

History (HIST)

Courses

HIST 120 Local and Kansas History (3 Hours)

This course introduces students to the history of Kansas from the beginning of the Late Ceramic Period (1500) to the present. Emphasis will be on the examination of the living patterns of the various peoples who have inhabited the region during this time. This course will also analyze the social and economic factors and political objectives that transformed the central plains from the domain of the bison-hunting Plains Indian to a society based in a market-agricultural economy.

HIST 125 Western Civilization: Ancient World to the Renaissance (3 Hours)

The course explores the major developments, ideas and personalities that have shaped Western civilization. Organized around a readings and discussion format, students engage some of the world's most provocative and influential literature. Western Civilization: Ancient World to the Renaissance begins with the ancient cultures of the Middle East, Greece and Rome and follows the development of Western thought from the medieval period to the Renaissance and Reformation. It is not necessary to take HIST 125 before HIST 126.

HIST 126 Western Civilization: Scientific Revolution to the Modern Age (3 Hours)

The course explores the major developments, ideas and personalities that, for the past 500 years, have shaped Western civilization. Organized around a readings and discussion format, the course allows students to engage some of the world's most provocative and influential literature. Western Civilization: Scientific Revolution to the Modern Age begins with the three revolutions that define modernity the Scientific, French, and Industrial. The course also highlights the new ideologies of the 19th century and more recent themes of modernization and the cultural crisis of the 20th century. It is not necessary to take HIST 125 before HIST 126.

HIST 128 Medieval History (3 Hours)

Medieval History is a detailed survey of the period from late Roman Antiquity to the early Renaissance. Primary and secondary texts and visual resources will be used to illuminate the period that saw first the decline into relative stagnation caused by barbarian onslaughts and then gradual reemergence of a powerful civilization that revitalized itself by renewing the insights of ancient times.

HIST 129 Early Modern Europe 1500-1789 (3 Hours)

This course is an introduction to early modern European history, with emphasis on the economic, social and political developments that have shaped the modern world: the Renaissance; the Catholic and Protestant Reformations; the rise of nation-states; the new inter-cultural contact between Europe and the world; the Commercial Revolution and the Enlightenment.

HIST 130 European History Since 1789 (3 Hours)

This course covers the major political, intellectual, and economic and social developments in Europe from the end of the 18th century to the present, including modern political ideologies, major wars, the growth of strong governments, the effect of modern science on social and political thought, the Industrial Revolution, the creation of large middle classes and the effect of modern technology.

HIST 132 History of Africa (3 Hours)

This course introduces students to the history of Africa until the present. It emphasizes the fundamental characteristics and long-term developments in the evolution of African political and socioeconomic institutions.

HIST 135 Eastern Civilization (3 Hours)

This course is an introduction to the societies and cultures of Asia. Through lectures, readings and discussions, the course will focus on aspects of the history, politics, art, literature and economics of China, Japan and India. The major traditional themes and concepts of these civilizations will be stressed.

HIST 137 African American Studies (3 Hours)

This course surveys the major themes and developments in African-American culture and history from the colonial period to the present. The course is divided into three five-week segments. Each segment relates to a historical period: slave, post-emancipation and contemporary. Each segment also permits a flexible, interdisciplinary approach that will include literature, fine arts and the social sciences.

HIST 140 U.S. History to 1877 (3 Hours) †

This survey course in U.S. history will emphasize developments and trends in American society from the early period of discovery and settlement through Reconstruction. Topics will include the Colonial era, the Revolutionary period, the Federalist era, the expansion of the Republic during the mid-19th century, and the Civil War and Reconstruction. The emphasis will be on analysis and interpretation of these developments.

HIST 141 U.S. History Since 1877 (3 Hours) †

This survey course will emphasize developments and trends in American society from the 1870s to the late twentieth century. Topics will include the Reconstruction era, industrialization, immigration, reform movements, World Wars I and II, social and cultural trends, and foreign policy. Emphasis will be on analysis and interpretation of these developments.

HIST 143 Ancient Greece, the Near East and Egypt (3 Hours)

This course will present the background to the rise of Ancient Greece by examining first its Near-Eastern and Egyptian predecessors. Then it will examine Greece's historical development from the early Aegean phase through its Dark, Archaic, classical and Hellenistic phases. In addition to political, military, and social and economic developments, Greek literature and art will also be highlighted.

HIST 145 History of Ancient Rome (3 Hours)

This course will cover Roman civilization and history from its emergence until the fifth century C.E. In addition to political, military, and social and economic developments, Roman literature and art will also be highlighted. Rome's significance for later western civilization will be noted.

HIST 149 History of India (3 Hours)

This course is a broad and thematic introduction to the history of India. The course covers Indian culture and civilizations from the ancient Indus River Valley Civilization to the present nation state of India. Multiple modes of inquiry and source materials are important for historical analysis, and this course considers literature, art, architecture and other forms of cultural aesthetics in relation to political, economic, material, and religious developments.

HIST 150 Islam: Religion and Civilization (3 Hours)

This course covers the context in which Islam arose; the career of the Prophet Muhammad; the main teachings and practices of the religion; the Qur'an and other early Islamic literature; subsequent political developments in the religion and its spread; its main religious branches; its history during the Middle Ages; the Christian crusades and their consequences; the major components of Islamic civilization, including law, the arts, literature, philosophy, science, and mathematics; Sufi; the effects of Western imperialism upon Islamic states; major developments in Islamic thought and practice since the seventeenth century; the Islamic diaspora and Islam today. HIST 150, HUM 150 and REL 150 are the same course; enroll in one only.

HIST 151 World History: Traditional (3 Hours) †

This course provides students an introduction to the history of the major world civilizations up to approximately 1500. Upon successful completion of the course, students will be able to identify the major political, social, economic and technical developments in the histories of Egypt, Mesopotamia, other Near Eastern civilizations, Rome, Greece, India, China, sub-Saharan Africa, pre-Columbian America and medieval Europe. Students will be able to define the concept of a traditional, as opposed to a modern, society. They will be able to compare these societies with each another and with the modern society of the contemporary United States.

HIST 152 World History: Modern World (3 Hours) †

This course provides students an introduction to the history of the world since approximately 1500. Upon successful completion, students will be able to describe and analyze the development of modernism, which occurred first in the West, including the scientific revolution, secularism, industrialism and the rise of new political ideologies. They will be able to trace the expansion of modernization in both the Western and non-Western worlds and the response to modernism in non-Western countries.

HIST 160 Modern Russian History (3 Hours)

This course examines Russian history within a Eurasian context. It is a study of three centuries of the social, political, economic and cultural forces that shaped Russian history, beginning with a survey of the events that place Russia outside the Western historical tradition.

HIST 162 Modern Latin America (3 Hours)

This course is an examination of the economic, social, political and cultural history of Latin America since independence. Regional identities, such as Central America, and independent national states, such as Cuba and Mexico, are explored. Literary and intellectual trends, together with contemporary popular culture, are featured in the course.

HIST 165 History of China (3 Hours)

This course will survey the history of China from its Neolithic origins until the twenty-first century by examining major overall themes, including political and military developments, social formations cultural trends and China's role in the larger world.

HIST 167 Introduction to History: Japan (3 Hours)

This course will provide an introduction to Japan from the earliest period of human settlement on the Japanese archipelago to the present. In so doing, it will explore political, economic, social, cultural and religious developments. Such an exploration will be useful for the further study of East Asian and Japanese history, as well as other aspects of Japanese language and cultural study.

HIST 180 North American Indian History (3 Hours)

This course surveys the major themes of the history of Indigenous peoples (also known as American Indians and Native Americans) in North America from the emergence of human life on the continent through the present. Topics include Indigenous life prior to European migration, colonialism, adaptation and resistance to European and American expansion, and efforts to maintain sovereignty.

HIST 195 History of the Middle East (3 Hours)

This course introduces students to the environmental, political, economic, religious and ethnic landscape of the Middle East and Northern Africa. Though its focus is historical, the course prepares students for an understanding of the contemporary challenges faced by the region. Particular attention is paid to the Middle East and Northern Africa as the intersection of three monotheistic traditions, the central role of aridity and natural resources in its development, the interfacing of multiple cultures with Islam, the religious and ethnic diversity of the region today, and modern encounters with the nation-state system and western secularism. Students will also explore the contributions of the region to the larger world and the interactions of Middle Eastern and Northern African countries and people with Asia, Europe and the United States.

HIST 200 Eurasia: History and Cultures (3 Hours)

This course is an interdisciplinary introduction to the rich diversity of the often marginalized civilizations and tribal peoples that inhabit the Caucasus and Central Asia. Students will examine the ethnic, social, economic, religious, artistic and geopolitical influences shared by the inhabitants of these regions. The indigenous sedentary and nomadic populations located along the Silk Road and Eurasian Steppe were repeatedly subjected to conquest by the superior military powers that competed for domination of these trade arteries. Students will trace the succession of cultural influences that swept over the areas. Students will conclude their study with an examination of the post-Soviet development of these regions, investigating how these peoples define themselves within the modern nation-state system.

HIST 210 Environmental History of North America (3 Hours)

This course will introduce students to the environmental history of North America as well as Environmental History as a distinct sub-field of History. Students by the end of this course should be able to more clearly see connections between what they would previously have considered history and the natural systems that made that history possible. By taking an explicitly interdisciplinary focus, this course will bring fresh insights to familiar historical narratives.

HIST 250 American West (3 Hours)

This course is designed to familiarize students with the cultural, geographical, and historical context of the Trans-Mississippi West. Students will explore through three conceptual lenses: as region, a specific place defined by unique physical characteristics; as frontier, a mobile line of settlement; and as a perception, a set of mythic stories and images that attempt to convey national morals and values. Special attention is paid to the ethnic and racial diversity of the region, and to the major historical changes from pre-European contact to the present.

HIST 260 Women in U.S. History (3 Hours)

This course examines how the experiences of women have shaped United States history. Coursework will investigate the construction of gender; intersections of race, ethnicity, class, sexuality and identity with gender; women's work (paid and unpaid); politics and reform; and changing gender roles. Special attention will be paid to the divergent experiences and perspectives of diverse women in order to expand cultural understanding.

HIST 270 History Internship* (3 Hours)

Prerequisites : Department approval.

Students augment their academic course work with an internship in an appropriate setting under instructional supervision. Internship projects are cooperative efforts between appropriate supervisors in state, local or national museum or research facilities or other not-for-profit organizations and college staff and students. Internships give students the opportunity to participate in the real-world application of their academic studies. In addition, this synthesis of classroom study with practical experience provides students with skills and insights useful in selecting a career or avocation in community service. The student spends the equivalent of 10 hours per week performing internship duties over the course of the semester or a total of 150 hours.

HIST 291 Independent Study* (1-7 Hour)

Prerequisites : 2.0 GPA minimum and department approval.

Independent study is a directed, structured learning experience offered as an extension of the regular curriculum. It is intended to allow individual students to broaden their comprehension of the principles of and competencies associated with the discipline or program. Its purpose is to supplement existing courses with individualized, in-depth learning experiences. Such learning experiences may be undertaken independent of the traditional classroom setting, but will be appropriately directed and supervised by regular instructional staff. Total contact hours vary based on the learning experience.

HIST 292 Special Topics: (1-3 Hour)

This course periodically offers specialized or advanced discipline-specific content related to the study of history, not usually taught in the curriculum, to interested and qualified students within the program. This is a repeatable course and may be taken more than once for credit.