FALL 2015 HISTORY COURSE DESCRIPTIONS

NOTE: HIST 395 and HIST 495 meet the writing intensive requirement for History majors.

HIST 103 Introduction to the Medieval World. Multiple sections/see course schedule for details
This course is a survey of medieval history in Europe from the fall of the Roman Empire to the birth of the Renaissance. We explore political, religious, and social changes as well as economic, technological, and cultural developments, seeking to understand the complexity of the medieval past, including an awareness of the experiences of peasants, townsfolk, students, the religious, knights and nobles. Topics include: the Birth of Christianity and decline of the Roman Empire; Barbarian nations; Islam; the Feudal World and Crusades; Chivalry, Medieval Warfare, and the Arthurian legend; Cities, Education and Daily Life; the Church, Heresy & Witchcraft; and The Black Death.

HIST 104 Introduction to the Modern World. Multiple sections/see course schedule for details
Traces the expansion of Europe into the Americas, Africa, and Asia. The French Revolution, nationalism, and the development of Western European states from the era of the Reformation to the present are studied.

HIST 105 Survey of Global History. Multiple sections/see course schedule for details
This course surveys the cross-continental interactions between the civilizations of Asia, Africa, Europe, and the Americas since 1300, with attention to cultural comparisons over time, and to the impacts of global interdependence upon ecosystems and economies, cultures and geopolitics. Among the themes we cover are: the politics of religious culture, the rise of land and sea empires, epidemic diseases through history, race and gender relations, revolutionary ideologies and new labor and social relations, the cultures of colonialism and neocolonialism, the technologies of world wars, and the rise of global production and consumer markets. Our formats include lectures, discussions, classroom interactions; our sources include original documents, histories, maps, literature, and feature films.

HIST 151 American History to 1877. Multiple sections/see course schedule for details
This course treats developments in American history from the earliest colonial beginnings through the period of the Reconstruction. For about the first third of the course the subject materials covered include: the processes of colonial settlement, the growth of self-government in the English colonies, and an examination of the problems which beset the British empire during the years 1763-1775. Attention is next focused on the American Revolution in its military, social and political dimensions. The launching of the new government under a federal constitution and the growth of political parties form the broad pattern for the middle of the course. Westward expansion is treated as an integral part of the economic and national growth of the country. Concurrently, with this analysis of political, economic, and social growth, the student’s attention is directed to the concepts of American nationalism offered to the electorate by the major political parties, i.e., their ideas and programs for national life. The remaining portion of the course emphasizes the hardened definitions of nationalism presented by the breakdown of the democratic process, and the Civil War and Reconstruction.

HIST 152 American History since 1877. Multiple sections/see course schedule for details
This course begins by emphasizing the problems after Reconstruction, the new industrialism, the last frontier, and agrarian discontent. Attention is focused next upon overseas expansion and the Progressive Era. Later topics include the approach to and participation in World War I, the problems of prosperity during the "normalcy" of the 1920’s, the depression and the New Deal, the role of the United States in World War II, the Cold War at home and abroad, the politics and culture of reform in the postwar era, the Vietnam war, the conservative ascendancy of the 1970s and 1980s, and a view of America since 1990. The course covers the social, economic, and political developments within the United States as well as its diplomatic history in the period of its emergence as a leading world power.
HIST 201 20th Century Military History.  Professor Sambaluk ONLINE course
This course explores the conflicts of the 20th century, beginning with the Russo-Japanese War. How, and why, have wars been fought and decided? Special attention will be paid to the interconnections between the strategies, technologies, and objectives that impact warfare and its place in modern history. Course materials will include the West Point History of Warfare platform used at the United States Military Academy. Classes will be conducted by video teleconference, to facilitate dialogue and discussion between participants.

HIST 211 World Soccer and Global History.  Professor De la Fuente TTH 3:00-4:15
This is an introductory course to the history of soccer, on and off of the pitch. It studies the history of the game itself as well as the international economic, political, social, and cultural trends that shaped it.

HIST 240 East Asia and Its Historic Tradition.  Multiple sections/see course schedule for details
Using archeology, myth, art, and architecture, as well as written texts, this course will explore East Asian society and culture from the formation of the earliest state in the Yellow River Valley (ca. 1400 BCE) to the early nineteenth century. The content includes the Confucian tradition, the creation of centralized states in Korea and Japan, the introduction of Buddhism, the conquests of the Mongols and Manchus, and the development of an urban, commercialized early modern culture. Readings include a textbook and literary works. Students will be evaluated on the basis of essay examinations, reading quizzes, and papers.

HIST 243 South Asian History and Civilizations.  Professor Bhattacharya TTH 12:00-1:15
The South Asian subcontinent is home to over a billion people, just over 23% of humanity. A vivid mixture of languages and religions, the region has an equally rich and complex history and culture. Orientalist stereotypes, however, have dominated the image of South Asia as composed of certain simple and spurious religious and cultural essences shorn of all their complexity. For a lot of people in the United States, for example, India often equals
1. docile women with dots on their foreheads;
2. religion, non-violence and/or Gandhi;
3. poverty stricken masses, the object of pity or charity.
This course seeks to provide a more dynamic conception of the peoples of the subcontinent as historical actors contributing to and engaging with their own history. We will survey the history, culture and political economy of the subcontinent from the coming of the British to the present. Some topics under consideration will be: the transition to colonialism; social, economic and cultural change under British rule; nationalism before and after Gandhi; regional and religious identities; decolonization and partition; the character of the post-colonial era in India, Pakistan and Bangladesh. There will be significant use of primary written sources (in English) and multimedia presentations. No background requirements but a love of Indian films essential!

HIST 271 Introduction to Colonial Latin American History (1492-1810).  Professor Cutter MWF 10:30-11:20
The purpose of this general survey course is to introduce students to the principal historical themes of Latin America during the colonial period (roughly, from 1492 to 1810). No prior knowledge of Latin American history is required.

HIST 300 Eve of Destruction: Global Crises & World Organization in the 20th Century.  Professor Gray TTH 1:30:45
Using a variety of case studies, this course considers turning points – often violent and disastrous ones – in an emerging global conversation about urgent world problems and their possible solutions. Topics include the successes (and failures) of the League of Nations and the United Nations; the development of international law; and the increasing significance of NGOs in recent decades. No prerequisites.
HIST 302 Historical Topics: Queens and Empresses in Early Modern Europe. Professor Mitchell TTH 10:30-11:45
X-LIST WGSS 39000
This course explores the lives and legacies of queens in early modern Europe within the wider context of gender, authority, and power in monarchial regimes. We will examine the whole range of queenly power—proprietary queens, consorts, regents, and dowagers. We will begin with the great female rulers of the sixteenth century, women like Elizabeth I of England, and end the course in the late eighteenth century, looking at women like Empress Theresa of Austria and Queen Marie Antoinette of France. The course, therefore, acts as a general survey of early modern European history through the lens of queenship. There are no prerequisites for this course.

While focusing on individual queens and empresses, students will be introduced to new scholarly approaches on the theories and practice of queenship. Some of the topics include, but are not limited to: the nature and scope of their influence, their symbolic role in the monarchy, their part as cultural and fashion trend-setters, and their political partnerships with male rulers (fathers, husbands, and sons).

Selected readings:
William Monter, *The Rise of Female Kings in Europe, 1300-1800* (Yale University, 2012)
Theresa Earenfight, *The King’s Other Body: Maria of Castile and the Crown of Aragon* (University of Pennsylvania 2009)

HIST 302 Historical Topics: The Other Great Depression: U.S. in the 1890s. Professor Curtis MWF 1:30-2:20
The last decade of the nineteenth century has often been called “The Gay Nineties,” reflecting a belief that it was a simpler time unmarked by social turmoil. The “sound track” of the era was ragtime music, whose syncopated rhythm added to the sense of this decade as a happy-go-lucky time in American history. The predominant visual record of “The Gay Nineties” was produced by Charles Dana Gibson, whose stylish young women, “The Gibson Girls,” and their dandy young suitors took part in the emerging culture of “modernity” available most readily to men and women of means.

Beneath this veneer of gaiety, however, is a dreary story of class warfare, homelessness, drought, and utter despair. From the stock market crash of 1893 to the dawn of the twentieth century, the United States was mired in the worst economic depression up to that time. Double-digit unemployment continued from 1893 to the end of the decade. The United States was the largest debtor nation in world history. And in spite of the social and economic crisis, political leaders, under the sway of “Social Darwinism,” insisted that no government aid should be provided to those in dire straits. In parts of the Midwest, farmers struggled with drought conditions from the mid-1880s to the mid-1890s. In the 1890s, race relations reached a low point as poor whites and poor blacks competed for scarce jobs, and belief in white supremacy drove many Southerners to make African Americans scapegoats for hard times. In short, the decade of the 1890s brought the U.S. to the brink of social collapse.

This course takes history students on a journey of discovery in a field that has been curiously overlooked. While much has been written about some of the responses to hard times, the focus has been on how the 1890s propelled the U.S. into a modern, urban, industrial society. The decade is thus seen as a “period of transition” or as a “necessary adjustment” after which the bounty of an industrial society improved the lot of all citizens. But little has been written about the experience of depression in its own right. Students in this course will be among the “pioneers” to recover aspects of American experience in “the other great depression.”

HIST 302 Historical Topics: The Kennedy Assassination in Global Perspective. Professor Smith TTH 10:30-11:45
This course offers a global and comparative perspective on one of the most controversial events of the twentieth century: the assassination of President John F. Kennedy on 22 November 1963. Students will uncover the forensics of the crime. We will explore its implications for partisan politics, the executive presidency, and political culture.
We will weigh the nature of the Kennedy “myth” and the variety of conspiracy theories arrayed against it. But we will also open our analysis to a wider field of vision. How was the assassination part of a global series of events, linked to the Cold-War challenge with the USSR (under Nikita S. Khrushchev); and to one of the fiercest battles of that war, the struggle for Cuba under Fidel Castro? We will also study the comparative dimensions of the crime. How was the assassination part of a culture of political violence in the modern era that has counted the murders of presidents, tsars, commissars, civil-rights leaders, and political candidates?

HIST 302 Historical Topics: History of U. S. Presidential Debates. Professor Brownell W 2:30-5:20 X-LIST COM 49700

This multi-disciplinary course will examine the history of presidential debates with a focus on how shifting economic environments and media terrain have transformed electoral strategies and ways in which politicians and voters interact on the campaign trail. Affiliated with the Purdue Institute for Civic Communication (PICC), this course will focus on the applied learning of historical lessons to link academic study with practical, professional skills to help students gain insight into politics, communications, and public history.

Students will rely extensively on Purdue’s C-SPAN Archives as a window into American political history. The course will apply the analytical and conceptual frameworks of the past to facilitate understanding of the media-driven political landscape of today and to conceptualize future possibilities for electoral strategies and civic engagement.

HIST 302 Historical Topics: History of Science. TBA MWF 10:30-11:20

HIST 302H Historical Topics: Gender and War in the Time of Napoleon HONORS ONLY. Professor Walton MWF 10:30-11:20

200 years ago the Battle of Waterloo (1815) ended 20 years of almost constant warfare in Europe. War affected everyone’s lives, soldiers as well as civilians, throughout Europe and beyond. This course will examine the experiences of men and women, and the ways that war affected masculine and feminine behaviors. Although the war began with the French Revolution, Napoleon Bonaparte is the central figure associated with this period, and we will analyze his contributions to gendered identities and gender relations, as well as to war. The format will be mostly seminar-style discussions of common readings, with a few lectures and films. Students will write papers, occasionally lead discussion, and do a guided and limited research project.

Possible textbooks include the following: David A. Bell, The First Total War; Rafe Blaufarb and Claudia Liebeskind, Napoleonic Foot Soldiers and Civilians; Alan Forrest, Karen Hagemann, and Jane Rendall, Soldiers, Citizens, and Civilians: Experiences and Perceptions of the Revolutionary and Napoleonic Wars, 1790-1820; Nadezhda Durova, The Cavalry Maiden: Journals of a Russian Officer in the Napoleonic Wars; Jakob Walter, The Diary of a Napoleonic Footsoldier.

HIST 30505 U. S. in the World. Professor Atkinson TTH 12:00-1:15

This course explores the central issues and themes of American foreign relations during the twentieth century with a primary focus on the expansion of American political, military, economic, and cultural power.

HIST 31005 Civil War and Reconstruction. Professor Janney TTH 9:00-10:15

This course will examine the causes, fighting, and outcomes of the American Civil War and Reconstruction. The course combines lectures, readings, films, and discussion to address such questions as why the war came, why the United States won (or the Confederacy lost), and how the war affected various elements of American society. The principal goal of the course is to provide students with an understanding of the scope and consequences of the bloodiest war in our nation’s history—a war that claimed more than 620,000 lives, freed nearly 4,000,000 enslaved
African-Americans, and settled definitively the question of whether states had the right to withdraw from the Union. Although this is not a course on Civil War battles and generals, about half of the time in class will be devoted to military affairs. It is impossible to understand the broad impact of the war without a grasp of how campaigns and battles shaped attitudes and actions on the home front, and there will be a special effort to tie events on the battlefield to life behind the lines.

**HIST 312 The Crusades. TBA MWF 12:30-1:20**
This course considers the origins, course, and impact of the Crusades on Christian, Islamic, Byzantine, and Jewish societies between the eleventh and fourteenth centuries. Why did the Crusades start when they did? What did the Crusaders hope to accomplish? Who were the important individuals active in crusading? How did bloody warfare and intense religious enthusiasm come together during the crusading period? What were the economic and intellectual results of the crusades on European life? Of what significance are the Crusades in the history of Western Civilization? These are some of the major questions that will be considered during the course of the semester’s work.

**HIST 317 History of the Christian Church and the Expansion of Christianity I. Professor Fleetham MWF 1:30-2:20**
The Christian Church shaped the West, and continues to influence it profoundly. Born within the ancient Roman Empire, Christianity survives in diverse forms throughout the world: the Church is arguably the most influential and long-lived institution in world history. Tracing the Church’s evolution from its foundations to the fourteenth century, History 317 will concentrate on five interlocking themes: 1) the Christianization of the Roman Empire and of the Germanic peoples; 2) the hierarchical structure and governance of the Church; 3) the relations between the Church and various monarchies; 4) the rise, triumph, and decline of papal authority; and 5) the principal movements aiming at the reform of the Church. Until about 600 CE, the course concerns the Church throughout the Mediterranean world. Thereafter, it concentrates on the Latin Church in Western Europe, devoting little attention to the Greek, Oriental, or Slavic churches.

**HIST 320 The World of Charlemagne. Professor Contreni TTH 9:00-10:15**
This course examines the efforts of Charlemagne (A.D. 768-814) to create a new European civilization after the collapse of the Roman Empire in the West. The course will include the perspectives of his successors and rivals, as well as of Saxons, Vikings, Muslims, Byzantines, popes, bishops, abbots, and important men and women who also populated Charlemagne’s world and helped to shape its successes as well as its failures. The course emphasizes the interplay between politics and art, culture, religion, and society.

**HIST 329 History of Women in Modern Europe. Professor Walton MWF 9:30-10:20**
This course examines the history of women in modern Europe from 1789 to the present, analyzing both women’s experiences, and the social and cultural constructions of femininity. It also attends to different contexts of class, ethnicity, and nationality in the history of European women. Subjects covered include women’s participation in revolutions, state interventions in the family, working lives of women, ideals and practices of sexuality, the middleclass model of domesticity and women’s responses to it, the rise of feminist movements, women in socialism, the role of women and femininity in imperialism, the experiences of two world wars, women under fascism, women in the transition from communism to capitalism, and contemporary feminisms in Europe.

The format will be both lecture and discussion, with a few films. Students will be called upon to be historians themselves by reading and interpreting a variety of primary source materials, including fiction, autobiography, and other historical documents written by women. No prior knowledge of European or women’s history is necessary or expected. Students who take the course for honors credit will read additional works and/or view additional films, meet for discussion outside of class, and write a short research paper.
HIST 333 Science and Technology in Western Civilization I. Professor Foley MWF 12:30-1:20
History 333 aims at giving the student an overview of the main lines in the development of science and technology in European civilization from the earliest times down to Newton's discovery of gravitation. Beginning with a survey of the technological achievements of prehistory, it passes to a brief consideration of the accomplishments of the Egyptian and Mesopotamian civilizations. More detailed treatment is given to the Greeks, including an assessment of their mathematics, astronomy, biology, medicine, and social theory. An effort is made to relate these disciplines to the changing social and economic circumstances of the Greek city states. Attention is given to the question of why Greek science became sterile after the 2nd century B.C. The course next touches upon Roman civilization, and then proceeds to a consideration of the technological achievements of the Middle Ages. Next the lectures treat the medieval transmission of ancient science and its incorporation into the body of Christian doctrines. The course concludes by tracing the efforts of physicists and astronomers to free their studies from the influence of the Church and of antiquity, and the new accommodation between science and its ambient society which was reached in the age of Newton.

HIST 343 Traditional Japan. Professor Hastings TTH 1:30-2:45
Using archeology, myth, art, and architecture, as well as written texts, this course will explore Japanese society and culture from the formation of a state in about the third century CE to the early nineteenth century. Topics of study include the imperial institution, the introduction of Buddhism, the development of a rich literary culture in the Heian period, the rise of the samurai, the transformation of the institution of shogun, and the development of an urban, commercialized early modern culture. Readings include a textbook and literary works. Students will be evaluated on the basis of essay examinations, reading quizzes, and papers.

HIST 350 Science and Technology in the Twentieth Century. Professor Foley MWF 12:30-1:20
An introductory survey emphasizing cultural contexts, relationships with other institutions, and occasional forays into the biographies of major figures. Covering selected major achievements as well as the problems these generate. Neither science nor engineering background is required.

HIST 351 The Second World War. Multiple sections/see course schedule for details
History 351 will cover the military, diplomatic, political, social, and cultural history of World War II. It will focus on the causes of the war, the battles that decided the war, the leaders (civilian and military) who made the key decisions, and how the war changed society. An additional feature will be how the war is remembered in novels and films. Hollywood features and documentaries will play a crucial part in the course. In short, the course will cover the history of the war from the rise of Adolf Hitler to “Saving Private Ryan.”

HIST 371 Society, Culture, and Rock and Roll. Professor Morrison MWF 3:30-4:20
This class will survey the social and cultural fabric of post-World War II United States through the prism of music – rock and roll music. At one level the class will survey trends and styles in rock, focusing first on the artists and groups who gave rise to this hybrid form of music from its country and blues roots. It will then track the rise of rock and roll in the 1950s and the corporate, political, and social backlash against it. The focus on the 1960s will be on music as an expression and extension of the social, cultural, and political changes of that decade. Finally, the class will examine the paradoxical developments of the evolution of “corporate rock and roll” with the emergence of an abrasive, often angry music [read: punk/grunge/rap] by the end of the 1970s and into the 1980s. In the end, this class will examine and explain the technological, business, and social forces that helped cement rock’s position in Western popular culture.

There are five major themes around which the class turns. The first is the importance of African-American culture to the origin and development of rock and roll. The second is the effect of demographic shifts and in particular the dramatic population growth during the postwar era (both in the United States and Britain). Economic issues –
prosperity and major and independent record companies – form a third prism through which we will look at rock and roll. Technological innovations that both spread popular music and, in the 1950s, became part of making music, are a fourth theme. Finally youth culture and experiences are central to this class. This interdisciplinary class will empower students to use a medium with which they are somewhat familiar (popular music) to examine less well-known (to them) issues and historical forces that are intrinsic to the American and British postwar experience.

HIST 382 American Constitutional History. Professor Pitts TTH 10:30-11:45
This course explores how fundamental Anglo-Saxon legal theories on justice, republicanism, and economics have been modified by the American experience from 1763-1896. While the course deals with judicial interpretations of the Constitution, it does so in terms of the political and social environments in which the courts operated. The course examines the legal and historical context in which the Supreme Court established major early constitutional interpretations regarding federalism, contractual obligations, and regulation of monopolies. The course then turns to the constitutional debates over sectional strife, slavery, and the coming of the Civil War. Finally, we conclude by exploring the Reconstruction-era amendments and the debates over racial and gender equality.

HIST 395 Junior Research Seminar: Discover Your Roots in American History. Professor Janney TTH 12:00-1:15
In recent years popular TV shows such as Who Do You Think You Are (TLC) and Finding Your Roots (PBS) have revitalized interest in genealogy by featuring celebrities’ hunt to uncover their family histories. This junior research seminar will begin with a similar premise: investigating your family’s past – but then will move beyond and help you place one family member in the larger context of American history. Over the course of the semester, you will learn the skills of a historian – how to conduct primary research in both archives and on-line, find appropriate secondary sources, and write a final research paper placing one individual in the context of his or her time and place.

HIST 395 Junior Research Seminar: Gender and Politics in Early Modern Europe. Professor Mitchell TTH 1:302:45
X-LIST WGSS 39000
This course explores the multiple ways in which gender and politics intersected in the various political systems that prevailed in early modern Europe, from the fifteenth century to the French Revolution. As we examine the configuration of the Italian princely courts, Renaissance republics, the English, Spanish, and French monarchies, we will evaluate texts and images that elaborated and represented, questioned and criticized male and female types of power. The course is organized around four main themes: rulership, political participation, sexual politics, and political dissent. This course draws primarily on historical perspectives, but also uses considerable material from literary studies and art history. Students will work incrementally on a major individual project of their choice in consultation with the professor. They will share their findings during a conference-style event at the end of the semester.

HIST 398 The Afro-American since 1865. Professor Bynum TTH 10:30-11:45
The history of Afro-Americans from 1865 to the present. Their struggles to overcome social, economic, and political oppression and to win basic civil and human rights while making valuable contributions to American society are emphasized.

HIST 403 Europe in the Reformation. Professor Farr TTH 3:00-4:15
Between 1450 and 1650 Europeans experienced religious upheaval of unprecedented proportions. Heresies there had always been, but rival churches to the once universal Christian Church signaled a sundered Christendom that many contemporaries believed could only end in punishment from God. But religious conflict, important as it was, was only part of the ”disorder” that marked the experience of Europeans. Economic transformation, social mobility, unprecedented poverty and vagrancy, rebellion, and war all conspired with religious upheaval to make this epoch an age of anxiety. To fathom these earth-shattering changes, we will search for interconnections between and among these historical phenomena, using interdisciplinary methodology (like psychology and cultural
anthropology) at times to aid in our interpretation of what happened during this epoch and why. In the process, we will explore the many minor paradoxes and the one great contradiction that marks these two hundred years: why Europeans were obsessed with a search for order in an age of perceived chaos.

HIST 421 Honors Historical Methods. Professor Zook MWF 12:30-1:20
Designed as a prequel to History 422 (Honors Thesis); this course introduces the Honors students to various advanced interpretative approaches to history and methods of historical research. Students also choose their topic for their Honors Thesis and begin research.

HIST 475 Spanish Frontier in North America. Professor Cutter MWF 12:30-1:20
The usual narrative of United States History traces the westward march of English-speaking Americans across the North American continent. Yet, well before the dramatic expansion of Anglo-America, subjects of Spain had explored widely and had established permanent settlements from Florida to California, regions that are now part of the United States. In History 475 we will examine the era of Spanish sovereignty in North America, an often overlooked dimension of our national history that nevertheless spans roughly three centuries. Collectively and individually, we will study the experiences the Hispanic settlers who forged lives on the frontier, consider their interactions with indigenous peoples, examine the institutions upon which their societies rested, and reflect upon the historical legacy of the Spanish colonial period.

HIST 492 Seminar in Historical Topics: Great Trials in History. Professor Farr TTH 4:30-5:45
This course will examine four great judicial trials in history. Through our examination of varieties of primary source documents generated by these trials (all in English or English translation), students will explore how historians reconstruct the past and fashion compelling narratives about it. Individual and group projects will emphasize the `doing' of history where the students become the historians, not just the reading about what other historians have written about it. The four great trials we will study in depth are the famous false identity trial of Martin Guerre in sixteenth-century France, the conspiracy trial about the assassination of Abraham Lincoln in 1865, the Scopes `monkey' trial in early twentieth-century America, and the Nuremburg war crimes trials immediately after World War II.

HIST 492 Seminar in Historical Topics: History of Science. TBA MWF 1:30-2:20

HIST 495 Research Seminar in Historical Topics: Flight and Space Archival Research. Professor Smith TTH 12:001:15
Taught in partnership with the Barron Hilton Flight and Space Exploration Archive (at Purdue Libraries Archives and Special Collections), this course will challenge students with a unique semester of original research and historical writing. We will be studying the many facets of our human reach for flight into the air and space, including the dramatic turning points in the history of aeronautics and astronautics. Students will join actual research in the Purdue archives and special collections with supplementary study of other published sources: like newspapers, magazines, film, music, memoirs, and the arts. Paper topics include: invention and innovation, celebrity pilots and Amelia Earhart, Purdue’s astronauts (including Neil Armstrong and Eugene Cernan), flight utopias and science fiction, air power and war, the machinery and business of flight, the Space Race, or any other archive-related topic by the student’s choice.

This course also offers several opportunities for extracurricular and special events. In fall of 2014, for example, students visited with an aerospace engineer, Mr. Ernest Stoops, who was donating his papers to Purdue; attended a reception for astronaut Eugene Cernan and Mrs. Carol Armstrong; and visited the “Steps to the Moon” exhibit. The “Flight and Space Exploration” class also made a “historical” tour of Purdue airport.
HIST 495 Research Seminar in Historical Topics: 1960s America. Professor Gabin TTH 10:30-11:45 X-LIST AMST 30100
This course will introduce students to the methods of historical research and writing by focusing on the political, social, and cultural history of the United States during the long 1960s. Although fifty years have elapsed since then, the 1960s remain the subject of passionate debate and political controversy in the United States. The times they were a-changin’, but why, how, and to what end? In exploring this turbulent decade, we will consider the presidencies of John F. Kennedy, Lyndon B. Johnson, and Richard M. Nixon; the triumph of postwar liberalism; the resurgence of modern conservatism; the political and social movements of the decade, including the black freedom movement, the new left, the new right, environmentalism, the chicano and red power movements, feminism, and the gay liberation movement; the counterculture; the sexual revolution; rock ‘n’ roll; and the Vietnam war.
We will engage these topics through a variety of primary sources—magazines and newspapers, movies and music, memoirs and fiction, political speeches and court decisions, television and advertisements, oral histories and photographs, posters and buttons. Students will write a research paper on a topic of their own choosing and based on their own work in these kinds of original sources.

HIST 495 Research Seminar in Historical Topics: Writing Histories of American Foreign Relations, 1877-1989. Professor Atkinson TTH 9:00-10:15
This course will introduce you to the dynamic, innovative, and exciting new ways in which historians of American foreign relations have revitalized our understanding of Americans’ role in the world. When we think of U.S. foreign relations, we typically think of State Department memorandums, ambassadors, and war. Our histories reflected this narrow approach for decades. In recent years, however, historians have fundamentally transformed our understanding of diplomacy. Instead of focusing only on “high-politics” and official state actors, scholars are now equally interested in the ways that race, gender, and culture inform Americans’ engagement with the world. We are now just as likely to be exploring the role of masculinity and sexuality in foreign policy formulation, the activities of African American Jazz musicians in Cold War battlegrounds across Europe, Africa, and Asia, or the ways in which networks of American Anime enthusiasts interpreted and consumed Japanese culture during the 1980s. This research seminar will examine the goals and results of this ongoing effort, while guiding students through writing their own histories of American foreign relations. Each student will be responsible for class presentations, active participation in discussions and readings, and regular analytical and writing assignments that will culminate in an original research paper based on primary sources that might include formerly secret State Department files, CIA records, and translated materials from the former Soviet Union and China, as well as newspapers, magazines, personal letters, film, and television.

HIST 514 A History of Western Thought I. Professor Foley MWF 1:30-2:20
History 514 opens by sketching the evolution of Greek thought from mythic to philosophical, historical, and scientific forms, attempting as it does so to relate these changes to concurrent social, political and economic developments. The presocratic philosophers receive considerable attention to this connection. Next comes an account of the systems of Plato and Aristotle, with particular emphasis on their social and political views. Attention to developments in the Hellenistic and early Roman periods center around evolving new relationships between religion, science, philosophy and political opinion. The remainder of the course takes up the rise and development of Christianity, including a consideration of its origins, the factors making for its success, the constriction of both Christian and pagan learning in the Dark Ages, and the rise and fall of the Scholastic synthesis.
NOTE: ENROLLMENT IN 600-LEVEL COURSES IS RESTRICTED TO GRADUATE STUDENTS.

HIST 601 Reading Seminar in European History: The Radical 1970s: Global Shocks, Local Violence. Professor Gray T 3:30-6:20
This reading seminar considers the 1970s as a formative era in the advent of the contemporary world. Topics include new social movements, multinational corporations, terrorist violence, the “oil shock,” the crisis of the welfare state, and the challenges of governance in the Global South. Although coverage is global in reach, participants will have opportunities to choose readings relating to their geographic areas of interest. The final project is a historiographic essay intended to prepare the ground for research projects in this time period.

HIST 601 Reading Seminar in European History: Problems in Early Modern Europe. Professor Ingrao W 6:30-9:20
The past few decades have brought the belated appreciation of the rich diversity of the European continent during the early modern period (~ 1450-1789). For this reason the reading seminar will adopt a pan-European perspective. Although greater attention will be given to developments in France, Spain, Germany and the Habsburg lands, students will be encouraged to pursue special interests in specific countries/regions and historical disciplines. The immense geographical and chronological breadth of the field will oblige us to focus most of our attention on the seventeenth and eighteenth centuries, as the class looks for contrasts and commonalities across the continent. Each week seminar members will receive a reading list of up to ten books from which to choose, together with a list of questions and themes that will be discussed during the next meeting. Although there will be no formal written work (research papers, book reviews), each student will prepare a 1-2 page outline of the book that s/he has read that can be shared with other seminar members.

HIST 610 History: Theory and Methods. Professor Foray T 6:30-9:20
History 61000 is a renamed and renumbered version of History 59800, "European and American Historiography." This is the first part of an introductory two-course sequence for new graduate students intended to acquaint them with some important issues regarding the modern professional practice of history. This semester concentrates on historiography, theoretical questions, and methodological debates that today's working historians inevitably encounter. Students read about the practice of historical scholarship and read several important example texts representing different approaches to the discipline over the past 200 years. Students write several short book reviews, position papers, and a mock grant proposal during this semester. This course is required of incoming graduate students in history. It usually will be followed by History 61100, Research Practicum.

HIST 651 Reading Seminar in American History: Problems in American History. Professor Pitts TH 3:30-6:20
This course is designed to introduce graduate students to the major issues and historiographical debates in American history from sixteenth century European contact with North American indigenous peoples through post Civil War Reconstruction, ending in 1877. We will cover some of the major problems and debates with which historians have grappled in constructing analytical and narrative texts. Assigned texts will cover different methods and interpretive styles, with an emphasis on legal and constitutional interpretations. This is not a course on legal history; rather legal history will be highlighted as one way to understand the early America. By the end of this course, students should establish a firm foundation in the major periods and historical arguments to begin to build a U.S. Survey syllabus through 1877.

HIST 651 Reading Seminar in American History: Race and Civil Rights in the U. S. Professor Bynum W 3:30-6:20