Fall 2016 Courses for Majors:

HIS 206 Twentieth Century Europe - Moore
HIS 221 Native American History - Tucker
HIS 255 Intro to Latin America - Meznar
HIS 275 Intro to East Asian History - Davis
HIS 302 Colonial America - Tucker
HIS 307 Civil War and Reconstruction - Balcerski
HIS 318 History U.S. Foreign Relations - Carenen
HIS 329 Intro to East Central Europe - Moore
HIS 342 Modern Latin America - Meznar
HIS 356 Old Regime Europe - Ostwald
HIS 357 Revolutionary & Napoleonic Europe - Ostwald
HIS 365-01 Turks and Mongols, 500-1500 - Kamola
HIS 365-02 History of Modern Israel - Carenen
HIS 365-03 Muslims, Christians and Jews: Three Faiths, One God - Kamola
HIS 375 Modern Japan - Davis
HIS 400 Seminar in American History - Balcerski
HIS 407 Seminar in World History - Frye

**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.

**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.

**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 #117. Come and join the fun! For details, contact historyclub@my.easternct.edu

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**For more news and information please visit the History Department’s Website at [http://www1.easternct.edu/history/](http://www1.easternct.edu/history/)**
Spring 2016 Seminars

HIS 400: Sex and Politics in America- Balcerski

The history of American politics abounds with questions of gender, sex, sexuality, and sexual orientation. In this seminar, we will consider major episodes and defining moments drawn from this tumultuous history, ranging from the salacious scandals of U.S. Presidents to the quotidian quiddities of everyday people. Throughout we will consider how men and women, as gendered political actors, understood notions of sex and gender in the creation of parties, the conduct of elections, the distribution of patronage positions, and the construction of power more broadly. Students will be expected to complete all required readings, participate in regular discussions, and prepare an original research paper on an aspect of the history of sex and politics of the United States.

HIS 407: Civilization and the Barbarians- Frye

A delightful romp through more than 4,000 years of mayhem. May not be suitable for the squeamish, the humorless, or those who use the word “othering.”

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.

Spring 2017 SEMINARS:  
HIS 400 Seminar in American History- Tucker  
HIS 407 Seminar in World History- Davis

NEW COURSE DESCRIPTIONS

HIS 365-02: Muslim, Christians, Jews: Three Faiths, One God

This class examines the idea of monotheism as it developed in the Middle East. Our main focus will be the Abrahamic religions: Judaism, Christianity, and Islam. Each of these three faiths traces its origins to the story of Abraham, who rejected polytheism in favor of a privileged relationship with a single god. That decision radically challenged religious practice in the Near and Middle East and gave birth to three major world religions. Differences between Jewish, Christian, and Muslim understandings and expressions of monotheism continue to have major consequences across the region and the world. In addition to the Abrahamic religions, we will look at other forms of monotheism in the Middle East, as well as various hybrid traditions that emerged from the intersection of these different faiths. Students will have the opportunity to research and write about the history and scripture of one or more monotheistic tradition, and to interact with scholars and community leaders in the region to learn how the Abrahamic idea of a believer’s relationship with a single god affects life in different faith communities today.

HIS 365-01: Turks and Mongols, 500-1500

In this course, students will learn about the nomadic people of Inner Asia and the role that they played in world history over the period of a thousand years. The interaction between sedentary and nomadic groups was crucial for the formation of several major states, including Ancient China and Medieval Russia. In the Middle East, nomadic involvement changed social and cultural life in important ways. We will begin by learning about nomadism itself. Basic features of nomadic life set it apart from sedentary life, and the difference makes for dynamic and often surprising interactions between the two. The historical scope of this course begins with the early emergence of the Turks among the tribal people of the north China frontier and ends with the dissolution of Mongol states in China and the Middle East. We will look at this period through the lenses of political, intellectual, and cultural history as various groups at various times attempted to explain and justify the periodic conquest of sedentary lands by nomadic people.

HIS 365-03: Modern Israel

Modern Israel includes the Jewish communities of Ottoman Palestine, of British-mandated Palestine, and the independent State of Israel, established in 1948. This course will review the history of modern Israel from the inception of modern Zionism in the late nineteenth century to the present. It will address state-building under the British mandate; the 1948 war and the problem of territory, the problems and successes of sovereignty, the challenge of immigration, the Arab-Israeli conflict, the Palestinian-Israeli conflict, and the quest for identity and normalization to the present. This course will cover ideological foundations, cultural, economic, institutional and political developments, the creation of identities in the modern state, as well as address the ongoing issue of war and security in Israeli society. Finally, we will address the Palestinian quest for statehood and the two-state solution.

Summer Session 2016

HIS 362- 07 Americans and Terrorism – Carenen- 6/6/16-6/18/16  
HIS 373- 03 China Revolution – Davis- 8/1/16-8/18/16

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.
• Two new faculty will join the Department in fall 2016. Dr. Stefan Kamola will be teaching courses on the History of the Islamic World until 1500. Dr. Scott Moore will teach Modern European History.
• The Graduating Senior Reception and award ceremony will take place on May2 at 3 p.m.
• The induction ceremony to Phi Alpha Theta will be held on April 7 at 6 p.m.
• The second issue of Germina Veris, Eastern’s Department of History online journal for undergraduate research is up online with five new articles by history majors, so check it out on the department website!