

Department of History

The History Department at St. Thomas University guides students in the critical study and analysis of the societies and peoples of the past, and the various ways that “the past” is explained in “the present”. Students learn historical content, and discuss the methodological and philosophical issues that inform the exploration of history in our own time, including the difficulties in saying what exactly “history” is or should be.

As with our general approach to the study of history, the History Department is creative and dynamic. Chronologically, we offer courses from the first complex societies more than 5,000 years ago up to the present, though we are strongest in the period from circa 1000 C.E. onward. Geographically, we cover everything from small local communities to cities, nation-states, regions such as the Atlantic world, Africa, Europe, Asia or Latin America, and the globe. We have been developing a global history curriculum that includes our World History survey and a growing range of courses that explore thematic and transnational histories (such as social movements, revolutions, citizenship, cities and water) on a global scale.

Our innovative global history initiative and expanding selection of stimulating courses challenge historical conventions and common assumptions about the past. The History program may cause you to re-examine your world view and lead you to ask fundamental questions about yourself, your society and your world. In fact, this is one of our goals. We hope that both the content and presentation of our courses will help produce thoughtful and informed global citizens who appreciate the fascinating and diverse character of the world, past and present.

We are also committed to developing your critical, analytical and communication skills. We do not pretend that we can teach you the answers, but we can help you learn how to ask and frame good questions. Whether you take one class with us or study for a History Major or Honours degree, and whether you pursue a career in History or not, you will benefit from the skills and content we offer.

Minor in History

Students who select history as a Minor field must complete 18 credit hours in history.

Major in History

Students who select history as a Major field must take a minimum of 36 credit hours of history courses. The Major program must include HIST 1006 World History and HIST 2003 Exploring History. As well, students are required to take at least 3 credit hours from each of the major categories of history courses: 1) world, 2) regions, and 3) state, nation, and locality (9 credit hours in total).

Honours in History

In addition to the requirements for a history Major, an Honours degree requires a minimum of 48 credit hours of history courses, at least 12 credit hours of which must be 4000-level seminars. Students seeking an Honours degree must consult the History Honours Director for approval of their program of studies.

Course Numbering

History 1006 serves as an introduction to the discipline of history and its expectations at the University level. 2000-numbered courses indicate an intermediate level of historical investigation taught from several different perspectives; at this level students will be expected to learn basic skills of conducting historical research and constructing written historical arguments. 3000-numbered courses indicate a more advanced and more concentrated level of historical investigation. 4000-numbered courses designate seminars and are taught at an advanced level of historical investigation, presentation, and criticism.

NOTE: Since third and fourth-year history courses build on the skills acquired in HIST 1006 and HIST 2003, we recommend that these courses be taken in the first two years of the degree. Although first-year students may enroll in 2000-level courses, we encourage them to begin the study of history with HIST 1006 World History

World

HIST-1006. World History

This course provides an overview of world history, from earliest times to the present. Major themes include human relationships with the environment, cultural exchanges between peoples, and the interconnectedness of the human experience.

HIST-2023. World History: 20th Century to World War II

This course will provide students with an overview of the history of the 20th century up until the conclusion of the Second World War. Major events and themes include the two world wars; the Russian revolution; imperialism and nationalism in Asia, Africa and Latin America; the emergence of the United States as the world's pre-eminent power; and struggles for political participation by workers and women. Prerequisite: At least 6 credit hours in History courses at St. Thomas University.

HIST-2053. World History Since the Second World War

This course examines developments in world history since the Second World War, such as the emergence of the Cold War, decolonization, the growth of American power and struggles for human rights. It also explores the consequences of urbanization, demographic growth, technological change, and environmental degradation.

HIST-2103. The Material World: History Through Things

This course examines themes in world history through the use and study of material objects. Histories of everyday materials and objects allow us to examine diverse issues such as the environment, history, technology, and culture. In general, historians have relied primarily on text-based sources and this course will explore the role and use of material objects in doing history. We will examine theoretical approaches to material history as well as survey the historical literature of this branch of study.

HIST-2453. History of the United Nations (PEAC)

The United Nations represents the first serious effort toward an international government. History of the United Nations examines the evolution of this unique international body from its creation in 1945 to the present. It seeks to understand how the United Nations has shaped world history, what its low and high points have been, and what its challenges and potential are in the twenty-first century.

HIST-2553. History of the Islamic World to the Ottoman Empire

This course provides a basic introduction to Islamic societies in their formative centuries. We will explore how the Muslim umma first emerged, developed and ultimately established itself as a unifying yet far from monolithic ideal, linking different peoples across the globe. Our focus will be on comprehension of historical experiences and relations between peoples rather than on detailed analysis of religious beliefs.

HIST-3053. Disability in History

This course treats disability as a historical subject. It explores questions such as what it means to be disabled in various times and places, how people with disability lived their lives, how society at large conceptualized differences in physical ability and mental capacity, when and how disability intersected with other identity constructs, and the roles myth and religion played in all this.

HIST-3173. The Global History of the Automobile

This discussion-based course will introduce students to a global perspective on the history of the automobile, the technology that has arguably shaped the planet more than any other in the past century. The emphasis will be on the car's social and cultural history, rather than its technical evolution. Specific course themes will include automobile production and labour, car culture and the rise of global consumerism, the environmental impacts of automobile use and road building, and the implications of driving for modern citizenship. Prerequisites: 6 ch of history or permission of the instructor.

HIST-3383. Slavery in World History, 1500-Present

This course is designed to provide a comprehensive and comparative overview of slavery in Asia, Europe, the Middle East, Africa and the Americas from 1500 to the present. Upon completion of the course, students should have an understanding of the important events in world slave systems, the changes in the practice of historical forms of slavery, the similarities and differences between different slave systems, and an understanding of the historical background of modern-day slavery.

HIST-3393. Gender and Empire

This course explores the place of gender in the construction and preservation of empires through such topics as constructions of difference, motherhood and domesticity; civilizing missions and tourism; and contestations of power. This course operates from the premise that empires are never static: subjects in different imperial contexts, in various cases, resisted, thwarted, or reconfirmed colonial regimes.

HIST-3403. Water and World History

This course examines the significance of water to human history, beginning with early agricultural societies and the development of hydraulic empires in Africa and Asia. It explores how humans have sought to manage water for agriculture, urban consumption, industry, and other purposes, and it considers the social, cultural, political, and environmental consequences of these developments. It gives particular attention to the extraordinary developments of the 20th century and the significance they hold for environmental change, human welfare, and international conflict. Prerequisite: HIST 1006 or permission of the Instructor.

HIST-3413. Citizens and Citizenship in World History

This course will explore concepts, practices and themes related to citizenship and nationalism on a selective global scale since c. 1780. The majority of the course will focus on the

period from 1780 to 1940, though classes in the latter part of the course will examine conceptions of citizenship since c. 1940. Themes to be explored include citizenship and the tension between duties and rights; the struggle for recognition and rights; the regulation of new social classes and groups; attempts to control the exuberance of youth; the body and physical health; gender and citizenship; race, ethnicity and “otherness”; nationalism and imperialism; human rights; and the “rights revolution”.

HIST-3423. Agriculture in World History

This course examines the significance of agriculture to world history from the early domestication of crops and animals to the present. It explores the different locales in which agriculture emerged, and the impact of agriculture on human lifestyles and on the environment over time. As well, it considers the growth of human reliance on a relatively narrow array of foodstuffs and the consequences of the application of industrial techniques to the production of food. Prerequisite: HIST 1006 or permission of the Instructor.

HIST-3463. Rivers in World History

This course explores the significance of rivers in world history. It examines rivers as geological agents and the biological habitats rivers create. It investigates the role of rivers in sustaining trade networks and explores changing transportation technologies. It considers the role of rivers in the development of early agricultural societies and hydraulic empires. It also studies the fit between rivers and urban growth and sanitization; colonial cartography and exploration; industrial development; nationalism; tourism; and environmentalism.

HIST-3473. Frontiers in World History

This course examines how societies have imagined, represented, and interacted around so-called “frontiers” in world history. It explores places where trade, migration, conquest, and other cultural exchanges have had a profound impact on societies and even produced new cultural configurations. No prerequisites.

HIST-3503. Social Movements That Have Changed the Modern World

This course examines social movements of the post World War II period, such as struggles of national liberation, movements against racism, militarism, and the proliferation of nuclear weapons, the emergence of a youth counter-culture, struggles for women’s rights, indigenous people’s rights, grassroots democracy, on behalf of the poor and disempowered, in defence of the environment, and against neo-liberal globalization. The course considers the historical roots of various movements as well as the context of their emergence, their scope, the continuities and discontinuities among them, and their impact on today’s world.

HIST-3563. History of Western Feminism

This course will examine the development of “feminism” and movements for women’s rights and/or liberation in western countries from the 19th century to the present. The course will compare feminism in the United States with movements in Canada, Britain, and western continental Europe, and will question why feminism has taken on different characteristics in different nations and regions, and among different races and classes. Students who have taken HIST 3566 are excluded from this course.

HIST-3763. Modern Sport in World History

This discussion-based course explores the global impact of modern sport from c. 1850 to the present. It focuses upon the diffusion of sports such as soccer, cricket, and baseball and the manner in which such sports were resisted or appropriated by communities throughout the world. The course examines the political, social, and cultural significance of modern

sport rather than the intricate details of individual athletes or teams. Prerequisite: At least 9 credit hours in History courses at STU or permission of the instructor.

HIST-3783. Film and History

Explores the relationship between film and history, paying close attention to film as an historical artifact and film as a means of historical interpretation. In studying films produced primarily in North America, Latin America, and Europe, students in this course will be asked to develop a vocabulary of film, and to try to analyse the meaning and significance of film, both as artifact and interpretation. Writing will require that students make their own arguments about how we should understand the complicated relationship between visual media and history.

HIST-3863. Modern Tourism in World History

This discussion-based course examines the global impact of tourism from c. 1850 to the present. Sample topics include imperialism and travel narratives, the age of the Grand Tour, the development of a tourism infrastructure (roads, advertising initiatives, travel agencies), the rise of theme parks such as Disneyland, and ecotourism. Our chief concern will be to contextualize and evaluate the positive and negative effects (economic, cultural, social, environmental, etc.) that the tourism industry has had on a variety of local communities throughout the world. Prerequisite: At least 9 credit hours in History courses at STU or permission of the instructor.

HIST-3943. Genocide in Twentieth-Century History

The twentieth century remains the most violent period in history. Its global ramifications notwithstanding, genocide research continues to focus on the experience of particular nations and nationalities. By juxtaposing and examining such disjointed narratives across continents, this course hopes to bolster a critical understanding of what is no doubt the crudest aspect of human nature.

HIST-3953. Portrayals of Jihad and Crusade: History, Memory and Film

This course considers the diverse ways in which modern global audiences have come to understand histories of religious violence. Our focus will be on academic and popular interpretations of so-called jihad or crusade conflicts from the Middle Ages to the present. Print, electronic and film sources will be examined, reflecting a wide range of often conflicting viewpoints as they have evolved over time.

HIST-3983. Topics in World History

This course will examine specific topics in world history. The topics will change from year to year. For information regarding course content students should contact the Chair of the History Department. Prerequisite: At least 9 credit hours in History courses at STU or permission of the instructor.

HIST-4026. Food in World History

Food keeps us alive, serves as a marker of social status, a stimulator of exploration and trade, and a cause of conflict and war. This seminar is about the history of food production, consumption and culture world-wide. Participants explore the roles food plays in human societies, the social and cultural meanings of food and the ways foods travel from place to place. Equally, we consider food's presence, its absence and the impact of man-made and natural disasters on eating habits and food supplies. Prerequisite: Permission of the instructor.

HIST-4106. Research Seminar in Material History

This research seminar course examines the practices and products of doing history through things in a comparative and global perspective. Until recently, historians have relied heavily on written documents for evidence, and this course challenges that approach. This course will consider some of the methods used to write history using physical things, as well as the varied literature produced by the study of material culture. Participants will produce a historical research paper based on significant use of material objects.

HIST-4116. The World at War

This year-long seminar examines the two world wars of the twentieth century. Students will explore various causes, aspects and outcomes of these conflicts through readings about home fronts and war fronts across the world. They will also do independent research and write a major paper based on a topic related to the course material. At least one previous course on the history of the twentieth century is strongly recommended.

HIST-4123. Seminar in Global History

This course will examine specific themes in global history. The topics will change from year to year, but might include issues such as the role of cities in history, the rise and fall of peasantries, patterns of migration, the emergence of global institutions, cultural and material exchanges, and the possibilities of global environmental history.

HIST-4126. Topics in Global History

This course will examine specific themes in global history. The topics will change from year to year, but might include issues such as the role of cities in history, the rise and fall of peasantries, patterns of migration, the emergence of global institutions, cultural and material exchanges, and the possibilities of a global environmental history.

HIST-4136. Historians and World History

This seminar course examines the writing of world history. It considers the growth of the field, some of the main scholars who have written world histories, and the conceptualizations which have informed their writing. Prerequisite: HIST 1006.

HIST-4826. Popular Culture and Postcolonial Legacies in Canada, Australia and New Zealand

This seminar discussion course examines the tensions at play in Canada, Australia and New Zealand in the post-World War II era as these settler societies attempted to navigate the awkward cultural tensions that arose in light of the demise of the British Empire. Through a comparative approach we will examine the ways in which expressions of national identity were manufactured and contested as competing interests sought to redefine membership in these national communities. Prerequisite: Permission of the instructor.

HIST-4903. Independent Study

With the approval of the Department, students (normally Honours candidates) may undertake a one-semester course of independent study. Such a course is to be undertaken under the direction of a member of the History Department and must result in at least one scholarly paper. Application to take an independent study course must be made to the Director of Honours. The application must include a written proposal indicating the reason for doing an independent study, as well as a description of the specific area of interest, a statement of research topic, and a preliminary bibliography. In order to complete their degree requirements, students may request that an independent study be considered as an alternative to an Honours seminar.

HIST-4946. Genocide in World History

Focusing on twentieth-century World History, this course will examine and compare various wars of genocide across several continents. In doing so, the course will investigate the immediate and long-term factors behind group hate and violence, with particular attention to cultural, religious, and socio-political factors, as well as to institutional and non-institutional actors.

Regions (Africa)

HIST-2113. Famine and War in the Horn of Africa

This is a course on the history of Northeast Africa, with a focus on Ethiopia, the most populous country in the region. Northeastern Africa, commonly known as the Horn of Africa, consists of Somalia, Djibouti, Eritrea, Ethiopia, and Sudan. Designed with history and non-history Majors in mind, the course will explore major landmark events in the history of this region from antiquity to the present.

HIST-2133. Precolonial Africa

Precolonial Africa explores the history of Africa up to the nineteenth century. Topics covered include Africa's place in hominid evolution, Africa's contribution to the Neolithic revolution, rise of the states versus stateless societies, traditional religion versus world religions, coastal societies versus inland societies, long-distance trade and the rise of empires, and domestic slavery versus transoceanic slavery and their effects on development. The objective is to challenge stereotypic notions about precolonial African societies, to contribute to students' understanding of Africa's place in early world history, and to introduce students to some of the key historiographical debates on precolonial African history. Students cannot receive credit for both HIST 2136 and HIST 2133.

HIST-2143. Modern Africa

Modern Africa surveys the history of Africa from the nineteenth century to the present. The course focuses on three major topics: the scramble for African and the partition, European colonial rules, and the assessment of the post-independence era. Subtopics include missionaries and explorers, occupation and forms of resistance, settler colonies versus non-settler colonies, nationals and war for independence, post-independence successes and challenges, the Cold War and the War on Terror, and globalization and the fading significance of the nation state. The objectives for this course are to challenge stereotypic notions about contemporary Africa, to contribute to students' understanding of Africa's place in the modern world, and to introduce students to some of the major historiographical debates on modern African history. Students cannot receive credit for both HIST 2136 and HIST 2143.

HIST-3193. Northeast Africa Since the 19th Century

Northeastern Africa, commonly known as the Horn of Africa, consists of Somalia, Djibouti, Eritrea, Ethiopia, and Sudan. As the most populous country in the region, Ethiopia will provide the natural focal point for the course. Designed with history and non-history Majors in mind, the course will focus on the history of the various twentieth-century socio-political crises in the Horn: famine, civil war, secession, irredentism, genocide, etc. Lecture and discussion will dominate class format.

HIST-3993. Topics in Global History

This course will examine specific topics in world history. The topics will change from year to year. For information regarding course content students should contact the Chair of the History Department. Prerequisite: At least 9 credit hours in History courses at STU or permission of the instructor.

Regions (Oceans)

HIST-3153. The Sahara World

This course is designed to introduce students to the main events and themes that unite the societies and cultures of the Sahara, North Africa, and the Sudan/Sahel, from the earliest times to the present with a particular focus on the 15th-19th centuries. Upon completion of the course, students should have an understanding of the cultures of the Sahara, the important events of Saharan history, and the role of the Sahara in world history.

HIST-3203. The British Atlantic World (1500-1800)

This course explores the social, political, and economic parameters of the Atlantic World from roughly 1500 to 1800. The course centres on the British experience of the Atlantic through a comparative and trans-national approach. Particular attention will be drawn to the role of Atlantic Canada and its connection to the larger Atlantic World.

Regions (The Americas)

HIST-2613. Latin America: Colonial Period

This course surveys three centuries of Latin American history from first contacts between the Spanish and Native American civilizations to Latin American revolutions for Independence. Major themes include various types of relations between the founding peoples and the development of colonial social, political, economic, and religious institutions.

HIST-2623. Latin America: Modern Period

This course surveys the history of Latin America from post-Independence to the recent past. Major themes include the struggles of early nationhood, modernization, imperialism, twentieth-century social change, and social revolutions.

HIST-3613. Gender and Power in Latin American History

Why did the Cuban revolution set out to create a 'new man'? How did Eva Perón become the world's most powerful first lady? Why have women led most human rights movements in Latin America? These are some of the questions to be explored in this course which examines historical relationships between men and women and ideas about masculinity and femininity in Latin America.

HIST-3773. Urban North America

Addresses developments within and among North American cities and explores changes in the conception of cities in North American thought and culture. We will study the lives of urban dwellers and chart shifts in the way people organized their lives in cities. Major themes for this course include the changing physical structure and form of cities over time, processes of urbanization and suburbanization, city planning and reform movements, the economics of cities, urban institutions, urban populations, and city politics. In our investigation of Urban North America, we will ask: does the border make a difference?

HIST-3823. History of Here: From the Pleistocene to The Present

This course examines the history of the Gulf of St. Lawrence region, broadly conceived, from 15,000 BCE to the present. It considers the ways that people have organized their lives in this region, in global contexts, and the consequences of the choices they have made.

HIST-4606. Twentieth-Century Latin America (Honours Seminar)

A study of political and social developments in Latin American republics during this century. Topics to be discussed will include the social revolutions and political leaders of this part of the Third World.

Regions (Asia)

HIST-2173. Modern Asia

This course surveys the history of Asia from c. 1500 to the present, though it may focus on one part of Asia (East Asia, South Asia, Southeast Asia, etc.) more than another. It examines the richness and complexity of Asian societies and Asian engagement in the making of the modern world.

HIST-3123. Student Movements in East Asia

This course will delve into the world of the student movements in Korea, Japan and China during the twentieth century, examining the social, economic and political environment in which student rebellion flourished, and how it affected student dissidence. It will address the key issues student activists struggled with, such as democracy, nationalism, colonialism, human rights, and corruption, within their distinct contexts. It will also discuss the accomplishments of these student movements: to what extent have they had an impact - positive or negative - on China, Korea and Japan? Prerequisite: HIST 2173 or HIST 1006 or permission of the instructor.

HIST-3163. Gandhi, India and the World, c. 1850 to Present (PEAC)

Mohandas K. "Mahatma" Gandhi (1869-1948) is a towering figure in the history of India, but he is curiously global too. He lived on three continents, his ideas and practices combined influences and experiences that he gathered from different parts of the world via global networks, and his impact has long extended beyond the subcontinent's borders. Studying Gandhi's life and legend will allow the class to investigate themes relating to nationalism, colonialism, pacifism, non-violence, 'alternative modernity' and other topics or issues. The course will also explore Gandhi's fascinating legacy in postcolonial India and around the globe. It is recommended that students have at least 6 credit hours of history courses before taking this course.

HIST-4146. Gandhi/ism

This seminar course focuses on Mohandas K. "Mahatma" Gandhi (1869-1948). Gandhi was an important figure in the history of modern India and South Asia, but he was also a significant global or "world history" figure who lived in India, Britain and South Africa. Moreover, Gandhi drew on ideas from around the world, and since about 1920 movements and ideas associated with Gandhi have had considerable global influence. Studying Gandhi's life and legend will allow the class to investigate themes of nationalism, colonialism and imperialism in India and the British empire, but it is also possible to look at topics such as Gandhi's connections to global peace networks, social movements, environmental movements and the American civil rights movement.

Regions (Europe)

HIST-2033. Early Modern Europe

This course provides an introduction to early modern European history from the end of the so-called "Middle Ages" to the era of the French Revolution (more or less the 15th to the 18th centuries). Students will study social, cultural, political, economic and other developments in order to better understand how societies we recognize today evolved from the rather different world of the late "Middle Ages." The course traces themes and topics such as religious belief, absolutist politics, interactions between majorities and minorities, the changing status of women, and Europe's place in an increasingly "global" setting.

HIST-2043. Modern Europe

An introduction to modern European civilization from the era of the French Revolution to the twentieth century. The course follows History 2033 chronologically but has no prerequisite. This course requires written assignments and emphasizes acceptable methods of historical research and writing.

HIST-2206. History of the Middle Ages

A survey of the imagined historical period between the fall of the classical Roman/Persian Empires and the emergence of an early modern state system. This course will range widely in its coverage, including glimpses of experience in parts of Africa and Asia as well as Europe. Special emphasis will be placed on social history and the use of primary sources to probe beyond simplified political narratives.

HIST-3033. Gender in Early-Modern Europe

Europe's early modern period (c. 1450-1800) was a time of political tumult, religious conflict, and seismic shifts in centuries-old institutions. The resulting social changes were profound; new roles emerged for men and women as new questions were asked and new norms evolved. This course takes a thematic approach to the changing lives of men and women, examining the role of gender in both the major events and the everyday realities of the period.

HIST-3223. The Medieval Church

This course deals with the history of the Church from the time of Gregory the Great in the sixth century to the end of the fifteenth century. For the most part we will deal with the Western Church, although there will be some treatment of the relations that existed with the East. The theme that will run throughout the course is that of the interaction between the Church and the society of this period. Among the topics that will be covered will be the Merovingian and Carolingian Church and the role of such leaders as Charlemagne, the Gregorian Reform Movement and the clash with the Emperor, the development and contribution to medieval society, the emergence of the pilgrimage and the crusade, the religious unrest of the later Middle Ages, and the growth of the medieval papacy.

HIST-3263. European Social Policy in Comparative Perspective

This course traces the development of social policy in Europe since the end of the 19th century. It examines how governments became involved not only in assuring citizens' defense and freedom, but also their overall well-being through programs such as maternity and child benefits, unemployment insurance and old-age pensions.

HIST-3343. Europe Since 1945

An analysis of Europe from the close of World War II to the collapse of the communist bloc. The course will focus on Europe's recovery, its role in the Cold War, the evolving and competing power blocs, and the end of the European schism.

HIST-3433. Eighteenth Century Europe At Play

This course examines the social history of leisure in Europe during the long eighteenth century (c. 1680-1820). With the rise of global trade in luxury goods, a new era of prosperity and wealth coincided with a richly-supplied market in beautiful non-essentials. This course will trace the social and cultural changes that went hand in glove with the entertainment fashions of the eighteenth century, and the encoded priorities and ideals of the people who enjoyed them.

HIST-4206. Topics in Medieval History

This advanced seminar deals with important aspects of social, religious, intellectual and institutional history in the so-called Middle Ages. Specific topics will change from year to year but generally focus on relationships between the different sorts of medieval communities. The seminar is intended for students with some background in pre-modern history, philosophy and/or theological traditions, whether Christian, Muslim, or Jewish.

State, Nation, and Locality (The Americas)

HIST-2433. Comparative History of North America

This course is designed to acquaint students with broad developments in the history of North America. In the course of studying the North American continent, we will examine the experiences of contact between indigenous and immigrant cultures; the transmission of European ideas and institutions to the American hemisphere; the influence of the Atlantic system of commerce on regional economies; and the struggles of various peoples in the Americas to define themselves and others. Students will be asked to draw connections between major events and occurrences, and to try and find coherence in distance, contemporaneous events.

HIST-2733. United States: Colonial Settlement to Civil War

An introductory survey that explores and examines some major developments in what becomes the United States, from early European colonization up to the Civil War of the mid-19th century. Major issues include relations with Native peoples, slavery, the African-American experience, revolution and independence, economic development, political and intellectual traditions, and social change.

HIST-2743. United States: Reconstruction to 21st Century

The continuation of the introductory survey HIST 2733. This course explores and examines some major developments in the United States, from the conclusion of the Civil War up to the present. Major issues include the legacy of the end of slavery in the United States, the expanded economic and military role of the US in the world, the emergence of transforming social movements, the changing role of the state, and American popular culture.

HIST-2913. Historical Roots of Contemporary Canada

This course examines the historical roots of many of the key issues in contemporary Canadian society. In addition to providing students with a narrative framework of Canadian history since the mid-19th century, the course will emphasize the historical dimensions of many of the most controversial issues facing Canada today, such as Quebec separatism, Aboriginal Land Claims, Western Alienation, Canada-US relations, etc. Students who have taken HIST 2806 (1806) or HIST 2823 (1823) are excluded from this course.

HIST-3043. US Women's History

This course will explore the history of American women from colonization through to the end of the 20th century, with particular emphasis on the 19th and 20th centuries. Major themes will include: race, ethnicity, and class; women and work (paid and unpaid); women and politics (both before and after suffrage in 1920); cultural assumptions about women's proper roles and their portrayal in popular culture; and women's activism.

HIST-3443. Canadian Youth and Universities in Comparative Perspective

This course will explore the changing nature of student culture within the culture of the university. It will use student culture as a lens to examine social and cultural developments in Canada from the late 19th century on. And it will place these changes within a broader

comparative perspective while focusing on such topics as residence life, counterculture and student protest, gender relations and sexuality. Prerequisite: HIST 2913 or permission of the instructor.

HIST-3723. NYC, Colony to World Capital

This course examines the development of New York City from its establishment by the Dutch as New Amsterdam in the 1600s through its development as one of the “world cities” whose influence extends around the globe today. It is designed to use New York City itself as a workshop. The course will consider such historical themes as urban form and architecture, city people and populations, culture and recreation, city politics and social movements, the environment, and economies of cities.

HIST-3743. United States Since 1945

This course examines the changing place in the world of the United States, the superpower of the 20th century, and analyses its character as a society. The course surveys political, social, and cultural trends from the role of the US in the 1940s as a military and economic colossus to its decline in the present postmodern, post-industrial world. It deals with such topics as the Cold War, Civil Rights, Vietnam, women's liberation, suburban life, consumerism, the corporations and unions, popular culture, the 1960s counter culture, and the Internet. Prerequisite: 3 credit hours in History.

HIST-3753. The Harlem Renaissance

This course will survey some of the major themes, controversies, and personalities in African American cultural and political history between 1876 and 1919 in an attempt to contextualize the 1920s surge of African American cultural production known as the Harlem Renaissance. The course will study the racial, class, gender, and cultural politics of the era, with much time devoted to studying artifacts of the Renaissance.

HIST-3873. Immigrants in Canada 1870 to Present

This course examines the position of immigrants in Canadian society from the arrival of the railway workers after Confederation to the present. The conditions that led immigrants to leave their homeland and the economic and social policies that led to their arrival in Canada will be considered, as well as the nature of immigrant communities and their contribution and adaptation to Canada.

HIST-3883. Women and Gender in Modern Canada

This discussion-based course examines gender and women's history in Canada from c. 1850 to c. 1980. It addresses traditional historical topics in the field (industrialization, the Great Depression, World War Two, etc.) as well as emerging topics such as sport, consumerism, and student culture. Our approach will be both chronological and thematic. Prerequisite: HIST 2913 or permission of the instructor.

HIST-3963. Modernity and the Rise of Consumerism in Canada, 1880-1980

This course offers a thematic examination of the impact of modernity and consumerism on 20th century Canada. Through a combination of lectures and seminars the course examines topics such as honeymoons, films, university student initiations, tourism, and advertising campaigns in order to explore and evaluate the impact of capitalism and consumerism on Canadian life. Prerequisite: HIST 2806 (1806) or HIST 2913 or HIST 2823 (1823).

HIST-3973. Canadian North: Image and Reality Since the First World War

This course focuses on the period since the First World War and examines the development of Native Nations in the area, the interaction between them and non-Native Canadians, and

the economic and political significance of northern development. No prerequisite, but an introductory course in Canadian History Since Confederation or a course in recent Canadian history will be useful.

State, Nation, and Locality (Asia)

HIST-2183. History of Modern India

The course explores the history of the Indian subcontinent from c. 1500 onward. It considers the Mughals, the 18th-century successor states, British colonialism, Indian nationalism and postcolonial India to the present day.

HIST-3113. Modern and Revolutionary China

This is a survey of the final century of dynastic rule in China, and the rise to power of the Nationalist and Communist parties, examining social and cultural developments, the impact of Western imperialism, and the evolution of revolutionary ideologies, up to Mao's death. Prerequisite: HIST 2173 or HIST 1006 or permission of the instructor.

HIST-4196. People's History of Korea

This seminar proposes an in-depth study of the modern history of Korea from the perspective of its least acknowledged, yet determinant, agent: the people. It examines major social movements which shaped Korean history and democratisation, e.g. the college student and labour movements. It also addresses Korea's geopolitical predicament from the viewpoint of some of its victims, such as the Korean sex slaves under Japanese colonial rule and Korea's political and economic prisoners of the Cold War. Prerequisite: HIST 2173 or HIST 1006 or permission of the instructor.

State, Nation, and Locality (Europe)

HIST-3273. Russian Civilization

An historical investigation of the foundation upon which the civilization of modern Russia stands. Present-day Russian civilization is complex and many-branched. We shall examine its roots by focusing on several key issues from the time of Russia as a Tatar colony to the present day.

HIST-3303. Art and Culture in 19th Century France

This course examines the visual arts (painting, sculpture, architecture) of nineteenth-century France. It will focus on the historical, political, social, technological and artistic context in which French culture developed in the aftermath of the French Revolution. Four major themes will be addressed: art as a political and social tool, industrialization, art as a mirror of modern life, and art and nature.

HIST-3363. Germany: 1871-1945

In 1871, the newly-unified Germany looked forward to a future that seemed to promise greatness. By 1945, after two world wars, the country was in ruins. How did this come about? In this course, students study social, cultural, political and economic developments in order to understand better Germany's complex history from the late nineteenth to the mid-twentieth century.

HIST-3373. The Germanies Since 1945

The defeat of Nazi Germany and the falling-out of the victors led to the enforced division of Germany. By 1949, two separate German states had come into existence: the Federal Republic of Germany (West Germany) and the German Democratic Republic (East Germany). This course examines the history of Germany from the end of the Second World War to the present.

Special

HIST-2003. Exploring History: Critical Approaches to Historical Methods and Theories

This mandatory course for History Majors and Honours students provides an introduction to the discipline of History. The course examines a variety of historiographical and methodological approaches to History, as well as the history of History. It encourages students to re-examine their assumptions about History, but it will also help students develop their basic historical research and writing skills. Exploring History provides a foundation for upper-year History courses and students are strongly encouraged to take it before their third year. Prerequisite: At least 6 credit hours in History courses at St. Thomas University.

HIST-3553 The History Workshop

The Workshop provides students with the opportunity to enhance their skills of historical analysis, writing and oral communication through close engagement with an important historical “event” or issue. The Workshop is recommended for students planning to take 4000-level seminars, as well as students considering an application to graduate programs or professional schools. Please consult the History Department Handbook, Chair or web page for upcoming Workshop topics. Prerequisite: Permission of the instructor.

HIST-3993. Topics in Global History

This course will examine specific topics in world history. The topics will change from year to year. For information regarding course content students should contact the Chair of the History Department. Prerequisite: At least 9 credit hours in History courses at STU or permission of the instructor.

HIST-4006. History Honours Thesis

The History Honours thesis is a scholarly essay or research paper. The topic of the thesis is determined by the student in consultation with a faculty committee. The committee is composed of the Thesis Supervisor (or supervisors) and another faculty member, typically from the History Department, who acts as the Second Reader. Students normally must submit a thesis proposal to the members of their faculty committee by 30 September of the academic year in which the thesis shall be written.

HIST-4906. Independent Study

With the approval of the Department, students (normally Honours candidates) may undertake a full-year course of independent study. Such a course is to be undertaken under the direction of a member of the History Department and must result in at least one scholarly paper. Application to take an independent study course must be made to the Director of Honours. The application must include a written proposal indicating the reason for doing an independent study, as well as a description of the specific area of interest, a statement of research topic, and a preliminary bibliography. In order to complete their degree requirements, students may request that an independent study be considered as an alternative to an Honours seminar.

HIST-4996. Independent Study - Work Option

With the approval of the Department, students (normally Honours candidates) may undertake one full-year course of independent study as an alternative to an Honours seminar. Such a course would be undertaken under the direction of a member of the history Department and must result in at least one scholarly paper. Application to take an independent study course must be made to the Director of Honours. The application must include a written proposal indicating the reason for doing an independent study, as well as

a description of the specific area of interest, a statement of research topic, and a preliminary bibliography.

University of New Brunswick Courses

St. Thomas students are advised that upper-level history courses offered at UNB, which are not offered at St. Thomas, may, with the permission of the Chair of the St. Thomas History Department and the registrar be taken for credit. Please see the UNB calendar for course descriptions.

NOTE: Not all courses listed are offered each year. Please consult with the Department Chair for more information about current and planned course offerings.