

Fall 2017 Course List

- HIST 400: Twentieth Century Approaches to History ([Dr. John Pincince](#))
- HIST 410: Readings in Early American History ([Dr. John Donoghue](#))
- HIST 460: Urban America ([Dr. Elizabeth Shermer](#))
- HIST 479: Public History Media ([Dr. Kyle Roberts](#))
- HIST 480: Public History Method and Theory ([Dr. Patricia Mooney-Melvin](#))
- HIST 483: Oral History: Method and Practice ([Dr. Christopher Manning](#))
- HIST 561: Women's and Gender History ([Dr. Alice Weinreb](#))

Fall 2017 Course Descriptions

HIST 400: Twentieth Century Approaches to History

Wednesday 4:15 pm - 6:45 pm

[Dr. John Pincince](#)

This colloquium focuses on twentieth-century historical writing, emphasizing interpretive paradigms and innovative methodologies. It examines the rise of social history and then cultural history as the dominant historical genres in the profession. In particular, the course explores the impact of social science models on the writing of history in the post-World War II era, as well as the more recent challenges posed by historians of women and gender, post-colonialism and postmodernism. By examining key historical works that have shaped the discipline of history, we will try to understand the profound changes in ideas about the nature of history and historical writing that have emerged over the preceding century.

HIST 410: Readings in Early American History

Tuesday 4:15 pm - 6:45 pm

[Dr. John Donoghue](#)

This course will explore select readings in American history from the colonial period through the Civil War. The creation of the republican, American nation state will feature prominently in the course. But part of its purpose, in line with the History Department's increasingly transnational focus, is to de-center the national paradigm of historical analysis. New studies integrating early American history with Atlantic, transnational, and global history will thus figure largely in assigned readings, as will analytical categories of race, class, and gender. Thematic emphasis will be given to histories of colonialism, empire-building, capitalism, slavery, political thought, and borderlands.

HIST 460: Urban America
Wednesday 7:00 pm - 9:30 pm
[Dr. Elizabeth Shermer](#)

This course focuses on significant issues in the development of Urban America from the Early Republic to the present. The course is designed to both cover the history of metropolitan development but also the historiography of key themes, such as economic development, industrialization, the environment, race and ethnicity, gender, as well as the role of religion in urban social and cultural life. This is the basic course for students who wish to take a concentration in US Urban Social and Cultural History. As such, the readings and assignments are designed to prepare students to take exams and build bibliographies for research projects (either for seminar papers or dissertations).

HIST 479: Public History Media
Thursday 7:00 pm -9:30 pm
[Dr. Kyle Roberts](#)

This course is an introduction to the role of new media and the digital humanities in the service of cultural heritage. It will focus on examining the ways that emerging media have affected our historical understanding in the past and present and on developing facilities with digital applications, methodologies, and platforms that scholars and public history professionals increasingly need to use in the present and future. This includes archiving, blogging, digitizing, digital storytelling, editing and analyzing, social media, virtual exhibitions and web design. It will also take up broad social and ethical questions surrounding media and contemporary culture, including accuracy of evidence, intellectual property, and open access to knowledge. By the end of the semester, students will have produced a digital portfolio of their work. *Cross-listed with DIGH 400: Introduction to Digital Humanities Research.*

HIST 480: Public History Method and Theory
Monday 6:00 pm - 8:30 pm
[Dr. Patricia Mooney-Melvin](#)

This course explores the field of public history with special emphasis on the theoretical and methodological challenges faced when preserving or presenting history outside of a formal classroom environment. Also under consideration will be the professional and ethical responsibilities of the historian both inside and outside of the university setting. Students will be able to understand the theoretical and methodological issues of importance to the field of public history, reflect upon ethical issues involved in the collection, curation, and presentation of history, and participate in applied projects drawing upon public history methodologies and presentation modes.

HIST 483: Oral History: Method and Practice

Tuesday 6:00 pm - 8:30pm

[Dr. Christopher Manning](#)

This course will give students a basic understanding of oral history by asking several questions of the discipline, including: What exactly is oral history and what sets it apart from other historical research methodologies? What are the ethical issues involved in undertaking oral history? How does one conduct, record, and archive an interview? What steps are necessary in constructing an oral history project? What are the merits of the various products that can be derived from oral history in both texts and multimedia? In addition to reading oral historical texts and theory, students will conduct at least two interviews and participate in an ongoing oral history project.

HIST 561: Women's and Gender History

Thursday 2:30 pm - 5:00 pm

[Dr. Alice Weinreb](#)

This seminar focuses on the use of gender as a category of analysis in history and is particularly appropriate for those who have taken courses in Women's and Gender History or Women's Studies. Students will produce a major research paper; they may choose any topic relevant to issues of gender or women for any time period or society, as long as adequate primary sources are available.