HISTORY DEPARTMENT
ADVISEMENT NEWSLETTER
Spring 2016

Spring 2016 Courses for Majors:

HIS 200 Historical Research & Writing-Ostwald, Meznar
HIS 221 Native American History-Tucker
HIS 251 Intro to American Society- Balcerski
HIS 303 Revolution & Early Republic-Tucker
HIS 320 Connecticut History-Tucker
HIS 326 American Religious History- Carenen
HIS 332 Ancient Greece-Frye
HIS 347 History of Brazil-Meznar
HIS 350 European Warfare 1337-1815-Ostwald
HIS 365 Presidents & First Ladies- Balcerski
HIS 365 Empire and Nationalism in Southeast Asia- Davis
HIS 376 China after Mao- Davis
HIS 400 Immigration & Ethnicity in Connecticut- Kirchmann
HIS 406 Age of Enlightenment- Ostwald

Advisement Starts October 5th (Seniors), October 12th (Juniors), October 19th (Sophomores), and November 2nd (Freshmen): Be sure to make an appointment with your advisor before your registration date. The department does not provide advisement codes by e-mail and the office staff will not give out advisement codes; so you need to see your advisor.

FAQ: Which history major is best for me?
There is no requirement that you choose any particular history major for any of your career choices. However, if you plan on getting a teaching certification in secondary education, you should probably consider History and Social Science major. If you plan on getting into Early Childhood or Elementary education, a History or History/American Studies major would serve you best. If you plan to use your history degree as a springboard for graduate school or as a foundation of career in any area, a History or History/American Studies major would make the best choice. Transfer students may want to discuss an appropriate choice of major with their advisors.

History Club: The History Club is an active, student-led society interested in anything and everything to do with History. It meets every Wednesday at 7pm in Student Center #107. Come and join the fun! For details, contact historyclub@my.easternct.edu

Register on-time! We cannot guarantee seats in classes for students who register late. If you have holds on your account, check with the Bursar’s office about getting a temporary pass so that you can register.

Registration Start Dates:
Seniors-October 12  90.00 and higher
Juniors-October 19  60.00-89.99
Sophomore-October 26  30.00-59.99
Freshman-November 9  0.00-29.99

Please note that in order to register for a seminar, you need to have successfully completed HIS 200 and have 18 credits in history, including at least three courses on the 3xx level or higher.
The 18th century European seminar will engage this debate by writing an original research paper on the role of whites in an enlightened world. Expect lots of good reading and good discussion (as well as writing, of course)!

**HIS 406: Age of Enlightenment**
What was the Enlightenment? For many, 18th century Europe was an era when Science and rationality triumphed over Religion and superstition. Others see the Age of Reason in a much darker light, laying the groundwork for ideological terror. Both views are plausible: from c. 1680 onwards, European philosophers questioned, and conservatives defended, practically every aspect of early modern society. Should the scientific method reshape political, legal, and economic systems? Must religion be “reasonable,” or can it ignore the new science? Can a rational society wage war? What role should women and non-whites play in an Enlightened world? These debates and others spawned many answers, but little consensus. Students in this seminar will engage this debate by writing an original research paper on any aspect of this wide-ranging debate over the soul of the 18th century European world.

**NEW COURSE DESCRIPTIONS**

**HIS 365 Special Topics: U.S. Presidents & First Ladies**
This special topics course provides an historical overview of the origins and developments of the American presidency and the position of First Lady from the eighteenth century to the present. The meetings center around six critical American presidents: George Washington, Andrew Jackson, Abraham Lincoln, Theodore Roosevelt, Franklin Roosevelt, and Ronald Reagan. In addition, we will consider six important First Ladies: Martha Washington, Dolley Madison, Harriet Lane, Eleanor Roosevelt, Jacqueline Kennedy, and Hillary Rodham Clinton. Special attention will be paid to change over time in the power of the presidents and the First Ladies; how presidents and First Ladies have provided leadership; and what people expect of their presidents and First Ladies. Throughout the course, emphasis will be given to the question of presidential legacies and popular perception and how reputations rise and fall over time. Furthermore, the course also aims to develop students’ skills as historians. Students will be able to describe the achievements and shortcomings of various landmark presidents; discuss the major historians in the field and their most important works; synthesize the arguments of others; and develop their own interpretations. Students will also learn to communicate their ideas in writing and speech to both academic and general audiences.

**American Studies**
The History major with a concentration in American Studies provides options to diversify the study of American society and culture by choosing a variety of courses in U.S. history, literature, art, political science, sociology, and other disciplines that study the United States in its broadest aspects. Please see the History Department website for the requirements, a list of electives, and other information about American Studies. HIS 251: Intro to American Society is a required course for History/American Studies majors. Any history major can also use HIS 251 for their American History elective. In Spring 2016, Dr. Balcerski will offer HIS 251 on MWF @ 1:00.

**Winter Session 2016**

**HIS 370 Drugs in Asian History – Davis (Session 3)**

**Department News**

- If you are interested in an internship, please check out the information on the History Department website and see Dr. Carenen or Dr. Kirchmann (Windham Textile and History Museum only) for more details.
- Please welcome Ms. Brenda Schiavetti, the new Administrative Assistant in the Department of History.
- Every year, the Department of History acknowledges outstanding student achievement with a number of departmental awards including for best seminar paper. The list of awardees for 2014/15 is on the history website. Congratulations to all the students who received the awards!
- In 2013, the Department of History established a Victoria Soto Award, which recognizes an outstanding graduating history major with a strong dedication to teaching as a career. This year the recipient of the award was Sister Kateri Ludick - congratulations!
- The History Department offers David M. Roth scholarship, and Ann and Kenneth Tucker scholarship; both are awarded to History majors with high academic accomplishment and financial need. Please see the website for details.
- If you would like to share with us your special achievement, please let us know and send the information to Dr. Jamel Ostwald, who will include it in the History Blog!