

FALL 2008 - HISTORY 481 SEMINARS

901 - Black/Brown Relations in the U.S.

Dr. Ramos

TR 2:20-3:35

Recent media reports have repeated the claim that because of historic tensions between Blacks and Hispanics, Hispanics might not support Black presidential candidate Barack Obama. Such a statement captures only part of the story. In the course, we will explore examples of cooperation and conflict between Blacks and Hispanics. We will investigate the political, social, and economic contexts that informed these instances as well as gain a more holistic comprehension of Black-Brown relations.

902- The Atlantic Slave Trade

Dr. Yarak

MWF 9:10-10:00

This seminar will examine the history, historiography and popular representations of the Atlantic slave trade, the forced migration of at least 12 million enslaved persons from Africa to Europe and the New World during 1450 to 1900. Topics to be discussed: the origins of the slave trade, the demand for slave labor in the Americas, the process of enslavement in Africa, the economics of slave trading, the Middle Passage, the suppression of the trade, and recent representations in fiction and film.

903- The Vietnam War/The American War

Dr. Dror

MWF 11:30-12:20

The word "Vietnam," unknown to most Americans before the 1960s, has become a symbol of national pain. This course will consider the war fought in the 1960s-1970s from different perspectives - of its opponents and proponents in the U.S. and of the two sides in Vietnam, Communist and anti-Communist.

904 - Medicine and Empire: Germany and Japan, 1868-1945

Dr. Kim

MW 4:10-5:25

This course is designed to introduce students to some of the main historiographical approaches and debates within the social and cultural history of medicine relating to Germany and Japan. It focuses on the development of modern medical science in Germany and Japan, the connection between medicine and colonialism, and the intersection of society, culture, and medical science.

905 - War and Reform in the U.S. Military, 1945-2007

Dr.Linn

MW 5:45-7:00

This course will be a mixture of instruction and practical research/writing skills and a research project on the US military history between World War II and the present. Seminars will consist of a combination of instruction and discussion of various skills necessary for the advanced study of history. Students will be expected to write a research paper based on primary sources.

906- Women of the Atlantic World

Dr. Schloss

MWF 1:50-2:40

Between 1500 and 1850, the lives of both men and women around the Atlantic rim were transformed by the coming together of Western Europeans, Native Americans and Africans in the western hemisphere. Taking advantage of the new approach that has come to be called "Atlantic World History," this course examines both the history and the historiography of women in Spain, Great Britain, France, the Americas, and the west coast of Africa, from the period of first contact until the final days of the plantation systems. Students will read books by historians, anthropologists, and literary critics in an effort to uncover how women's personal experiences were shaped by social, economic, political, and cultural circumstances in each locale.

907 - Revolutions and Reforms in 20th Century China

Dr. Wang

T 5:30-8:20 pm

This is a course designed as a writing seminar, which offers a narrative of the revolutionary and reformist movements that had profound impact on Chinese politics, economy, society, and culture in twentieth century China. This course will specially emphasize post-Mao reform and the rise of Chinese economic world power in the last twenty years of the century.

908 - Contested Nationalisms in India, 1800-1947

Dr. Mishra

TR 9:35-10:50

This seminar invites students to interrogate the homogenous nature of Indian nationalism in the late 19th and early 20th centuries. Students will be introduced to historiographical approaches and debates about minority engagement with majoritarian nationalism in colonial India through a focus on three modules – Gender, Caste and Religion. Readings in class will prepare students for research projects that will speculate on the ways in which minority politics based on gender, caste and religion negotiated the demands on unitary Indian Nationalism.