Undergraduate Courses

HIST 3309 CRN 33848           MTWRF   9:20AM – 11:30AM
PART OF TERM - SUMMER II – Jul. 6th to Jul. 30th
Mexican American History
Dr. Manuel B Ramirez

This course examines the history of ethnic Mexicans in the United States. Covering the pre-Columbian period to the recent past, students will gain an understanding of the richness and diversity of Mexican American history. Throughout the semester, several topics will be examined including early Mexican settlements, US conquest, immigration, community creation, identity, and gender. This course also seeks to develop independent and critical thinking, increase skills in written and oral communication, and foster the integration of perspectives. The format of the course is a combination of lectures, class discussions, and visual presentations.

HIST 3390 CRN 34944              Online Course
PART OF TERM - SUMMER I – Jun. 7th to Jul. 1st
History, Special Topics
Topic: Borderlands History: Cd. Juárez and El Paso
Dr. Yolanda Chávez Leyva

This course explores the history of two of the most significant border “twin cities” along the US-Mexico border: Ciudad Juárez, Chihuahua and El Paso, Texas. Through reading and discussing the history of our bi-national community, we will understand the trajectory of the greater borderlands and the historic processes that have shaped our area. We will explore themes such as colonization, nation-building and border-making, urbanization, and migration as well as the debates surrounding them. To ground ourselves, we may also visit numerous historic sites, depending on the status of COVID-19 and best health practices. If we can make field trips and if your schedule does not allow you to attend, there will be other options. Your grade will be based on your participation in class discussions, completion of in-class short written assignments, and two essay exams. This class is remote and asynchronous—we will not meet at the same time.

HIST 3390 CRN 33849              Online Course
PART OF TERM - Maymester – May 17th to May 28th
History, Special Topics
Topic: History of Spain
Dr. Selfa Chew-Melendez

This Maymester course is a survey of the history and culture of Spain, starting with the presence of the Muslim communities and their expulsion from the Iberian Peninsula as the prelude to the construction of a global Spanish Empire. Our course ends with the Catalan Declaration of Independence in 2017. Since Spain’s imperial expansion altered geopolitical configurations across continents since 1492, we will examine the impact of colonization over diverse social sectors controlled by the Spanish rulers. Other themes include the development of regional and national identities as well as interlocking relations of power affecting race, gender, and religious dimensions of the Spanish society.
This course examines the context, history and legacy of the Black Panther Party (1966-1982). Founded as the Black Panther Party for Self-Defense (BPP) in October 1966 by Huey P. Newton and Bobby Seale, it became one of the most notorious organizations of the 20th century. The BPP inspired and supported other social justice groups, obtaining wide international support to the struggle for civil rights and against state-sponsored violence. Texts, films, and discussions will highlight the BPP’s attempts to promote social justice, and to maintain its connections with other labor and civil rights organizations in the United States and abroad.

This course is an exploration of the ways in which sex and sexuality have been thought about, discussed, and practiced in the United States and the U.S.-Mexico and U.S.-Canada Borderlands from the colonial period to the twenty-first century. Special attention is given to the intersections of sex and sexuality with race, the law, politics, and popular culture. In addition to completing several smaller assignments throughout the course, students will produce a final research project that will consist of either a 6-8 page essay or a 12-15 minute podcast on a topic related to the course content.

In this course, we will use selected literary and cinematic works, in context, to study China from the beginning of the 20th century to the present. Topics will include Chinese cultural and social traditions, Western impacts & Chinese responses, the May Fourth iconoclasm, gender and class inequality, rise of communism under Mao Zedong, and the development of a new China after Deng Xiaoping. The course is designed for students with no previous study of China. No Chinese language ability is required. All readings are in English, and all films are in Chinese with English subtitles.

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This upper division course covers the histories of the diverse groups of people living in what we now refer to as the U.S. – Mexico Borderlands. We will discuss an array of issues, such as origin stories, Indigenous notions of history, conquest and resistance, colonialism and cultural syncretism, ethnogenesis and tribalism, racial identity, nation building and sovereignty, as well as gender, politics, and Indian law. In particular, we will focus on how the emergence of the U.S.-Mexico border has impacted Indigenous peoples who have lived in the region for millennia. Students will be responsible for daily readings, three essays, in-class discussion and assignments, and four “quests” (quiz/test). Daily attendance is mandatory. Students will practice reading primary sources to determine multiple points of view, assess historical contingencies and contexts, and summarize key themes and historical trends. Additionally, students will build writing skills, develop crucial communication abilities, and work on critical thinking and analytical skills.

HIST 4302 CRN 35343                MTWRF 11:40AM – 1:50PM
PART OF TERM – SUMMER II – Jul. 6th to Jul. 30th
Intro to Public History
Jose Chavez Leyva

This course introduces the field of public history and provides hands-on experience with historical practice in the community. Students will learn how to conduct oral histories and be part of an oral history project. Students will also read about museum theory and engage in spirited class discussions about the future of museology. Lastly, the class will work on a web-based digital history project, utilizing the knowledge and theories explored throughout the course. Students will be expected to complete assigned readings, contribute to class discussions, and carry out all assigned public history work.

HIST 4330 CRN 35348                MTWRF 8:30AM – 1:30PM
PART OF TERM – Maymester – May 17th to May 28th
Teaching History/Social Studies
Dr. Brad Cartwright

This course serves as a “capstone” experience for pre-service secondary history and social studies teachers by uniting content knowledge and pedagogical skills. Teaching is an art, but like other arts, it is best cultivated through mastering basic techniques, learning from the experiences of others, and studying the theoretical underpinnings of practice. Accordingly, the major tasks of this course revolve around professional development, lesson planning, and reflection. You will prepare a résumé and a statement on your teaching philosophy. You will design multiple lesson plans and create an online teaching portfolio. Throughout this process, you will observe different online teaching styles, encounter a variety of teaching activities, and reflect upon your evolution as a teacher. Lastly, because the discipline of history lies at the core of the social studies curriculum, special emphasis will be given to history teaching and learning.
Graduate Courses

HIST 5370 CRN 35828       W 10:00AM – 1:00PM
PART OF TERM – SUMMER I – Jun. 7th to Jul. 30th
Seminar in U.S. History
Dr. Brad Cartwright

This graduate research seminar focuses on the history of the American Empire and its top priority will be to help students hone their skills in research and writing. We will begin by discussing the challenges and strategies involved in conceptualizing a manageable seminar paper – one that is based on original primary source research and engaged with relevant historiographical debates. Thus, during the first few weeks of the semester, we will discuss potential topics and explore the subject’s historiography. Then, once students have defined their topic, they will devote their time outside of class to intensive research and writing. The last few weeks of the course will be dedicated to peer review and presentations. The course requirements include regular attendance, active and informed participation in class discussions, and the completion of all steps required for an original research project. Ultimately, this seminar paper should function as an important step on the path toward your graduate degree.