

German

German Women Film Directors

Course & Class Num: GERM 3380H, 32766
 Time & Location: T 1:00 – 4:00, 448 PGH
 Instructor: Sandra M. Gross Frieden

Women filmmakers in Germany have used their art to study gender--applying strategies of cinematography and genre to themselves and to the world around them. Through examining films and the contexts in which they arose, we will address questions of narrative, production, reception, and the politics of representation. Students read critiques of the films and the historical period in which they were produced and view the films in class. Class discussion is held in class and online. Students prepare and submit weekly film evaluations. Grades are based on a mid-term, an end-of-semester exam, class participation, a written film review, and completion of weekly assignments.

This course also counts as core Visual and Performing Arts: Criticism.

History

The United States to 1877

(There are two sections of this course available)

Course & Class Num: HIST 1377H, 22232
 Time & Location: MWF 10:00 – 11:00,
 AUD2 AH
 Instructor: John A. Moretta

Course & Class Num: HIST 1377H, 22234
 Time & Location: TTH 11:30 – 1:00, 212S L
 Instructor: John A. Moretta

This is an introductory survey of United States history to 1877. Most class meetings are taught in traditional lecture style, but several discussions, two or three group tutorials, and one social event should add a note of diversity to the proceedings. The subject matter focuses on the major cultural and political themes from 1607 through the Civil War, but there is some attention to the European and Native American background to exploration as well. The course assumes that

students are motivated and that they possess analytical writing and reading skills. Approximately 800 pages of outside reading (including a brief text) are required. Two written tests and a comprehensive final examination comprise two-thirds of the grade; a brief formal synthesis paper accounts for the remaining third.

The United States from 1877

(There are two sections of this course available)

Course & Class Num: HIST 1378H, 22248
 Time & Location: TTH 8:30 – 10:00, 212S L
 Instructor: Charles Orson Cook

Course & Class Num: HIST 1378H, 22244
 Time & Location: TTH 10:00 – 11:30, 212S L
 Instructor: Charles Orson Cook

This is an introductory survey of United States history from 1877. Most class meetings are taught in traditional lecture style, but several discussions and one movie add some diversity to the proceedings. The subject matter focuses on the major themes in recent American politics, but the class emphasizes important cultural and social issues as well. The course assumes that students are motivated and that they possess analytical writing and reading skills. Approximately 800 pages of outside reading (including a brief text) are required. Two written tests and a comprehensive final examination comprise two-thirds of the grade; a brief formal synthesis paper accounts for the remaining third.

Disease, Health, and Medicine

Course & Class Num: HIST 3303H, 22262
 Time & Location: MWF 10:00 – 11:00, 212S L
 Instructor: Helen K. Valier

Today in America, medicine and medical understandings of health and disease permeate our daily lives. We pass 'No Smoking' signs, think about 'cutting calories', buy USDA certified meat, and worry about 'germs'. In each of these everyday examples, our environment, choices, and concerns have been shaped by medical arguments and knowledge. Has medicine always played such a visible role in American culture and daily life? How did it become normal for us to think of our bodies and activities in terms of chemicals, calories, and contaminants?

This course offers an introduction to the history of medicine in the United States from the colonial period to the present. It will address themes such as the emergence of a medical

profession, the rise of the hospital, the relationship between medicine, science and politics, and the roles of medicine and belief in defining and interpreting bodies, health, and disease. Students will explore these themes through historical documents, secondary sources, and case studies.

The Old South

Course & Class Num: HIST 3305H, 34856
Time & Location: MW 2:30 – 4:00, 203 AH
Instructor: John A. Moretta

This course will focus on the various socio-cultural, economic, and political dynamics that beginning with the colonial era, came to define the Old South. Particularly emphasis will be placed on the evolution of African slavery in the antebellum south; the emergence of a Southern identity and nationalism, the concept of states' rights, and of course, secession and civil war. Students will be required to read approximately 1000 pages of material, both from books and scholarly journals over the course of the semester. Students will be required to submit written interpretive analyses, which will be syntheses of their understanding of class discussion and lecture material.

The Making of Ethnic America: The Harlem Renaissance

Course & Class Num: HIST 3317H, 34861
Time & Location: TTH 1:00 – 2:30, L 212L
Instructor: Charles Orson Cook

This colloquium will be primarily an inquiry into the cultural, political, and social changes affecting African Americans in the early twentieth century. To be sure, the literary and artistic accomplishments of the Harlem Renaissance were prodigious, but this course will focus on the broader issues of urbanization, the changing nature of black leadership, and the ongoing debate over the most appropriate response to racial tensions in twentieth century America. In short, the colloquium will clearly be interdisciplinary, but it will also attempt to put the Harlem Renaissance in the larger historical context of the modern black experience.

The class will meet twice weekly in the Honors College, and it will be a combination of lectures and discussions of assigned readings. The basic text will likely be Professor Cary Wintz's book, *Harlem Speaks* that features a unique biographical approach to the subject. Other readings will probably include

David Levering Lewis's standard anthology, *The Portable Harlem Renaissance Reader*. Portions of Cary Wintz's *Black Culture and the Harlem Renaissance* will be on library reserve as will several essays from recent scholarly anthologies like *Temples of Tomorrow* and *Rhapsodies in Black*. An occasional film (Oscar Micheaux's *Within Our Gates* is one) should lend some pedagogical diversity to our proceedings as well. The course will also include guest lecturers from the general University community. Finally, several meetings are planned to feature performances of music, drama, and fiction from Harlem Renaissance writers and artists.

A distinctive feature of the colloquium will be an on-site trip, subsidized by the Honors College, to Harlem at the end of the semester. Such an experience would have the obvious benefit of giving students the opportunity of visiting the actual places where much of the artistic energy of the Renaissance was generated.

Modern France Since 1870

Course & Class Num: HIST 3352H, 33795
Time & Location: TTH 11:30 – 1:00, TBA
Instructor: Robert D. Zaretsky

From her confrontation with the United States over the war in Iraq to the recent riots that shook Paris, France's present is best understood in light of her past. This course will examine the ways in which modern France shaped, defined and (re)-invented itself through literature, art, music and history writing from 1870 to 1968. How did Paris shape the concept of the French nation? And how did parts of the nation—regions like Provence and Brittany, faiths like Protestants, Jews and Muslims, communities of immigrants from North Africa and expatriates from America—respond to such representations? Though the readings will be limited to France, they will also help us better understand the phenomenon of “imagined communities” and the role that writers and intellectuals, the powerful and marginal, play in their construction. Along with a textbook, novels and memoirs will be assigned to students.

Germany from 1815 to 1918

(Petition for Honors credit)

Course & Class Num: HIST 3357, 22280
 Time & Location: TTH 10:00 – 11:30, 201 AH
 Instructor: Hannah S. Decker

Eighteen years ago, many people in Western society were highly aroused (and some even fearful) when Germany, which had been divided into two separate countries, was united. This course will try to explain the reasons for this arousal and fear. The course starts at a time when “Germany” was just a miscellaneous collection of small and large dukedoms and kingdoms, one of which was Prussia. Then Otto von Bismarck, the Prussian Prime Minister, decided to unite all these states under Prussia so that Prussia could call the shots in a large, united Germany, which would become a European power. The legacy of Bismarck’s rule, however, was to set Germany on a disastrous path, both at home and abroad, culminating in World War I (1914-1918). Germany lost the war, was severely punished by the Allies, and became a democratic but much-hated republic instead of the authoritarian empire it had been. The course will end with the fallout from World War I and the dictated peace that Germany was forced to sign. This is the vital background to understand the rise of Hitler, World War II, and the undoing of Germany’s unification. Students will write two in-class exams, one comprehensive review of two books, and a final exam.

History of the Modern Middle East

(Petition for Honors credit)

Course & Class Num: HIST 3378, 22284
 Time & Location: TTH 11:30 – 1:00, 202 AH
 Instructor: Dina Al-Sowayel

The course will examine the events and the forces that led to the creation of the modern “Middle East.” We will consider how borders and boundaries occurred as we familiarize ourselves with the nation-states that comprise this geographic region. We will also assess the accomplishments and the challenges that the region faces since the turn of the century. Requirements include three short quizzes (announced in advance), one 8-page research paper on a topic of the student’s choosing, and the oral presentation of that paper in the class. It is assumed that students will participate actively in class through the semester.

Honors

Readings in Medicine & Society

Course & Class Num: HON 3301H, 22512
 Time & Location: Th 4:00 – 7:00, 212S L
 Instructor: Helen K. Valier

In this hybrid course we consider the social and cultural meanings of medicine, health, wellness, disease, and disability from a variety of perspectives including historical, sociological, anthropological, and clinical. We focus primarily on medicine as it is practiced and consumed in the U.S., but do so with an eye to the international and cross-cultural context of American medicine.

In addition to such “macro” level analysis, we also seek to explore the local phenomenon of Houston as a “hospital city,” home as it is to the largest medical center in the world.

Antiquity Revisited

Course & Class Num: HON 4390H, 22520
 Time & Location: Arrange
 Instructor: William F. Monroe

This upper-division course provides an opportunity for advanced students to reconsider from a more mature perspective significant literary and intellectual texts and issues from antiquity. Under the direction of Honors faculty, students in the course will participate in the Human Situation: Antiquity as both learners and teachers. As learners, students will read the works assigned to regular students in the course, conduct some independent reading and research on the texts, and write a term paper on some aspect of the course content. As teachers, they will meet informally with regular students to assist them in the writing of papers, discuss texts and lectures, occasionally conduct discussion groups for the professors to whom they are assigned, and perform other pedagogical tasks associated with the larger course.