

HISTORY DEPARTMENT – SPRING 2026

GRADUATE COURSE OFFERINGS

4:30-6:30	MONDAY 799 PCS	TUESDAY 726 Tavarez	WEDNESDAY 775 Segal	THURSDAY 779 Celello
6:40- 8:40	799 Rossabi OS	791 Davie 792/796 Wintermute	710 Allen	799 Wintermute

H. 710 [39146] CULTURE & POLITICS IN THE PELOPONNESIAN WAR: ATHENS vs SPARTA

Prof. J. Allen Wednesdays 6:40-8:40pm

This course examines the near 30-year war between Athens and Sparta in fifth century BCE Greece. We consider the complex politics and international relations that played out amid military campaigns, imperial management, and debates in democratic settings. We also note that the conflict was the context in which some of the masterworks of Greek culture, especially from Athens, were produced — architecture on the Athenian Acropolis (the Erechtheum); tragedies by Euripides (*Medea*, the *Bacchae*, etc.) and Sophocles (*Oedipus Tyrannos*, *Philoctetes*, etc.); comedies by Aristophanes (*The Birds*, *The Wasps*, etc.); and episodes involving Socrates (as written later by Plato). We will discuss how an understanding of wartime exigencies and motivations might contribute to surprising new readings of canonical texts.

H. 726 [39788] TOPICS IN WORLD SLAVERY

Prof. F. Tavarez Tuesdays 4:30-6:30pm

Introduces topics in the history of world slavery, within but especially beyond the United States. Special attention will be paid to slavery, resistance, abolition, and the memory of slavery in Africa, Latin America, the Caribbean, and the Indian Ocean World, as well as debates among scholars about comparative history, macro-history, and micro-history.

H. 775 [40101] CONSTITUTIONAL HISTORY OF THE U.S. TO 1865

Prof. M. Segal Wednesdays 4:30-6:30pm

History of the U.S. Constitution and the evolution of law as seen through Supreme Court decisions and other primary sources. Attention to the Court's role in the development of

the American federal system, the protection of rights guaranteed by the Constitution, and the evolution of Constitutional interpretation.

H. 779 [39787] HISTORY OF WOMEN IN THE MODERN UNITED STATES

Prof. K. Celello Thursdays 4:30-6:30pm

This course examines women's social, political, cultural, and economic position in American society from 1920 (after the ratification of suffrage) through the present day. We will study evolving understandings of women's proper "place" and how these varied based upon race, class, ethnicity, and the region in which they lived. We will consider how women lived their daily lives, as well as the larger forces that brought women out of the private sphere and into the public. We will explore both how women carved out increasing areas of influence in the world around them and the limitations of "sisterhood" across economic and racial boundaries.

H. 791 [39786] INTRODUCTION TO HISTORICAL RESEARCH

Prof. G. Davie Tuesdays 6:40-8:40pm

Required for all MA and MLSMA students. In this introduction to historical research and writing methods, students propose a research topic in the first week of the semester. After the topic has been approved, weekly assignments entail obtaining and analyzing primary, secondary, and tertiary sources; drafting a historiographical review essay comparing interpretations of the topic; and giving an oral presentation. By the end of the semester, students will have produced an extensively researched, thoughtfully organized, and properly cited 20-page research paper. Examples of suitable primary sources include speeches, letters, diaries, government documents, newspapers, transcribed oral histories, artifacts, digitized archival documents, memoirs, and book-length texts. No archival research is required. A list of topics will be provided. Full-time History faculty may also be able to recommend topics and/or digitized primary sources and edited collections of primary sources. Students may not research the same materials they have examined in another course but are encouraged to use HIST 791 to work towards a possible capstone project or develop expertise related to their professional goals.

**H. 792 [39471] / H. 796 [39469] MLS-MA Capstone Research Project /
MA Thesis Prospectus Course**

Prof. B. Wintermute Tuesdays 6:40-8:40pm

This workshop-style seminar provides support for MA and MLS/MA students as they develop their final research projects. For History MA students, the outcome is a finalized thesis prospectus that will be used to demonstrate the rationale and state of readiness to write the masters' thesis. For MLS/MA students, the outcome is the completed History component of their interdisciplinary MLS/MA capstone research project. The course

is scaffolded to work students through each stage of their projects so that they may be presented for approval by their individual capstone and thesis advisors.

H. 795 [56384]

Devil

History of the

Prof. S. Covington

Tuesdays 5:00-7:50pm

History of the devil, with particular emphasis on early modern Britain and Ireland.

H. 799 [39784]

ORAL HISTORY PRACTICES AND METHODS

Prof. B. Wintermute

Thursdays 6:40-8:40pm

Students engage current standards and practices in conducting Oral History interviews and managing Oral History projects. After a series of roundtable sessions with external subjects and partners, the class will conduct interviews in cooperation with Daniel Cumming, postdoctoral fellow at Queens College and a lead historian on the project "Melting Metropolis: Everyday Histories of Health and Heat in London, New York, and Paris Since 1945." Interviews will be coordinated with this project and take place with a variety of subjects throughout New York City.

H. 799 [42784]

THE MONGOLS AND GLOBAL HISTORY

Prof. M. Rossabi

Mondays 6:40-8:40pm (Online synchronous)

The thirteenth-century Mongols established the largest land-based empire in world history, stretching from Korea to China to Western Russia in the north and from Burma to Iraq in the south. Their armies reached all the way to Poland and Hungary. They linked Europe to Asia, ushering in an era of frequent and extended contacts between East and West, and had a profound influence on Chinese, Russian, Middle Eastern, and European commerce, politics, culture, and art. The course will consider the positive and negative influences of Chinggis Khan and his grandson Khubilai Khan and will also include studies of Marco Polo and Ibn Battuta. In addition, students will be exposed to catalogs of three exhibitions of Mongol-era art at the Metropolitan Museum of Art. / Secondary school World History AP now starts with the Mongols, and the instructor of this course developed the Columbia University Asia for Educators section on the Mongols. Teachers may find the course of interest.

H. 799 [40104]

AMERICA IN THE 21ST CENTURY

Prof. P. Conolly-Smith

Mondays 4:30-6:30pm

This seminar examines major social, cultural and historical events of the twenty-first century and their impact on the United States. Alongside broad issues such as the rise of the internet and smartphones, streaming services, the climate crisis, and the US's place within the global order, topics include the Y2K panic, 2000 election, George W.

Bush presidency (including 9/11; the Afghanistan and Iraq Wars; Hurricane Katrina; and the 2008 financial crisis), Obama presidency (including Obamacare; rise of the Tea Party; BLM; Occupy Wall Street; and LGBTQ+ issues, including gay marriage), and the Trump presidencies and Biden interregnum (including travel bans; the border wall; Covid19; Ukraine and Gaza Wars; inflation; Green New Deal; tariffs, and the dismantling of the US federal government apparatus).