivalric culture between c. 1000 and c. 1300. The term 'chivalry' (chevalier) had at least three different meanings: the skills associated with fighting on horseback with heavy armor; the social group or 'class' associated with fighting in this way; and the so-called 'codes' of behavior associated with this group. These 'codes' of chivalry were influenced by a variety of interest groups including churchmen, women, and members of the military aristocracy itself (which was by no means uniform). Indeed it is in part the argument of this course that there was no single 'code' of chivalry but rather a variety of competing ideals. Much of this course will be devoted to understanding how and why these ideals arose, and the extent to which they had an impact on daily life. Thus we will be examining both the 'tangible' lives of the knights and nobles as well as their ideals and most critically the complex interrelationships between the two.
Grading: UC SPS Graded
Repeatable for additional credit: No

HIST1-UC 5852 Humanism & The Renaissance (4 Credits)
Typically offered occasionally
Explores the history of Italian and Christian humanism during the 15th and 16th centuries and its impact on the Renaissance and the modern world. Works of Petrarch, Boccaccio, Machiavelli, Erasmus, More, and Isabella of Aragon are studied. Aspects of the economic and military history of Europe during this time period are also explored, as is the role of women. The humanist spirit as reflected in the art, architecture, and music of the Renaissance is also covered.
Grading: UC SPS Graded
Repeatable for additional credit: No

HIST1-UC 5853 Modern Chinese History, 1644 to The Present (4 Credits)
Typically offered occasionally
This course introduces key themes in modern Chinese history from the rise of the Qing Dynasty (1644) to the present. Focusing on the relationship between state and society the course examines the transformation of China from empire to nation. This transformation is also explored in the context of "Western" ascendancy and global modernity. Overall the course provides a broad introduction to the political, economic, social and cultural history of modern China, including an examination of the imperial system and its decline, the nature of communist rule, and the rise of China as a major power in today's world. Prerequisites: Students must have taken at least one history course or have the permission of the coordinator.
Grading: UC SPS Graded
Repeatable for additional credit: No

HIST1-UC 5854 Sp Topics in History (2-4 Credits)
Typically offered occasionally
Provides the opportunity for intensive study of specific topics in history, focusing on a different theme of a topic each time it is offered. The specific topic is listed in the course schedule for the semester.
Grading: UC SPS Graded
Repeatable for additional credit: Yes