
History

The aims of the Department of History are to assist and enable the student: 1) to understand world history from the point of view of their own Western, Christian cultural tradition; 2) to understand and appreciate the contributions of non-Western peoples to world history and civilization; 3) to make mature judgments about contemporary public questions based upon an understanding of history; 4) to acquire habits of intellectual honesty and clarity; 5) to develop critical, analytical thinking abilities essential to professional work in government, business, law, journalism and teaching; and 6) to do research using the tools and skills of the professional historian.

Requirements for a major in History:

Hi 105, World Civilization to 1500
Hi 106, World Civilization Since 1500
Hi 212, United States History to 1865
Hi 213, United States History Since 1865
Hi 493, Seminar in History
and one non-Western course

plus elective courses in history to make up a major of thirty-six hours. The department suggests that history majors should include additional courses in economics, political science, and English as part of their background. The department urges all majors to achieve proficiency in a second language, classical or modern.

Transfer students majoring in history must take a minimum of 40% of the coursework required for the major at Benedictine College. Transfer students pursuing a minor in history must take a minimum of 25% of the coursework required for the minor at Benedictine College.

Requirements for a minor in History:

Believing that a history minor is the ideal complement for many majors, the department tailors a program of eighteen hours of study to the individual student. The World Civilization requirement may or may not be included in the eighteen hours.

Requirements for a History Major certifying to teach:

Students wishing to certify to teach History at the junior or senior high level must minor in Political Science and will need Ss 457, plus Hi 105, Hi 106, Hi 212, Hi 213, and six upper-level courses distributed as follows: one course of non-Western; two courses from Hi 321, Hi 353, Hi 363, Hi 394, Hi 395, Hi 396, Hi 398, Hi 493 (European); two courses from Hi 341, Hi 417, Hi 422 (United States); one additional history elective.

Hi 105

World Civilization to 1500 (3) (B)

A survey of the major civilizations from Paleolithic times through the fifteenth century, this course emphasizes the development of Western Civilization, while providing a systematic consideration of all the major civilizations in Asia, Africa, and the Americas. (HP, GP, WP)

Hi 106

World Civilization Since 1500 (3) (B)

A survey of the political, intellectual, social, religious, and economic history of the world from the sixteenth through the twentieth centuries, this course attempts to trace and understand the growing inter-relatedness of the major geopolitical regions of the world as they move towards global interdependence. (HP, GP, WP)

Hi 212

United States History to 1865 (3) (F)

This course surveys the history of the peoples who came to make up the United States from the early discoveries of the New World to the end of the Civil War in 1865. Special attention is devoted to the development of national institutions, political history, ideological currents, and economic change. (HP, WP)

Hi 213

United States History Since 1865 (3) (S)

Continuing the developments in U.S. history beyond 1865, this course carries the story to contemporary times. Special attention is devoted to America's rise to global power, cultural diversity in society, and the attendant developments in domestic policy. (HP, WP)

Hi 303

Modern Asian Survey (3) (D)

To understand the contemporary world, it is important to have a perspective on the history of the nations of the Pacific Rim. This course surveys events in Asia, especially China and Japan, from the nineteenth century to the present. (GP)

Hi 308

Native American Spirituality (3) (D)

This course examines various Native American traditions to develop an appreciation for a generalized perspective of history, the environment, and an Indian "world view." Unique historical accounts and literature provide an understanding of the modern Indian dilemma of reconciling traditional values in the face of encroaching European civilization. By attempting to "see with a native eye," we are enabled to discover the common thread of a deeply spiritual lifestyle that characterizes the various cultures. (F, HP, GP)

Hi 310

United States Civil War (3) (D)

Students will explore the various aspects of the U.S. Civil War. They will examine the war in the context of previous sectional conflict and explore ideological, political, diplomatic, socioeconomic, and military issues related to the war. Students will also explore the meaning and relevance of the conflict to modern America.

Hi 311

Russian History (3) (D)

This is a survey of the course of Russian History from 1812 through the Czarist period ending with contemporary Russia. (HP, GP, WP)

Hi 312

Native America, 1492–1864 (3) (D)

The first half of this survey course introduces students to Native North American cultures through 1864. Topics covered include pre-Columbian Native American societies and cultural traditions, the impact of European colonization, the fur trade, military and religious conquest, Indian Removal, and Native American resistance.

Hi 313

Native America Since 1864 (3) (D)

The second half of this survey course covers the Indian wars of the west, Native American responses to the government's assimilation policies, Indian revitalization movements, Native American participation in World War I and World War II, the impact of the government's relocation and termination policies, the rise (and fall) of the "Red Power" movement, and current issues such as Indian gaming and self-determination.

Hi 314

Native American Warfare (3) (D)

This course focuses on Native American warfare from the perspective of the native peoples themselves. It covers intertribal warfare, the different ways in which Native American cultures viewed and conducted wars, how their systems of warfare changed as a result of technological changes introduced by Europeans, how they operated on both strategic and tactical levels, the impact of warfare with Europeans and the United States, and the contributions of Native Americans in all the branches of the modern U. S. military. The course also introduces students to the problem of conventional versus unconventional warfare.

Hi 315

Rise of the American Republic, 1800–1865 (3) (D)

Major themes in this course are the territorial expansion of the United States and the dramatic consequences of political, demographic, social, and economic change that gave rise to

sectional tensions within American society that threatened to dissolve bonds of union. A Civil War was necessary to restore a sense of unity to the nation.

Hi 316

The Age of Reform, 1865–1919 (3) (D)

The period from the end of the Civil War to World War I was characterized by the rise of industrial capitalism, the creation of a powerful federal government, and confrontations between different social classes in American society. The period culminated in the rise of progressivism and President Wilson's crusade to remake global politics along American democratic principles.

Hi 317

Prosperity & Depression, 1919–1941 (3) (D)

The United States emerged from World War I as one of the most advanced and prosperous countries in the world, only to lose its confidence and self-esteem following the stock market crash of 1929. This course analyzes the dramatic rise and spectacular collapse of the American nation, and the subsequent attempts by President Roosevelt to restore the promise of what is usually called the "American dream."

Hi 318

U. S. Since 1945 (3) (D)

Beginning with World War II, this course traces the rise of the United States as the dominant power in the world and the problems it faces as its hegemony was and is challenged both domestically and internationally. Among the topics covered are the Cold War, the struggle for minority civil rights, domestic political developments, international politics, environmental and social issues, the collapse of Soviet communism, and the rise of international terrorism.

Hi 321

History of Latin America (3) (D)

This course is a survey of Latin American history from 1492 to the present with emphasis on comparative social and institutional development of Latin American nations. (GP)

Hi 322

Historical Research Practicum (1) (D)

This course involves the classification and interpretation of original records: on-site training in local government offices (Atchison city and county records), in museum documents, and college archives. This course may be taken more than once. (OC)

Hi 325

World War I (3) (F)

The First World War ushered in both the end of the true Romantic era and the modern age. This is due, in part, to the global scope of the war, and in part to the intensity of the war, both on the front and in the home areas. This course, therefore, is designed to ask the following questions: Why was the war different than previous wars? How did it come about? Why was it so difficult to win or lose? Why did it last as long as it did? What was its legacy for the 20th century?

Hi 326

World War II (3) (S)

The Second World War is one of the most transformative of recent world events. It reshaped the balance of power in the world; it forced peoples of all nations to reevaluate traditional relationships between themselves and their government, their social assumptions, and their cultural perceptions.

This course examines the war in a social, military, and diplomatic context. Socially, this course will examine the rise of totalitarian societies, life during wartime, and the impact of "total war." We will be discussing life in Japan, the US, the USSR, Nazi Germany, Fascist Italy, and the areas of occupation in Asia, Africa, and Europe.

Hi 327**French Revolution and Napoleonic Era (3) (D)**

The Enlightenment, French Revolution, and the consolidation of the two by Napoleon and the First Empire are watershed events in human history, ending the last vestiges of the ancient regime and ushering in the modern age. This course is designed to familiarize the student with the causes of the French Revolution, its major events, the rise of Napoleon Bonaparte, the creation and dissolution of the First Empire, and the impact of all of this on Europe and the world.

Hi 328**Modern Germany (3) (D)**

Germany evolves in a unique way, even among the liberal nation/states that come to the forefront of the post-Napoleonic age. Unlike Britain and France—or even Russia—“German nationalism” is not a clear and unequivocal issue. Paradoxically, and possibly because in part of this problem of identity, the Germans have been in the 19th and 20th century the most vociferous defenders of national identity. This course is designed to give the student a sense of the unique struggle of Germany with this item and to give the student knowledge of the forces shaping Germany and the ability to recognize and interpret the manifestation of those forces in Germany today.

Hi 329**Piracy, Exploration, and Early Imperialism (3) (D)**

The early modern period (1492–1800) sets the stage and establishes the tenor of international relations for the modern period. This course will seek to look at the early modern period from three distinct angles: The role and rise of European nation-states and the teleology of the nation-state system, including international relations in the imperial sphere; the impact of such development on the Americas, Africa, and Asia, including the evolution of colonial/imperial policy as an item

distinct from the sociopolitical evolution of the European nation-states; and the importance, development and role of the disenfranchised/outlaw element, such as the evolution of piracy, smuggling, and slave trading.

Hi 330**Modern Imperialism (3) (D)**

This course will cover imperialism in the 19th and 20th century and examine the 21st century. Obviously, attention must be paid to the main contours of European and American history, but the main thrust will be non-Western. The impact and process of imperialism in South America, Asia, Africa, and the Middle East will be covered. The historiographical construct of empire will be addressed as well. At course’s end, the student will be able to discuss the main theories of how imperialism develops, construct an extensive chronology of imperial activity throughout the 19th and 20th century, describe the social, economic, cultural and political/diplomatic effects and consequences of such activity, and relate such knowledge to events occurring in the world today.

Hi 341**Selected Themes in Early American History (3) (D)**

This course will study in depth certain topics in the pre- and post-revolutionary era of American history, including special emphasis upon the Revolution and the Founding.

Hi 350**Ancient Egypt (3) (D)**

This course covers the Pharaonic period of ancient Egypt, from the unification of Upper and Lower Egypt, ca. 3400 BCE, to the inclusion of Egypt in the Roman Empire in 31 BCE. It will provide students with an understanding of the major events and personages in Egyptian history with an emphasis on the pharaoh, the royal family and court and temple culture but also cover social movements and the influence of outside contact on Pharaonic culture. (GP)

Hi 353

Greek and Roman History (3) (D)

This course is a survey of Greek and Roman civilization from the Mycenaean period to the last years of the united Roman empire (395 CE). (HP, WP)

Hi 355

Ancient Greece (3) (D)

This course will cover the history of the Greeks from the Greek Bronze Age (ca. 3000 BCE) to the end of the Hellenistic Age (ca. 146 BCE). It will expose students to the major political, military, social, cultural, and intellectual developments of the Greeks, including the disparate developments of the poleis of Sparta and Athens.

Hi 357

Ancient Rome (3) (D)

This course will cover the history of the Roman people from the origins of Rome in the eighth century BCE to the dissolution of the Western Roman Empire in the fifth century CE. It will familiarize students with the major political, social, cultural, and economic developments during the republican period, the foundation and expansion of the empire, and the period of imperial government. (WP)

Hi 363

Medieval History (3) (D)

This course considers the cultural, political, and religious history of Western Europe from ca. 500 to ca. 1500. Special emphasis will be placed upon social and cultural interactions of Christianity, classical, and Germanic elements. (HP, WP)

Hi 364

Medieval Lay Religion (3) (D)

This course will provide an institutional and social history of the participation and experiences of laypeople in medieval Christianity from the eleventh to the fifteenth centuries. It will focus on the history of major lay religious movements and on the

participation of the laity in major events related to religion. We will also discuss lay devotion to saints and the development of the confraternal movement. (WP)

Hi 366

Byzantine History (3) (D)

A survey of the history of the Byzantine or Eastern Roman empire from the fourth century to the fall of Constantinople to the Ottoman Turks in 1453, this course emphasizes relations of the empire with foreign powers, the development of the Slavic nations, and Byzantine Christianity. (HP, GP, WP)

Hi 372

The Renaissance (3) (D)

A survey of the major developments in the Italian Renaissance from ca. 1300 to ca. 1550, the course emphasizes the nature of Renaissance humanism from Petrarch to Machiavelli, as well as the economic, political, social, and religious life of the Italian city-states. Topics covered include education, family and marriage, religion and the Church, the economy, war, social class, government, art, and architecture. (HP, WP)

Hi 373

The Reformation Era (3) (D)

A systematic consideration of the Protestant and Roman Catholic reformations of the sixteenth and seventeenth centuries, this course will emphasize theological and political developments of the period, and the impact of the fragmentation of Latin Christendom on European civilization. (HP, WP)

Hi 377

History of Kansas (3) (D)

The History of Kansas provides a detailed overview of Kansas history since the arrival of humans to the area. The course, structured chronologically, follows the process of settlement by indigenous people, the dispossession of those first Kansans by people of European descent, the struggles over freedom during the

territorial period, the achievement of statehood, the rush to turn Kansas into an agricultural garden, social and political reform movements, and the state's modern struggles as an agricultural, industrial, and corporate producer. The course covers these myriad topics while also focusing on the changing image of Kansas in the minds of its residents and outsiders.

Hi 383

Early Modern Europe, 1600–1800 (3) (D)

This course is a survey of dynastic politics and diplomacy, and of economic, social, and intellectual developments in the principal European states between the dawn of the seventeenth century and the French Revolution. Political topics include the Age of Absolutism, the Thirty Years' War, the English Civil War, and the French Revolution, while cultural and intellectual topics include the Scientific Revolution, the Baroque, and the Enlightenment. (HP, WP)

Hi 394

Europe Since 1945 (3) (D)

Events in Europe since the close of World War II are surveyed with special emphasis on the growing economic and political cooperation on the continent. (HP, WP)

Hi 395

Europe, 1848–1914 (3) (D)

The course will examine either one aspect of nineteenth century history and/or culture or it will survey the entire period of European history, 1848–1914. (HP, WP)

Hi 396

Europe, 1914–1945 (3) (D)

Beginning with the events that led to World War I, the story of European political, social, economic, and cultural history in the twentieth century will be examined in this course. (HP, WP)

Hi 398

Special Topics (1–3)

These are topics not included in the regular catalog. This course may be taken more than once if the subject matter varies sufficiently.

Hi 417

United States Diplomatic History (3) (D)

This course traces the development of American diplomacy in the wars of the eighteenth century and the American Revolution through 1901, and examines the course of American diplomacy from Theodore Roosevelt's administration to America's achievement of world leadership at mid-twentieth century. (HP, WP)

Hi 418

U.S. Military History (3) (D)

This survey intends to introduce students to the entire range of the American military experience from the Indian wars of the early colonial period to the Iraq and Afghanistan wars. Students will learn how the modern U.S. armed forces developed within a distinct American context and tradition. The course will also give students insights into the way wars and the military have transformed American society and culture.

Hi 422

The United States Since 1945 (3) (D)

This course studies in depth the political, cultural, economic, and social history of the country since the end of World War II. The course emphasizes political, economic, and social change in the era; special attention is devoted to the interplay between foreign affairs and domestic developments. (HP, WP)

Hi 488

Senior Comprehensive Exam (cr)

Hi 493

Seminar in History (3) (D)

This senior seminar in history reviews developments in historiography, seeks to enhance research skills, and encourages the student

to write at an advanced level. Each student writes a research paper at a level suitable for professional presentation. (OC, WC)

Hi 499

Independent Study (credit arranged)

This course aims to develop methodological, analytical, organizational and writing skills through close instructor-student collaboration in an agreed-upon course of study.

Suggested sequence of courses for a bachelor’s degree in History

Freshman Year

Hi 105, World Civilization to 1500	3	Foreign Language	4
En 101, English Composition	3	Hi 106, World Civilization Since 1500	3
Foreign Language	4	Ps 100, American Govt	3
Gs 150, BC Experience	cr	Philosophical Inquiry Foundation	3
Pe 115, Wellness for Life	1	Th 101, Introduction to Theology	3
Ph 175, Principles of Nature	3		
	14		16

Sophomore Year

Natural World Foundation	4	Natural World Foundation	3
Hi 212, American History to 1865	3	Hi 213, Am History 1865–Present	3
Hi 2**, Historical Methodology	3	Philosophical Inquiry Foundation	3
Hi 3(76–99), American History	3	Faith Foundation	3
Aesthetic Foundation	3	Pe Activity course	1
		Hi 3(00–35), Ancient/Medieval History**	3
	16		16

Junior Year

Hi 3(36–50), Modern World	3	Faith Foundation	3
Hi 3(51–75), Modern World	3	Hi 3(76–99), American History	3
Hi 3(76–99), American History	3	Hi 3(11–35), Ancient History	3
Elective	3	Hi 3(51–75), Modern World	3
Aesthetic Foundation	3	Hi 308, Native American Spirituality	3
	15		15

Senior Year

Hi 3(36–50), Modern World	3	Hi 488, Senior Comps	cr
Hi 3(11–35), Medieval History	3	Electives/Minor	15
Hi 488, Senior Seminar	3	Hi 499, Independent Study	1–3
Electives/Minor	3–6		
	12–15		16–18

** One of the 300-level HI courses must also fulfill departmental requirements for non-Western History.