

Department of History

Spring 2025 Courses

**Honors courses taught by History faculty are listed at the end of this packet.

**Classics courses are listed after the History courses.

HIST 200-001

Empires of the Ancient World

Prof. Martin Wainwright

MWF 10:45am-11:35am

Through the use of examples drawn from diverse regions and historical eras, this course explores global encounters and parallel development among ancient societies, and the changes that these processes bequeathed to the modern world. It focuses on the major themes that show how connections between the world's regions formed the basis of the increasingly globalizing economies and societies of the last five hundred years. These encounters include the spread of technology, the growth of urban trade areas and the connections between them, the spread of universal religions and philosophical traditions, and the rise of large state structures that enabled many of these developments.

**Gen Ed: Humanities, Global Diversity

HIST 200-501

Empires of the Ancient World

Prof. Evi Gorogianni

Asynchronous Online

HIST 200-502

Empires of the Ancient World

Prof. Anne Maltempo

Asynchronous Online

History 210-001

Humanities in Western Tradition I

Prof. Michael Levin

TTh 9:15am-10:30am

In this course, we will discuss the question, What is "Western Civilization"? In other words, why do we in "the West" think the way we do? In this course we will use a combination of history, art, literature, and philosophy to explore the roots of our society. We will examine what has changed, and what has not changed, in our thinking about big questions: love, death, politics, and the meaning of life. This course covers material from ancient history through the Italian Renaissance. The emphasis of the course will be on class discussion of major texts.**Gen Ed: Humanities

HIST:251-501
U.S. History since 1877
Prof. Greg Wilson
Asynchronous-Online

This is a 100% online course, equivalent to the traditional 3-credit introduction to the history of the United States from the end of the Reconstruction period to the recent past. The broad themes of freedom, equality, and power will serve as threads to tie together the many individuals, groups, movements, laws, events, and ideas encountered during the course. Assignments will involve reading, writing, analysis of historical sources, and on-line discussion designed to promote historical thinking – a critical approach to the past. You will submit all assignments online through The University of Akron's learning management system, Brightspace.

**Gen Ed: Social Science, Domestic Diversity

HIST 310-001
Historical Methods
Prof. Gina Martino
MWF 9:40am-10:30am

In Historical Methods, you will learn to practice the craft of the historian. Over the course of the semester, we will explore the art and the science involved in discovering and evaluating a diverse range of sources, constructing an argument, and finding your voice as a writer. As this is a course in historical methodology, you will work toward producing a final research paper using the research and writing skills you develop. Far more than simply a course on writing footnotes and bibliographies, this class emphasizes the experience of finding a topic that inspires you to learn more about it and sharing the results of your scholarly exploration through writing. This course counts toward the requirements for a major in History and programs in the College of Education.

HIST 322-001
Europe: Absolutism to Revolution, 1610-1789
Prof. Michael Graham
MWF 10:45am-11:35am

This course will examine the political, social, intellectual and cultural history of Europe, especially western Europe, from about 1600 to about 1800. During these two centuries Europe witnessed two major political revolutions - one in England and one in France - as well as several other profound intellectual, social and cultural shifts which have been described as "revolutionary," shaping the culture of the modern world. It was also during this period that some European powers extended their political and economic influence to the far corners of the globe in an imperial competition whose repercussions are still felt today. We will study and analyze this history through lectures, readings (including substantial primary source readings), discussion and the viewing of an historical film.

HIST 324-001
Europe: WWI to the Present
Prof. Stephen Harp
TTh 5:10pm-6:25pm

War, fascism, ethnic violence: many historians have labeled the history of twentieth-century Europe as a history of barbarism unleashed, a history of ideological extremism, and a time of terror. But twentieth-century Europe also witnessed times of peace and profound social progress. Indeed, the

history of Europe after 1914 is the story of how a continent dominated by so much war eventually moved towards peace. Post-1914 Europe, then, is a history of parallels: Europeans pursued war and also alternatives to war; they committed acts of ethnic violence and also sought out racial harmony;

History 340-003/HONORS 350-003
Selected Topics: The History of Anti-Semitism
Prof. Michael Levin
TTh 2:00pm-3:15pm

Why do people hate Jews? Is anti-Semitism different from other forms of prejudice? And what does it mean to be Jewish in the first place? In this course we will explore the historical roots of these questions, using various primary sources as a springboard

HIST 470/570-501
Ohio History
Prof. Gregory Wilson
Asynchronous Online

This course covers the span of Ohio's history from prehistoric eras to the recent past. It focuses on issues including land and environment, Native American settlement, frontier life, industrial and urban growth, wars, technology, social and cultural issues, and political events. The class may include visits to local Ohio history sites.

HIST 472-001
Genocide and Mass Violence
Prof. Janet Klein
MW 3:30pm-4:45pm

This course explores the histories of twentieth and twenty-first century genocide and other types of mass violence, as well as the debates surrounding them. Focusing on examples that begin with the genocide of indigenous peoples in the Americas and Australia and concluding with current cases, we will explore the role of modern identity politics, imperialism, and ideology in mass murders and genocides. We will conduct this class as a seminar, which means that we engage in extensive reading (as well as writing) assignments and regular participation from students in discussions. History majors may apply this course to either the Group II (Europe) or Group III (non-Western, etc.) area distribution requirement depending on their needs, and possibly also to Group I (American).

HIST 483/583-001
History in Video Games
Prof. A. Martin Wainwright
MW 2:00pm-3:15pm

Video games are the latest technology to present historical material as entertainment. Like authors of novels and producers of movies, designers of video games must choose how to present historical themes in their games. Unlike previous media, however, video games offer the consumer the opportunity to participate actively in the re-creation of history exploring alternatives to what actually occurred. This course examines the presentation of history in video games analyzing them for accuracy, bias, structural limitations, and utility as teaching tools

History 666-801
Reading Seminar: American History to 1877
Prof. Gina Martino
W 5:10pm-7:20pm

The seminar in early American history explores this transformative period that stretches from the earliest cultural encounters of the Colonial Era through the Age of Revolutions, the mid-nineteenth century, and the Civil War and Reconstruction. In addition to acquiring a greater understanding of the events of the period, you will investigate major themes, debates, and methodologies involved in the study of early American history. You'll also consider how to put this new knowledge into practice in an applied setting. Requirements include writing short reviews of readings, writing a final paper, and participating in class discussions.

Note: This course counts toward the Conflict and Memory theme for the degree and comprehensive exams.

****Classics Courses****

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