



Senior reception and awards ceremony, May 2017

Front Row: Katie Butler, Claire Tensa, Sara Dean, Isabella Rossi, Alaina Torromeo, Michael Lisitano, Gabrielle Archibald

Middle Row: Prof. Higginbotham, Prof. Kirchmann, Adrianna Mihalek, Josh Turner, Taryn McCabe, Rosie Wells, Jessica Suplee, Shawn Batchelder

Back Row: Prof. Balcerski, Prof. Moore, Prof. Carenen, Prof. Meznar, Patrick Thomson, Prof. Kamola, Prof. Ostwald

Spring 2018 Upper Division Courses for Majors:

- HIS 221 Native American History – Tucker
- HIS 250 History of New England – Tucker
- HIS 251 Introduction to American Society – Balcerski
- HIS 320 Connecticut History – Tucker
- HIS 329 Intro to the Hist of East Central Europe – Moore
- HIS 345 History of Mexico – Meznar
- HIS 350 European Warfare, 1337-1815 – Ostwald
- HIS 362 Indochina at War – Davis
- HIS 363 Women in Latin American History – Meznar
- HIS 367 Inner Asian Nomads to 1500 CE – Kamola
- HIS 373 Mao’s China – Davis
- HIS 378 Early Northern Europe – Frye
- HIS 400 American Biography – Balcerski
- HIS 407 Persia and the West - Kamola

For more news and information please visit the History Department’s Website at <http://www1.easternct.edu/history/>

Be sure to check out the latest news on the department’s **History Blog, available on the departmental web page, RSS, and via the Social Media-Blogs section of the Eastern App**

REGISTER ON-TIME!

Advisement starts October 9th (Seniors), October 16th (Juniors), October 23rd (Sophomores), and November 6th (Freshmen): Make an appointment with your advisor **before** your registration date. The department does not provide codes by e-mail and the office staff will not give out codes.

Registration Start Dates:

Seniors- October 16th	90.00 and higher
Juniors-October 23rd	60.00-89.99
Sophomores- October 30th	30.00-59.99
Freshmen- November 13th	0.00-29.99

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 the History and Social Science major.
 If you plan on going 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 for a career in any area, a History or History/American Studies major would be 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 on Wednesdays at 6 p.m. in the Student Center, room 107.

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.

Spring 2018 Seminars

HIS 400: American Biography- Dr. Balcerski

Since the *Autobiography of Benjamin Franklin*, American biography has served political purposes: to outline an ethical way of life, to resist authority or injustice, to insist on the author's place among the people, and so on. More recently, biography has emerged as the dominant form of nonfiction writing, both in print and on the web. This course considers the application of biography to American history and engages students in the practice of biography writing. Students will be expected to complete all required readings, participate in regular discussions, and prepare an original research paper that puts into practice the methods of biography within the context of American history.

HIS 407: Persia and the West- Dr. Kamola

Between Cyrus the Great and the rise of Islam, two Persian dynasties ruled over the Middle East. They left impressive monuments in stone and artwork, but very few written records. Instead, our study of the ancient Persian world is based on narratives written by Greeks and Romans, who were most of the time at war with the Persians. In this seminar, we will use the ancient Persian Empires to examine how our understanding of the distant past is shaped by the nature of the surviving sources. You will have an opportunity to learn about ancient Persia through a series of lenses: geo-politics, religion, warfare and diplomacy, art, *etc.*, and will try your hands at the challenge of making history out of diverse material and textual sources. No previous experience in Middle Eastern history is required. Come learn why one scholar once called the Persians 'a forgotten empire.'

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.

Fall 2018 SEMINARS:

HIS 400 Seminar in American History – Dr. Kirchmann
HIS 407 Seminar in World History– Dr. Meznar

NEW COURSE DESCRIPTIONS

HIS 363: Women in Latin American History – Dr. Meznar

From the first arrival of Europeans in the Americas, women helped to shape complex and often surprisingly diverse societies in Latin America. This course will focus on the intersection of gender relations and power as we examine the cultural, economic, and political roles of women of different social and racial backgrounds in the region from the sixteenth to the twenty-first century. We will also consider ways in which traditional gender norms have been challenged, and even shattered in the region.

HIS 367: Inner Asian Nomads to 1500 CE – Dr. Kamola

This class surveys the history, society, and culture of Inner Asian nomads and investigates how they influenced, and were influenced by, their sedentary neighbors. For centuries, the Huns, Turks, and Mongols were in contact -- and often conflict -- with the sedentary states of China, the Middle East, India, and Eastern Europe,

culminating with the continent-wide conquests of Genghis Khan and his descendants. From our perspective in an increasingly globalized world economy, we can learn much from how these 'barbarians' moved people, ideas, technologies, and diseases across continents centuries ago. This class pays particular attention to the types of sources that have survived from these encounters in order to discuss how non-literate societies are remembered in history. NOTE: Previously offered as HIS 365 Turks and Mongols. Students who received credit for HIS 365 Turks and Mongols may not enroll for credit in HIS 367.

Department News

- If you are interested in an internship, check out the Department of History website under internships for all the rules. Internship opportunities are often advertised in blog posts. Dr. Carenen is in charge of the internship program.
- On October 28 (Saturday) the Department of History will host the New England Historical Association (NEHA) 2017 Fall Conference, described as an "intimately scaled, high-quality one-day conference with a broad range of papers and presentations." Most of the History department faculty are on the program, as are Adam Murphy '18, Miles Wilkerson '15, and Jim Loughhead '04 (see Alumni Corner below). Come see historians in action, and consider submitting a paper for a future conference.
- The new Digital History Lab is now up and running in Webb Hall 408! Stay tuned for the date and details of our grand opening, ribbon-cutting celebration.
- If you have any news or history-related topic or experience (travel abroad, sight-seeing of historical places, interesting historical readings, etc.) that you would like to share, please send it to Dr. Ostwald for posting on the Department of History Blog.

Important Dates:

- **Oct. 11** – Incomplete grade deadline
- **Oct. 13** – May 2018 degree application deadline
- **Nov. 1** – Credit/no-credit deadline
- **Nov. 1** – Class withdrawal deadline
- **Jan. 17** – Spring semester classes begin

Alumni Corner



Jim Loughhead '04, teaches at E.O. Smith High School in Storrs. His classes include history, genocide, civics, and geography. He is a recipient of the Connecticut Council for the Social Studies John H. Stedman Passion for the Social Studies Teaching Award, which honors a middle and high school social studies teacher each year (teachers are chosen from recommendation letters written by students). He also received the Joseph Korzenik Holocaust Award from the University of Hartford in 2008 for the course he designed on genocide.