Department of History Courses

About Course Numbers:
Each Carnegie Mellon course number begins with a two-digit prefix that designates the department offering the course (i.e., 76-xxx courses are offered by the Department of English). Although each department maintains its own course numbering practices, typically, the first digit after the prefix indicates the class level: xx-1xx courses are freshmen-level, xx-2xx courses are sophomore level, etc. Depending on the department, xx-6xx courses may be either undergraduate senior-level or graduate-level, and xx-7xx courses and higher are graduate-level. Consult the Schedule of Classes (https://ten-apps.as.cmu.edu/open/SC/SCServlet) each semester for course offerings and for any necessary pre-requisites or co-requisites.

79-101 Making History: How to Think About the Past (and Present)
Intermittent: 9 units
Who (and what) makes history? This apparently straightforward question is at the heart of studying the past, but it is also an important question to answer if we are to understand the world around us. Being able to answer the question “Who and what caused changes to political, cultural, economic, and environmental systems?” is fundamental to thinking about the past, but it is also essential to analyzing current issues as widespread and yet connected as economic inequality, social justice, and climate change. “Making History” is an introductory course ideal for students who are curious about the past and want to learn how to become better critical thinkers by applying its lessons to the present. The course explores how history is made on two levels: both the historical events themselves and how those events are documented, interpreted, and remembered. In other words, making history is not just about understanding what happened, but what it meant to different groups of people then and what it means to different groups of people now. We’ll visit some famous (and not-so-famous) historical events and actors to learn about how individual choices combine with deeper structural factors, like gender, race, environment, and class to “make history.” Along the way, we’ll also encounter different ways to interpret the past, drawing upon the latest scholarship to understand how historians think about the past – as well as what they learn in class to develop their own critical perspectives on their lives and the world around them.

79-104 Global Histories
Fall and Spring: 9 units
Human activity transcends political, geographical, and cultural boundaries. From wars to social movements, technological innovations to environmental changes, our world has long been an interconnected one. Acquiring the ability to understand such transnational and even worldwide processes is an indispensable part of any college education. This course provides students with an opportunity to develop the skills and perspectives needed to understand the contemporary world through investigating its global history. All sections are comparable in their composition of lectures and recitations, required amounts of reading, and emphasis on written assignments as the central medium of assessment. The sections all aim to help students: (1) master knowledge through interaction with the instructors, reading material, and other students, (2) think critically about the context and purpose of any given information, (3) craft effective verbal and written arguments by combining evidence, logic, and creativity, and (4) appreciate the relevance of the past in the present and future.

79-145 Genocide and Weapons of Mass Destruction
Fall and Spring: 9 units
[Note: Students who have passed 79-104, Global Histories: Genocide and Weapons of Mass Destruction, may not enroll.] Can you imagine being responsible for the deaths of hundreds, thousands, or even millions of people? No? Almost everyone who ended up committing unspeakable atrocities had not been able to either. In fact, many of them still would not face their responsibility even after their complicity was proven beyond doubt. Some convinced themselves, often sincerely, that there was no choice or that someone else was actually responsible. Others found reasons that justified, in their minds at least, taking many lives. Still others managed to forget that they had blood on their hands. How could anyone do such terrible things? And more important, can you be sure that you would not act like them under the right circumstances? Through the history of genocide and weapons of mass destruction, this course will teach you to look out for factors that turn ordinary people into mass killers. You will explore why conflicts break out and potential solutions. You will also learn to see from multiple perspectives and to be humble before history. We focus on genocide and weapons of mass destruction because stopping them is a top priority in global affairs today. Our exploration will begin with the European encounter with the Western Hemisphere and continue to 19th-century imperialism, the Holocaust, the atomic bombings of Japan, the Cold War, and decolonization and independence. At the end of our journey, you will have grasped the concepts and historical facts of genocide and weapons of mass destruction. You will also come to appreciate the significance of unintended consequences and the ambiguity of human progress, a realization that will guide you in life.

79-189 History of Democracy: Thinking Beyond the Self
Fall and Spring: 9 units
[Note: Students who have passed 79-104, Global Histories: History of Democracy, may not enroll.] What is the best way to run a country? What is the worst? Democracy has been called both the best and worst form of government. Either way, as almost all countries in the world claim to be a democracy, chances are you come from one of them. What does it mean to live in a democracy? In essence, it means thinking beyond the self and from the perspectives of other people. It means looking for facts but being open to different interpretations. And it means taking responsibility to think critically and independently. These traits are also necessary for understanding history. This course will train you in the skillset and mindset of a historian so you can act democratically. You will learn to tell historical facts from opinions and to see from various angles. The course will also push you to think for yourself, and to argue persuasively for your own position. These skills of thinking historically are useful not just for school or work, but they are also indispensable to a democratic society. Democracy is chosen as the course theme because it is a feature that sets humans apart from other organisms. Knowing the history of democracy is thus knowing what it means to be human, which is the essence of the humanities. Our investigation will begin with the earliest forms of democracy to revolutionary France, Weimar Germany, modern Japan, the Chinese nation, and the Iranian nation. At the end of our journey, you will have gained a basic appreciation of the philosophical appeal and practical challenges of democracy, so that you will be able to decide for yourself what role democracy should play in your life and vice versa.

79-198 Research Training: History
Fall and Spring: 9 units
This course is part of a set of 100-level courses offered by Dietrich College departments as independent studies for second-semester freshmen and first- or second-semester sophomores in the College. In general, these courses are designed to give students some real research experience through work on a faculty project in ways that might stimulate and nurture subsequent interest in research participation. Faculty and students devise a personal and regularized meeting and task schedule. Each Research Training course is worth 9 units, which generally means a minimum for students of about 9 work-hours per week. Prerequisites/Restrictions: For Dietrich College students only; minimum cumulative GPA of 3.0 (at the time of registration) required for approved entry; additional prerequisites (e.g., language proficiency) may arise out of the particular demands of the research project in question. By permission of the relevant professor and the Director of Undergraduate Studies. Students sign up for these courses through both the History Department and the Dean’s Office. Section A: The Right to Vote: An Unexpected History, L. Tetrault Section B: Mapping Segregated Medicine, E. Sanford Section C: The Pittsburgh Queer History Project
Course Website: https://www.cmu.edu/dietrich/students/undergraduate/programs/research-training-program.html
79-200 Introduction to Historical Research & Writing
Fall and Spring: 9 units
Introduction to Historical Research acquaints students with how historians practice their craft in interpreting events from the past. As a class, we will work together through a variety of tools in the historian’s toolbox, drawing episodes from American history as case studies. By the second half of the semester, students will have identified their own topics, in any time period or field of history, and will write research papers incorporating the analytical techniques covered earlier. The goal is for students to learn the skills required to identify a research topic, find and work with many kinds of sources, create a strong thesis statement, design a persuasive paper, and produce a properly formatted and well written research paper.

79-201 Introduction to Anthropology
Intermittent: 9 units
Anthropologist Ruth Benedict claimed that anthropology’s mission is truly to “make the world safe for human difference.” Cultural anthropologists “make the strange familiar and the familiar strange,” attempting to understand the internal logic of cultures which might, at first glance, seem bizarre to us. At the same time, anthropologists probe those aspects of our own society which might appear equally bizarre to outsiders. The goal of this course is to raise questions basic to the study of culture and social relationships in a multitude of contexts. We will also discuss the particular research methods informing anthropology, as well as anthropologists’ relationship to the people they study, and the responsibilities informing those relationships. The readings focus on topics that have long captured anthropologists’ attention and that continue to be intensely debated: social inequality, race, gender, kinship, ethnicity, the body, the self, globalizing and migration. Through written work, including ethnographic readings and a novel, films, and in-class discussions, we will examine how anthropology makes us more aware of our own culturally ingrained assumptions, while broadening our understanding of human experiences. This course is structured as a combination of lectures and seminar discussions. In the first part of the course, I will give a lecture every week, followed by a class session that will focus solely on discussing the readings and key concepts. In the second part of the course, I will introduce the readings by placing them within larger debates, but the course will become more discussion oriented.

79-202 Flesh and Spirit: Early Modern Europe, 1400-1750
Intermittent: 9 units
This course examines European history from the Black Death to the French Revolution, a period known to history as the “early modern” period. That is, it marks a period in European history that was not quite medieval, and yet not quite modern. Many features of modern society, such as the nation-state, free-trade economies, religious pluralism, scientific rationalism, and secular culture trace their origins to the early modern era, yet the period was also marked by an extension of the Middle Ages. Throughout this course, we will explore how Europeans re-imagined their world in its transition from the medieval to the modern. Topics to be considered will include the “renaissance” of the arts, the problems of religious reform, exploration and colonialism, the rise of science, and the use of things, inequality, race, gender, kinship, ethnicity, the body, the self, globalization and migration. Through written work, including ethnographic readings and a novel, films, and in-class discussions, we will examine how anthropology makes us more aware of our own culturally ingrained assumptions, while broadening our understanding of human experiences. This course is structured as a combination of lectures and seminar discussions. In the first part of the course, I will give a lecture every week, followed by a class session that will focus solely on discussing the readings and key concepts. In the second part of the course, I will introduce the readings by placing them within larger debates, but the course will become more discussion oriented.

79-203 The Other Europe: The Habsburgs, Communism, & Central/ Eastern Europe, 1740-1990
Intermittent: 9 units
During the last two centuries, Central and Eastern Europe has been a political laboratory—a region in which various political actors had attempted to launch and develop radical political and social experiments, from imperial reforms meant to strengthen and modernize the Habsburg empire, to the ethnic cleansing promoted by Nazi Germany and their acolytes in the region, to the attempts at establishing of a new social order under the post-WWII communist regimes. An understanding of the profound and rapid political and social changes that have occurred in this region will enable you to see global politics in a new light, and better understand the modern era. This course is a survey of the history of modern Central and Eastern Europe, from late 18th to late 20th century. It begins with a focus on modern Habsburg Austria, the rise of nationalism in mid 19th century, and the demise of the Austro-Hungarian Empire following the First World War. It continues with an examination of the rise of illiberal politics during the interwar era, the Second World War, and the establishment of the communist regimes and the post-communist era in Eastern Europe. This course is a survey of the history of modern Central and Eastern Europe, from late 18th to late 20th century. It begins with a focus on modern Habsburg Austria, the rise of nationalism in mid 19th century, and the demise of the Austro-Hungarian Empire following the First World War. It continues with an examination of the rise of illiberal politics during the interwar era, the Second World War, and the establishment of the communist regimes and the post-communist era in Eastern Europe. This course is a survey of the history of modern Central and Eastern Europe, from late 18th to late 20th century. It begins with a focus on modern Habsburg Austria, the rise of nationalism in mid 19th century, and the demise of the Austro-Hungarian Empire following the First World War. It continues with an examination of the rise of illiberal politics during the interwar era, the Second World War, and the establishment of the communist regimes and the post-communist era in Eastern Europe.

79-204 American Environmental History
Intermittent: 9 units
This course examines how people in North America have interacted with their surroundings from the end of the last ice age to the present.

79-205 20th Century Europe
Intermittent: 9 units
This course surveys the history of Europe from 1900 through the present. We shall examine some of the major political trends and social/economic changes of the last century, including: the collapse of Europe’s multiethnic empires and the rise of the modern nation-state; the extraordinary violence and impact of WWII, The Spanish Civil War, WWII and the War in the Balkans in the 1990s; Communism and its collapse; Decolonization; the rise and crisis of the European welfare state and the European Union. We shall also discuss the re-emergence of ethno-nationalism and rising anti-immigrant sentiment over the last decades, Brexit (Britain’s 2016 referendum vote to leave the European Union), cultural and political debates surrounding Islam and Muslims in Europe today, the ongoing refugee crisis, and contemporary debates over the memory of the Holocaust. Classes will combine lecture, discussion and group work.

79-206 Crime and Punishment in Early Modern Europe
Intermittent: 9 units
This course examines European legal and social institutions and their role in defining and punishing crime in the early modern era (c. 1400-1800). European society was fundamentally transformed in this period of transition between the medieval and the modern eras, and the laws and legal systems that exist in the Western world today were gradually formed at this time. We will examine both existing and emerging concepts of criminality and justice, together with the methods of historical analysis using a variety of source material. Students will work together through a variety of tools in the historian’s toolbox, using oral evidence, photographs and images, maps, official documents, memoirs, and other outcasts and the legal enforcement of sexual norms and gender roles. The course concludes with an examination of current debates concerning criminal justice reform, policing, torture, and criminal punishment.

79-208 Witchcraft and Witch-Hunting
Intermittent: 9 units
Between the late 15th and the early 18th centuries, many Europeans became convinced that their society was threatened by a conspiracy of diabolic witches. Although Western beliefs in witchcraft and “devil worship” dated back to antiquity, the 16th and 17th centuries witnessed the most intense campaign of witch-hunting in all of Europe’s history. Before it was over, the “Great European Witch-Hunt” of the early modern era cost the lives of thousands across Europe and in its colonies. And although the witch-hunts in early modern Europe and its colonies gradually came to an end, beliefs in witchcraft persist into the modern era and, in many parts of the world today, continue to generate campaigns of popular violence against alleged perpetrators. This course examines witchcraft beliefs and witch-hunting in historical perspective in both their European and colonial contexts. In addition to the early modern witch-hunts, it will address modern witchcraft beliefs and consider witch-hunting as a global problem today. It will focus on the origin and rationale of witch beliefs, the factors driving the timing and intensity of witch-hunts, and the patterns of accusations. Throughout, we will examine the many historical and regional variations in witch beliefs and prosecutions and explore how they reflect major social and cultural issues such as the relationship between “popular” and “elite” culture; religious change; state formation; gender and patriarchy; and the rationalization of law, medicine, and science. This course satisfies one of the elective requirements for the Religious Studies minor.

79-209 The Art of Historical Detection
Intermittent: 6 units
How do historians determine how and why episodes in the past transpired? This course takes students behind the scenes and acquaints them with the techniques by which historians practice their craft in interpreting historical events. Using dramatic case studies in American history, we will examine a wide array of tools and sources at the historian’s disposal, among them oral evidence, photographs and images, maps, official documents, memoirs, psycho-history, media and popular culture. Through in-class workshops and assignments, students will experience firsthand the methods of historical analysis using a variety of source material. Students will develop a familiarity with the historian’s toolbox and a new-found appreciation for the painstaking efforts that go into producing the history books they may otherwise take for granted. There is a final project (not a final paper) instead of a final exam.

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79-211 Modern Southeast Asia: Colonialism, Capitalism, and Cultural Exchange
Intermittent: 9 units
This course examines the rise, rule, and impact of the Mongol Empire on global history. In the 13th century, Eurasia was shaken by a force contemporary chroniclers likened to an apocalypse. Within a few decades, horsemen under the command of Chinggis (Genghis) Khan swept out of the northeastern steppe to establish the largest land empire the world would ever know. Few events in world history have inspired such fear and awe. However, the Mongol period also ushered in the so-called Pax Mongolica, the first period of sustained contact and exchange across Eurasia as people, technologies, arts, biodiversity, and ideas spread throughout the Mongol domains and beyond. Questions to be examined include: Who was Genghis Khan and how did he lead a little known nomadic people to conquer much of the known world? What cultural and technological innovations aided the Mongols rise and conquest? How did Genghis’s successors rule their vast, diverse domains? What role did religion play in Mongol Eurasia? Why did a unified Mongol empire fall apart in such a relatively short period of time? And how did the Mongols and their empire help shape the world we live in today?

79-217 Entertainment and Popular Culture in the Roaring Twenties
Intermittent: 3 units
This course will examine the rise, rule, and impact of the Mongol Empire on global history. In the 13th century, Eurasia was shaken by a force contemporary chroniclers likened to an apocalypse. Within a few decades, horsemen under the command of Chinggis (Genghis) Khan swept out of the northeastern steppe to establish the largest land empire the world would ever know. Few events in world history have inspired such fear and awe. However, the Mongol period also ushered in the so-called Pax Mongolica, the first period of sustained contact and exchange across Eurasia as people, technologies, arts, biodiversity, and ideas spread throughout the Mongol domains and beyond. Questions to be examined include: Who was Genghis Khan and how did he lead a little known nomadic people to conquer much of the known world? What cultural and technological innovations aided the Mongols rise and conquest? How did Genghis’s successors rule their vast, diverse domains? What role did religion play in Mongol Eurasia? Why did a unified Mongol empire fall apart in such a relatively short period of time? And how did the Mongols and their empire help shape the world we live in today?

79-212 Jim Crow America
Intermittent: 9 units
Starting with the core question, “What is China?”, this mini-course explores the recent histories of Hong Kong and Taiwan to investigate questions of identity, nationalism, ethnicity, exceptionism, colonialism, and historical memory in “Greater China.” While both Hong Kong and Taiwan are generally considered to be “Chinese,” neither ever has been fully included in the modern Chinese nation-state. The agreement that transferred Hong Kong from British rule to PRC control in 1997 enshrined the idea of “One Country, Two Systems,” a guarantee that Hong Kong’s political, legal, and economic systems would not be altered for fifty years. One Country, Two Systems has also been offered as a blueprint for “reunifying” Taiwan with Mainland China. However, in recent years publics in both Hong Kong and Taiwan not only increasingly resist political reunification with the PRC, but more and more identify themselves as citizens of either Hong Kong or Taiwan rather than members of a singular Chinese nation. This has led to mass protests in Hong Kong and calls for true independence in Taiwan. Other topics that may be discussed include subethnic identity and ethnic minorities in modern China and the Chinese diaspora.

79-220 Screening Mexico: Mexican Cinema, 1898 to Present
Intermittent: 6 units
This course is an introduction to Mexican cinema from its origins in silent film to the present. Some areas of focus will include documentary footage and films of the Mexican Revolution (1910-1920), films of the Mexican “Golden Age” (1930-1960), and “New Mexican Cinema” from the 1990s forward. We will explore cinema as a window on Mexico’s changing social, cultural and political dynamics, and as a way to probe such topics as: changing conceptions of Mexican identity; political critique and revolutionary movements; and urbanization, migration and the “drug war” in contemporary Mexico.

79-219 Hong Kong, Taiwan and the Idea of “China”
Intermittent: 6 units
This course will examine the rise, rule, and impact of the Mongol Empire on global history. In the 13th century, Eurasia was shaken by a force contemporary chroniclers likened to an apocalypse. Within a few decades, horsemen under the command of Chinggis (Genghis) Khan swept out of the northeastern steppe to establish the largest land empire the world would ever know. Few events in world history have inspired such fear and awe. However, the Mongol period also ushered in the so-called Pax Mongolica, the first period of sustained contact and exchange across Eurasia as people, technologies, arts, biodiversity, and ideas spread throughout the Mongol domains and beyond. Questions to be examined include: Who was Genghis Khan and how did he lead a little known nomadic people to conquer much of the known world? What cultural and technological innovations aided the Mongols rise and conquest? How did Genghis’s successors rule their vast, diverse domains? What role did religion play in Mongol Eurasia? Why did a unified Mongol empire fall apart in such a relatively short period of time? And how did the Mongols and their empire help shape the world we live in today?
79-224 Mayan America
Intermittent: 9 units
This course will explore the history and culture of the Maya from before the European conquest of the Americas to the present. After a survey of ancient Mayan society and of the European conquest of Mexico and Central America, we will consider the experience of the indigenous Maya under Spanish colonial rule and under the rule of Latin American nation-states in the nineteenth and twentieth centuries. Finally, we will cover the recent history of political conflict and military repression in Guatemala, the Zapatista uprising in southern Mexico, and increasing Mayan migration to the United States. Drawing upon the varied perspectives of archaeology, cultural anthropology, and social history, this course will explore several recurrent themes in Mayan America, such as: conquest, adaptation and resistance; indigenous political and communal organization; popular religion, prophecy and apocalypse; Mayan cultural and ethnic identity; "tradition" and "modernity"; state violence and human rights; and indigenous political and cultural mobilization at the local, national, and transnational levels.

79-225 West African History in Film
Intermittent: 9 units
West Africa is a vibrant, diverse, and rich region, which has had the largest influence demographically, culturally, socially, and linguistically on the Americas. This course will examine West Africa’s history from the pre-colonial to the independence period. It will cover such topics as states vs. stateless societies, urbanization, trans-Saharan trade, Islamization, European interaction, the trans-Atlantic slave trade, colonialism, cash crops, missionaries, nationalism, and independence. Students will understand how this dynamic region changed over time as a result of internal factors, such as state formation, as well as external factors, interaction with Muslim and European traders. Students will also be exposed to the variety of sources used by historians to reconstruct West Africa’s rich history. The course will use historical films by some of West Africa’s most famous filmmakers, such as Ousman Sembene, to illustrate the diversity of the region and its historical change over time. Course includes two class meetings and mandatory film screenings on Wednesdays from 6:40-9:30pm.

79-226 African History: Earliest Times to 1780
Intermittent: 9 units
A beginning point for this course will be the question: how do historians reconstruct history when few written sources are available? Breaking disciplinary boundaries, the course will draw on linguistics, “climateology,” archaeology, and anthropology to reconstruct dynamic social, cultural, political, and economic processes in Africa before the arrival of Europeans and before the availability of written source materials. When written sources are available, the course will interrogate them to illuminate the changes that occurred in African societies during the early period of contact with Europeans. Lastly, by focusing on long-term processes, such as economic specialization, urbanization, and Islamization, the course will begin to put the slave trade in an African-centered perspective.

79-227 Modern Africa: The Slave Trade to the End of Apartheid
Intermittent: 9 units
The course is designed to give students an understanding and appreciation of African history and culture from the “inside out.” Though it deals with the period of European expansion in Africa, it is centered on African language/ethnic groups, villages, and individuals as historical actors who daily make collective and personal decisions to pass down, innovate, and borrow practices, technology, spiritual systems, etc. in the face of social, political, and economic realities. The course is also designed to get students thinking critically about how historians select and interpret sources to construct and reconstruct history at these different levels.

79-229 The Origins of the Palestinian-Israeli Conflict, 1880-1948
Intermittent: 9 units
This course considers the historical origins of the contemporary Arab-Israeli conflict, beginning with the decline of the Ottoman Empire and the rise of Arab nationalism and Zionism in the late 19th century and emphasizing the period of the British Mandate over Palestine (1920-1948). Students will move beyond textbooks to explore primary source documents, maps, photographs, biographies and historical testimony. For five weeks in the middle of the semester, students will immerse themselves in an extended role-playing exercise, “The Struggle for Palestine, 1936,” an elaborate simulation game linked to Barnard College’s “Reacting to the Past” program. Students portraying British examiners, specific Arab and Zionist characters and journalists will recreate the activities of the 1936 Royal Commission that came to Palestine to investigate the causes of an Arab rebellion and Arab-Jewish strife. This historical reenactment experience constitutes an exciting pedagogical opportunity for delving deeper into the topic material than regular coursework allows. All the role-playing will take place during regular class time, but students should be aware that they will need to devote outside time for preparation and research. Outstanding attendance is a requirement. Regular classroom activity resumes at the end of the five weeks. The goal of the course is for students to develop a nuanced understanding of the varying goals and priorities of all the actors in Mandate Palestine. Running throughout the course is the question, was peace ever possible?

79-230 Arab-Israeli Conflict Since 1948
Intermittent: 9 units
This course begins in 1948 with the establishment of the State of Israel, the Palestinian dispersal and the first of many Arab-Israeli wars, and continues up to the present time. The examination of the many facets of the Arab-Israeli and Palestinian-Israeli conflicts is accompanied by attention to primary source documents and to the search for peace and its frustration. We will also situate this conflict within the framework of the war, chaos and religious extremism currently prevailing in the Middle East. The course culminates in an intensive role-playing game in which students conduct simulated Arab-Israeli negotiations. For the role-playing we will be partnering with Arab and Israeli students from universities in the Middle East: real-time negotiations will take place via Facebook and continue via various social media. The simulation game experience constitutes an exciting pedagogical experiment and an opportunity for delving deeper into the topic material than regular coursework allows.

79-231 American Civil Rights Movement: From Garveyism to Black Power
Intermittent: 9 units
This course is centrally focused on African Americans’ struggle for political and economic freedom throughout the 20th century in the United States from the Garveyism in the 1920s to Black Power in the 1970s. It will attend to the ways in which gender, and class shaped race relations and activist campaigns. Students will explore the structure and manifestations of racial inequality in the United States; the broad historical forces that shaped opportunities and constraints for freedom struggles; the movements’ various philosophies, strategies, demands, and tactics; activism and ideologies of the movement’s allies and opponents; interactions between the black freedom movement and other movements challenging exclusion and discrimination; and the legacies of the movement. Students will explore these issues through reading in primary and secondary sources; viewing films and film clips; participating in interactive lectures and active course discussion and debates.

79-232 Arabian Peninsula Environmental History
Intermittent: 9 units
This course is ONLY offered at Carnegie Mellon in Qatar. This course will look at the history of the Arabian Peninsula from a fresh perspective, examining human/environmental interactions over a long stretch of time. In contrast to the way that Arabian history is typically taught in academia, this course will take the pre-Islamic period of Arabian history (al-jahiliyya) as seriously as the post-Islamic period, and will focus on continuities between the two periods as much as discontinuities. What is more, while conventional histories of the Arabian Peninsula focus on political and religious affairs, this course will try to understand Arabian history on a deeper level by focusing on the lifeways of the Arabian people, including pastoralism, oasis “bustan garden” agriculture, fishing and pearling, and shifting patterns of long-distance trade. What is more this course will draw heavily from material from other disciplines, especially medical sciences, to better understand patterns of change over time. Finally, this course will examine to what degree these older patterns of human/landscape interactions are still valid for the Arabian Peninsula today, which has undergone a transformation almost unparalleled in world history due to the discovery natural gas and oil.

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79-233 The United States and the Middle East since 1945
Intermittent: 9 units
This course begins by introducing students to the Middle Eastern priorities and policies that the US inherited from the British in the aftermath of the Second World War. The focus then moves to American interests and involvement in the region from the Cold War through today, with special attention to recurrent historical themes. Topics include the US role in the Arab-Israeli conflict and peace process, the role of oil, politics and conflicts in the Persian Gulf, the impact of 9/11 on American foreign policy in the Middle East, and selected case studies of US political and military intervention there. Readings and discussion progress with a dual goal in mind: to understand American foreign policy interests in the Middle East, and to understand the forces and nuances endemic to the region itself. Students will learn how to analyze primary source documents, such as presidential speeches and UN resolutions. The course culminates in a week-long role-playing exercise in which students portraying NSA members must advise the US President on a policy response to a Middle East crisis.

79-234 Technology and Society
Intermittent: 9 units
How has technology shaped human society? And how have human beings shaped technology in return? This course investigates these questions across history—from stone tools, agriculture, and ancient cities to windmills, cathedrals, and the printing press; from railroads, electricity, and airplanes to atom bombs, the internet, and the dishwasher. In analyzing these tools, we will explore the dynamic relationships between technological systems and the social, political, religious, artistic, and economic worlds in which they emerged. We will also pay particular attention to technological effects, asking both who benefited from and who was harmed by technological change. By the end of the course, students will be able to reflect critically on how humanity chooses which technologies to exploit and how human societies have been transformed by these choices.

79-236 Coming to America: Immigration History and Policy
Intermittent: 9 units
We often hear the United States described as “a nation of immigrants,” and the 2016 presidential election brought debates over immigration to the forefront of political debate with Donald Trump’s promises to “build the wall.” This course will examine how these two, seemingly contradictory ideas about immigration, one ostensibly inclusive and one exclusive, came to exist together in American political thought. We will investigate the history of immigration to the United States from the colonial period to the present day, with an emphasis on the history of immigration policy since its development in the 19th century. In doing so, students will analyze concepts such as Americanization, the melting pot, cultural pluralism, and distinctions between legal and illegal immigration. They will emerge from this class with a clearer understanding of US immigration policy and its changes and continuities over time.

79-237 Comparative Slavery
Intermittent: 9 units
This course will examine the pervasive, world-spanning institution of human slavery. Although the time frame this course deals with is broad—from the rise of complex societies in the ancient world to slavery-like labor systems in the modern era—this class will focus more thoroughly on a few case studies, especially slavery in the Middle East and sub-Saharan Africa, the US, and the Caribbean. These disparate examples will be related to a number of core themes, including race, class, family, gender, religion, national identity and underdevelopment.

79-238 Modern African American Film: History and Resistance
Intermittent: 6 units
This course explores the historical and contemporary impact of resistance on and in African American film during the twentieth and twenty-first centuries. We will consider how filmmakers use narrative and aesthetics to represent, address, and combat anti-blackness, attend to filmmaking itself as a potential act of resistance, and cultivate our own “oppositional gazes” as spectators and critics. The films we will watch are: · Within Our Gates (dir. Oscar Micheaux, 1920) · Do the Right Thing (dir. Spike Lee, 1989) · Daughters of the Dust (dir. Julie Dash, 1991) · The Watermelon Woman (dir. Cheryl Dunye, 1996) · Moonlight (dir. Barry Jenkins, 2016) Access to the films and any supplemental readings will be provided; unless otherwise stated on the syllabus, students will be expected to carefully study this material prior to each class. Though there will be brief lectures contextualizing each film’s production and reception history, the majority of our meeting times will be spent on student-led discussion. Assignments include weekly written responses, a final project, and classroom participation. Because of the nature of the course topic and the content of the films, participation requires extended engagement with films, with depictions of issues including, but not limited to, lynching, sexual violence, police brutality, homophobia, and intraracial antagonism. Students are free to contact me at any point in the term if this becomes an issue.

79-239 History of the American Working Class
Intermittent: 9 units
This course will examine the transformation of the American working class from its preindustrial origins to the recent period of deindustrialization, gentrification, and the onset of the Coronavirus. It will emphasize the changing relationship between owners, managers, and workers, the role of the state, and the impact of gender, race, and ethnicity. More specifically, this course will not only analyze the factors that facilitated and/or impeded what we call class solidarity, but assess the impact of the working class upon the development of American history, including the recent recognition of previously marginalized human service workers as “essential workers” during the upheaval of COVID-19.

79-240 Development of American Culture
Intermittent: 9 units
This is an introductory survey of American history from colonial times to the present. The course focuses on cultural history instead of the more traditional emphasis on presidents, wars, and memorizing facts or timelines. The major theme of the course is the changing meaning of freedom over three centuries. Required readings include several short books and historical documents, which will be paired with class lectures to provide students with context needed to think about and understand America’s cultural history. Assignments will include three short essays and a final research project on a topic of popular culture of the student’s choosing, developed over the course of the semester through three short blog posts.

79-241 African American History: Africa to the Civil War
Intermittent: 9 units
The African American experience had deep roots in the rapid globalization of the world’s people during the transatlantic slave trade. Like people of European, Asian, and Latino/Latina descent, Africans were part of the early Great Migrations of people from the Old World to the New. Unlike other ethnic and nationality groups, however, African people arrived in chains and swiftly acquired the legal status of “slaves for life.” Was their enslavement inevitable? Was their transformation into commodities complete? Were they able to perform familiar family, community, and cultural lives under the institution of human bondage? Did they find dependable white allies? Did they Africanize American culture, politics, and economics? How did some 500,000 of these African people become free (some significant property holders) before the Civil War? Focusing on the development of African and African American life from the beginning of the colonial era through the late antebellum years, this course will explore these and many other questions in the lives of the earliest generations of African people on American soil. Based upon a variety of assigned texts, primary and secondary sources, and lectures, students will become familiar with a wide range of intellectual debates in African American history; write a series of short analytical essays; and advance their own well-argued and well-documented analyses of major controversies in both popular and scholarly interpretations of early African and African American life in the United States.

79-242 African American History: Reconstruction to the Present
Intermittent: 9 units
This course explores changes in the African American experience from the end of the Civil War to the emerging era of Joe Biden and Kamala Harris. Through an examination of a wide range of scholarly and popular debates in African American life and history, this course begins with the development of American society and culture in both inter- and intra-race relations; economic mobility as well as economic inequality; and forms of political engagement and grassroots movements for social change. We will explore these developments under the impact of the segregationist regime; the Great Migration; the rise of the urban-industrial working class; increasing residential segregation; growth and expansion of the middle class; and the fluorescence of the Modern Black Liberation Movement. Students will compare the dynamics of the contemporary Black Lives Matter Movement with earlier 20th century grassroots social and political movements in African American and U.S. history. Finally, based upon a mix of primary and secondary sources and lectures, students will write a series of short analytical essays; and establish their own unique interpretation of key issues in Black History.

79-243 The Civil War in African Memory
Intermittent: 6 units
The American Civil War remains among the most venerated and fought over stories in American history. This course explores those debates. Why was the war fought? Was the Confederate cause noble? Did the North oppose slavery? What did freedom mean? How does a nation erect racial justice? What does freedom mean to fly the Confederate flag or confront a Confederate monument today? Tackling these ongoing debates (and more) from the war (1861-65) itself until today, this course grapples with why the war continues to be one of the most defining moments in U.S. history - 150 years later - and what it means to our past and present as a bi-racial democracy. This course is open to all students.
79-244 Women in American History
Intermittent: 9 units
This course is a survey. It examines U.S. history through the eyes of women and gender. It begins in the colonial era (1600s) and runs chronologically to the present. It covers topics such as witchcraft, the story of Pocahontas, women’s work, motherhood, slavery, and much more. We will look at the lives of individual women, as well as trends among women, paying attention to questions of race and class. At the same time, we will explore changing concepts of gender, meaning ideas about what women are or should be. Finally, the course asks: how different does American history look when we factor in women and gender?

79-245 Capitalism and Individualism in American Culture
Intermittent: 9 units
This small discussion course traces ideas about individualism and capitalism in the U.S., from colonial times to the present. We will focus on three main themes: 1) the relationship between capitalism, work, and identity; 2) changing definitions of success and failure; and 3) the historical origins of students’ attitudes toward 1 and 2. In short, we will study the economics and emotions of the American dream: how class, race, gender, occupation, and ambition shape our identities. Readings include “The Autobiography of Benjamin Franklin,” studies by Alexis de Tocqueville and Max Weber, writings of Frederick Douglass, Ralph Waldo Emerson, Herman Melville, Henry Thoreau, Charlotte Perkins Gilman, Andrew Carnegie’s classic essay “Gospel of Wealth,” Arthur Miller’s “Death of a Salesman,” and Malcolm Gladwell’s “Outliers.” Grading is based upon a readings journal, participation in discussion, three short essays and a longer final paper.

79-246 Industrial America
Intermittent: 9 units
This course examines the transformation of America into an urban industrial society during the 19th and 20th centuries. The transformation of work, culture, and politics will receive close attention, but the course will primarily focus around how workers defined their own labor and changes in the culture of work over time. This course will investigate how race, class, and gender informed workplace relations as well as how immigration and migration changed the nature of American work. Through lecture, discussion, and three short writing assignments we will uncover how workers defined America.

79-247 African Americans, Imprisonment, and the Carceral State
Intermittent: 9 units
The mass incarceration of people of African descent has emerged as one of the most daunting issues in contemporary U.S. society and politics. But too often discussions of this important phenomenon proceed without sufficient historical perspective. Thus, this course explores the history of African Americans in the nation’s prison system from the emancipation of some four million enslaved people following the Civil War through recent times. Specifically, we examine the process by which the nation’s prison population shifted from predominantly white inmates during the mid-19th century through the inter-World War years to majority African Americans and other people of color by the closing years of the 20th century. In addition to examining the role of law, policing, and racist social policies and practices, students explore the lived experiences of imprisoned people, with an emphasis on the impact of class and gender as well as racial considerations. Along with selected primary documents, assigned readings include a series of scholarly case studies on the carceral experiences of black men and women in the North and South during the industrial and emerging postindustrial eras in African American and U.S. history. Finally, students will write a series of short essays on particular facets of African American life in the American prison system.

79-248 U.S. Constitution & the Presidency
Intermittent: 9 units
This course explores the changing role and powers of the American Presidency under the Constitution, from the founding era through the twentieth century. After absorbing drafting and ratification debates, we will focus on how particular presidents (Washington, Lincoln, FDR, Nixon) established or expanded the executive power and how particular conflicts (the Civil War, the “Court Packing” plan, Watergate) restructured or restricted the presidency. Readings will include the U.S. Constitution (of course), selections from The Federalist Papers, and three short books: Corey Brettschneider’s The Oath and the Office: A Guide to the Constitution for Future Presidents, Daniel Farber’s Lincoln’s Constitution, and Cass Sunstein’s impeachment: A Citizen’s Guide. Grades will be based on three short papers, a final paper, and daily preparedness and participation in group discussion.

79-249 20th Century U.S. History
Intermittent: 9 units
The twentieth century marked the rise of the United States as a global power. By the end of the century, the United States had achieved economic, military, and political dominance. The United States also made great strides in expanding political and civil rights for workers, women, African-Americans, and gays and lesbians. This course explores the cultural implications of these developments on the generations of American people who came of age in the twentieth century. It assesses both the triumphs and tribulations of twenty-century life. We will analyze the continuities, contradictions, and conflicts in American history, especially in regard to the nation’s dueling political ideologies: conservatism and liberalism. Special attention will be given to the evolving relationship among the state, the corporate sector, and ordinary people. Topics include: the Progressive Era, the Great Depression, World War II, the Cold War, Civil Rights, Vietnam, and the New Conservatism.

79-250 Voting Rights: An Unexpected History
Intermittent: 9 units
Did you know that American citizens have no right to vote? None. The United States is one of the only constitutional democracies in the world that does not enshrine this right in its founding charter. Not only did the nation’s founders punt on creating one, social movements have also never succeeded in creating one. What, then, have voting rights activists won over the centuries? And how and why has an affirmative right to vote never been achieved? Starting with the U.S. Constitution and working forward to the present, this course will help you make sense of all the accusations swirling in the news about voter fraud, voter suppression, voter theft, voting rights, and all the other things no one ever taught you about the world’s oldest democracy. This course is open to all students.

79-251 COVID-19: What History Can Teach Us
Intermittent: 3 units
For many, the COVID-19 Pandemic feels like a rupture in time - a disaster unprecedented in scale and impact. Yet one-hundred years ago, the Influenza Pandemic of 1918 killed between 17 million and 50 million people. That virus infected approximately a third of all human beings on the planet - some 500 million people. Since then, humanity has faced a series of influenza epidemics and other global catastrophes, from world wars to HIV-AIDS. Like COVID-19, those crises were shaped by pre-existing forms of inequality and discrimination based on race, gender, sexuality, religion, nationality, and other forms of identity. Pandemics affect everyone, but not equally. For many of the world’s poorest and most oppressed people, the COVID-19 pandemic feels less like a rupture than an escalation of long-standing inequalities. In the United States, the racial disparities of the pandemic reflect the long history of systemic racism. What can we learn from the past about how to cope with our current crisis? How can we confront the inequities and injustices of the world in the midst of such a crisis? This course will offer a historical lens on many of the most urgent and difficult questions that we face as a result of COVID-19.

79-252 “Harriet”: Harriet Tubman, Slavery, and the Underground Railroad
Intermittent: 6 units
Most Americans who know and love Harriet Tubman know she escaped enslavement, led herself and more than 60 people out of bondage via the Underground Railroad, gave instructions on getting to freedom to 50 or more people, and became a suffragist. However, the many biographies, children’s books, and even the biopic “Harriet” about Tubman are all virtually silent on a very important chapter of her life: during the US Civil War, Harriet Tubman worked as a nurse, cook, spy, and scout for the US Army Department of the South. This course will look at two parts of Tubman’s life, her enslavement in the Maryland Eastern Shore and freedom via the Underground Railroad, as well as her military service in coastal South Carolina and participation in the Combahee River Raid, which freed 756 blacks enslaved on nine rice plantations six months after the Emancipation Proclamation went into effect. We will watch the biopic “Harriet” and discusses where it does and does not accord with historical sources about Tubman’s life. And, we will tour the “From Slavery to Freedom” exhibit at the Senator John Heinz History Center to learn more about the Underground Railroad, particularly in Western Pennsylvania.
79-253 Imperialism and Decolonization in South Asia
Intermittent: 9 units
Home to a diversity of cultures, languages, and histories, the population of South Asia is linked through a common experience of European colonialism in the nineteenth and early twentieth centuries. Virtually all of the contemporary nation-states of South Asia achieved independence from European colonial powers in the middle of the twentieth century, most between the 1940s and 1960s. With a focus on South Asian history, this course will include introductory sessions on pre-colonial interaction and the early modern world. The bulk of the course will focus on colonialism, nationalism, and decolonization from the early nineteenth century to the mid-twentieth century. In addition to assessing the legacies of colonialism in the present day, the course will interrogate the differences between colonial and postcolonial experiences across the South Asian world. It will further examine the challenges and trials confronting the new states “after” decolonization, in particular, their search not only for new political frameworks to replace the colonial structures they had discarded, but also for solutions to mitigate the issues of social integration, inter-state conflict and regional co-operation.

79-255 Politics, Religion, and Conflict in 19th and 20th Century Ireland
Intermittent: 6 units
[Note: students who have already taken this course under its former name 79-255 and former title, Irish History, may not enroll.] This 6-unit mini course surveys Irish history from the earliest human settlements until the present day, with emphasis on the period since the late eighteenth century. Our main objective is to understand the sources of conflict in modern Ireland. In order to do that, however, we will look at a number of topics such as the role of religion in Irish society; the causes of population growth, movement, and decline; changing forms of protest; and the formation of rival myths of the Irish past and its meaning.

Intermittent: 9 units
Between 1960 and 1990, young Europeans rebelled against the conservatism of their parents and politicians. In 1968, they exploded into the streets in capitalist Paris and socialist Prague. In West Germany and Italy, a minority of left-wing radicals took up the gun to bring former Nazis and Fascists to “justice.” Young people demanded and practiced sexual liberation. Young women marched for their emancipation and led the struggle to legalize abortion. Young Europeans also contributed to the liberalization of anti-homosexual laws. The British Beat revolution rocked the world with its innovative music, anti-establishment lyrics, shocking fashions, and wild lifestyles. By the 1980s, youth rebellion had taken on disturbing trends with the emergence of right-wing Skinheads and a surge in drug addiction. The course combines lecture and discussion of readings and films. Students will write three essays (1000 words each) based on class assignments. They will write a final essay (1500-1700 words) based on their own research into the press, fanzines, films, etc. (in place of a final exam).

79-257 Germany and the Second World War
Intermittent: 9 units
This course examines the Second World War from the perspective of the country that was central to it in every way. The course will cover: Hitler’s ideology, war plans, and military strategy; the military/technological history of the War in Europe and North Africa; the role of the SS; the Holocaust; the occupation of Europe and Resistance movements; the political, social, and economic history of the Third Reich, including popular opinion, the German Resistance, and the use of slave labor in factories and on farms. Readings will include historical studies, a novel, and a memoir/diary.

79-260 Nazi Germany
Intermittent: 9 units
This course covers Nazism in Germany from its beginnings as a small movement after the First World War through its rise to power in 1933 to its fiery destruction and defeat in 1945. What were the sources of its appeal as a political party? How did the Nazi regime suppress the political opposition in 1933? Why did so many ordinary Germans collaborate with the regime in its hunt against political, religious, sexual, and racial enemies? Why did they support the regime to the bloody end of the most murderous war in history?

79-261 The Last Emperors: Chinese History and Society, 1600-1900
Intermittent: 9 units
This course is an introduction to late-imperial “Chinese” history and society with a focus on the Qing dynasty (1644-1912). We begin by examining the Qing not just as the last of China’s imperial dynasties but also as an early-modern, multi-ethnic empire that included Mongolia, Tibet, and Xinjiang. In fact, China’s “last emperors” were actually Manchus from northeast Asia. Secondly we investigate the social, economic, intellectual and demographic developments that transformed late-imperial China prior to the coming of the West. Thirdly, we examine Qing responses to a string of nineteenth-century disruptions, including but not limited to western imperialism, that threatened not only to end the dynasty but also challenged the very tenants of Chinese civilization. Lastly, we will look at the fall of China’s imperial system, the end of empire, and the post-imperial struggle to reformulate the state and re-imagine society for the twentieth century.

79-262 Modern China: From the Birth of Mao ... to Now
Intermittent: 9 units
This course is an introduction to major themes in twentieth-century Chinese history, including the transition from empire to nation, revolution, social change and modernization, western and Japanese imperialism, the rise of the party-state, Chinese socialism, economic liberalization and the so-called “Chinese Dream.” The first half of the class is devoted to the period between the fall of the imperial system and the founding of the People’s Republic of China (1911-1949). If the victory of the Chinese Communist Party and development of the socialist state are to be considered in historical context, it is necessary to first understand the political, cultural, economic and intellectual currents that immediately preceded them. During the second half of the course, we will examine the Maoist period (1949-1976). We will investigate the Chinese Communist Party as both a state-building institution and an engine of social transformation, and consider the tensions these dual roles produced. Finally, we will look at the Reform Period (1978-present), and reflect on a newly robust China’s attempts to come to terms with its own recent past and what the consequences might be for both China and the world.

79-263 Mao and the Chinese Cultural Revolution
Intermittent: 9 units
This course is an in-depth examination of China’s “Great Proletarian Cultural Revolution” (1966-1976), one of the most impactful and bewildering events of the twentieth century. It started when Mao Zedong announced that enemies had infiltrated the Communist Party that he led. Soon students were attacking their teachers, teenagers in army uniforms were razing homes and destroying remnants of “feudal” and “bourgeois” culture, and armed fighting had erupted among factions of ordinary Chinese people. Why? What were the political and social dynamics of Maoist China that propelled it along this violent trajectory? What was everyday life like during the Cultural Revolution, an event that could be both terrifying and empowering for those that lived through it? What were the social, political, and cultural consequences? How has the Cultural Revolution been judged in China and the west, and are there other possible interpretations? This class will explore these questions from a variety of perspectives and sources, including documents, literature, memoir, film, academic writings, visual arts and performing arts.

79-264 Tibet and China: History and Propaganda
Intermittent: 6 units
This course is an introduction to the “Tibet Question,” the dispute over whether Tibet should be part of China, an independent nation-state, or, as the current Dalai Lama now advocates, something in between. “History" often serves as the battleground on which competing visions of the nation are fought - who should be included and excluded, where “natural” boundaries begin and end. This almost always requires a process of simplification in which inconvenient details are forgotten or repurposed in the service of national agendas. The “Tibet Question” is a telling example. In this class, we investigate the historical relationship between “China” and “Tibet” from the 13th century through the present, and note the ways advocates on both sides of the “Tibet Question” have constructed historical narratives (propaganda) in support of their political positions. We will also discuss the prospects for a political solution and consider the lessons the “Tibet Question” may hold for understanding other outstanding “historical” disputes.
79-265 Russian History: Game of Thrones
Intermittent: 9 units
How are empires forged? This course, beginning with the first settlements of tribal nomads in the ninth century and ending with the abolition of serfdom in 1861, surveys the grand ‘game of thrones’ in Russian history. It explores the building of a Russian Empire from the first princely kingdoms at murderous war with each other to the emergence of a strong state, headed by a tsar and centered in Moscow. Over the centuries, we make the acquaintance of Mongol marauders, greedy princes, and brave peasant rebels, as well as Ivan the Terrible, Peter the Great, and the long succession of reformers and reactionaries who occupied the Russian throne.

79-266 Russian History and Revolutionary Socialism
Intermittent: 9 units
This course covers an epic set of events in Russian history from the emancipation of the serfs in 1861 to the death of Stalin in 1953. Spanning almost a century of upheaval and transformation, it examines what happened when workers and peasants tried to build a new society built on social justice and economic equality. Learn about Lenin, Trotsky, Stalin, and other revolutionary thinkers and dreamers. The course surveys the revolutions in 1917, the Civil War and the Red victory, the ruthless power struggles of the 1920s, the triumph of Stalin, the costly industrialization and collectivization drives, the “Great Terror,” and the battle against fascism in World War II. It ends with the death of Stalin, and the beginning of a new era of reform.

79-267 The Soviet Union in World War II: Military, Political, and Social History
Intermittent: 9 units
On June 22, 1941, Hitler invaded the Soviet Union. German troops surrounded Leningrad in the longest running siege in modern history, reached the outskirts of Moscow, and slaughtered millions of Soviet civilians. Of the 6 million Jews murdered by the Nazis, almost 2 million were killed on Soviet soil. Over 26 million Soviet citizens died in the war. Eventually, the Red Army came back from defeat to free the occupied territories and drive Hitler’s army back to Berlin. Using history, film, poetry, veterans’ accounts, documentaries, and journalism, this course surveys the great military battles as well as life in the occupied territories and on the home front. It highlights the rise of fascism, the Stalinist purges of the Red Army, and the Nazi massacres of the civilian population. Occasional film screenings may be required.

79-268 World War I: The Twentieth Century’s First Catastrophe
Intermittent: 9 units
This course offers a comprehensive retrospective of the First World War in Europe. Guiding questions will be: How did a containable crisis between Austria-Hungary and Serbia become the most murderous war Europe had ever experienced? How did the war spill over into the Middle East? Why did the US enter the war? Why did every General Staff follow unimaginative military strategies that turned the war into a bloody horror for soldiers? How did the war affect women’s situation and rights? How did the war become a Total War that fomented social and political revolution and led to the downfall of four Empires?

79-269 Russian History: From Socialism to Capitalism
Intermittent: 9 units
Beginning with Stalin’s death in 1953, this course focuses on the efforts of a new group of Soviet leaders to eliminate the repression of the Stalin years and to create a more democratic socialism. It will examine the reforms of Khrushchev and the reaction against them, the long period of Brezhnev’s rule, and the hopeful plans of Gorbachev. Finally, it will survey Gorbachev’s loss of control, the collapse of socialism and the Soviet Union, and the growth of “wild west” or “gangster” capitalism. We will look at the rise of the oligarchs and the impact of the capitalist transition on ordinary people. The course provides essential background for anyone interested in understanding Russia’s place in the world today and its relationship with the West.

79-270 Anti-Semitism Then and Now: Perspectives from the Middle Ages to the Present
Intermittent: 6 units
This course will examine the history of anti-Jewish hatred and violence from the Middle Ages through the present. The course will focus on representative case studies, texts, and films. These will include pre-modern incidents of “fake news” such as the medieval rumor of “blood libel” that unleashed massacres and mass expulsions of Jews from countless communities. In examining the rise of modern anti-Semitism, we shall focus on debates over Jewish assimilation and citizenship and consider the popular impact of the print media’s dissemination of conspiracy theories of Jewish world domination, including the infamous forgery, “The Protocols of the Elders of Zion.” We will also examine cases of mass anti-Jewish violence, known as pogroms, in Eastern Europe and Russia, and the genocidal onslaught against European Jewry by the National Socialist regime. Finally, we will discuss the contemporary global resurgence of anti-Semitism.

79-272 Coexistence and Conflict: Muslims, Christians and Jews in Spain and Portugal
Intermittent: 9 units
In Medieval Spain and Portugal, Islam, Judaism and Christianity coexisted in a situation distinguished by cooperation and exchange, as well as by friction, rivalry and violence. In this course, we shall explore the complexity of this unique historical encounter, as well as its role in shaping debates over modern Iberian and global identities, and historical memory. We shall discuss topics such as: Inter-ethnic collaboration and violence; Jewish-Christian disputations; the exclusion and expulsion of religious and ethnic minorities; as well as Muslim and Jewish presence in present day Spain and Portugal. Historical documents, literary texts, film, musical traditions, as well as contemporary political and cultural debates, will be discussed to enhance familiarity with the topic.

79-273 Jews and Muslims in History
Intermittent: 9 units
This course will examine the history of anti-Jewish hatred and violence beyond the Palestinian-Israeli conflict and the images of violence in the Middle East that permeate the media? The overarching goal of this course is to explore this question through close study of the history of Jews and Muslims who lived as neighbors, in cooperation as well as in conflict in the Middle East, North Africa and Europe, from the rise of Islam in the seventh century to the present day. Our sources will include works of scholarship, primary source texts such as religious queries and government documents, journalistic materials, memoirs, and films.

79-275 Introduction to Global Studies
Spring: 9 units
We live in an increasingly interconnected world, one in which our everyday actions have repercussions across vast distances. To understand this ever-denser web of connections, we must think beyond simplistic accounts of globalization as a uniformly positive, negative, or homogenizing process. Economic crisis, impoverishment, rising inequality, environmental degradation, pandemic disease, and irredentist movements are just as much a part of the story as are technological innovation, digital communication, global supply chains, cultural exchange, the promotion of human rights, and the rise of cosmopolitan values. This course aims to equip you with a conceptual toolkit for thinking critically and holistically about the many dimensions of globalization. By examining how globalization connects and shapes the everyday lives of people around the world, including our own, we will establish a foundation both for your advanced coursework in Global Studies and for your lifelong education as a globally aware professional and citizen.

79-276 Beyond the Border
Intermittent: 6 units
In this course we will consider the historical emergence and transformation of the U.S.-Mexico border, as much as an idea as a physical boundary. Our explorations will be far-ranging: from the initial encounters of Christopher Columbus and Hernán Cortés with indigenous populations, to social, cultural and political dynamics of the borderlands in subsequent centuries; from the experiences and practices of cross border migrants, to contemporary immigration debates and policies surrounding migration, border control and walling, and the deportation of unauthorized migrants.
79-278 How (Not) to Change the World
Intermittent: 9 units
It's often said that the road to hell is paved with good intentions. What, then, can we learn by excavating some of those pavers and interrogating the theories of change that underlie them? And what can we learn from more successful attempts to enact social change? In this course, we will use the tools of history, anthropology, and critical theory to examine various efforts to 'change the world'. From top-down social-engineering to neoliberal 'market citizenship' by grassrots organizing, case studies will challenge us to detect theories of change (even when they are concealed) and evaluate their consequences (intended and otherwise). With those lessons in mind, we will then apply our tools to the theories of change that we enact, often unwittingly, as members of a university. Which roads are we paving and where do they lead?

79-280 Coffee and Capitalism
Intermittent: 9 units
What role has coffee played in connecting people and places to capitalist markets and consumer cultures? What are the economic, social, and environmental consequences of these connections? How did espresso change from an "ethnic drink" to something served at McDonalds? Why do college students (and professors!) hang out in coffee shops? This course will answer these questions and more by using coffee to learn about the history of capitalism, and capitalism to understand the history of coffee. We will follow the spread of coffee and capitalism across the globe, with excursions to places where people grow coffee (Ethiopia, Yemen, Indonesia, Brazil, and Costa Rica), and also where they drink coffee (Seattle, Tokyo, Seoul, New York, and Berlin). In the process, we will confront global problems linked to economic inequality, trade, gender relations, and environmental degradation. Course meetings will combine interactive lecture, group discussions, and mini-presentations. Assignments will include journal responses, ethnographic observations, and writing a short script that tells a story about coffee and capitalism.

79-281 Introduction to Religion
Intermittent: 9 units
Religion can be understood from the "outside," through the academic lenses of history, sociology, psychology, philosophy, etc., and from the "inside," listening to the experiences and reflections of those who practice various faiths. The course will examine major religious traditions from several perspectives, and begin to explore such topics as the relationship between religion and science, faith and reason, and religion in public life. This introduction is designed for students with a general interest in religion, as well as those contemplating a Religious Studies minor.

79-282 Europe and the World Since 1800
Intermittent: 9 units
This course will introduce students to topics of historical and contemporary relevance in European society and culture from the nineteenth century to the present. We shall focus especially on Europe's place in shaping debates of major international importance--both new and old--about topics such as: colonialism, migration, religion, ethnicity, and national identity; Islamophobia; and antisemitism. Throughout we will pay special attention to the situation of inhabitants, past and the present, who have been considered outsiders or "others" in European society. In addition to class lectures, students will view films and listen to music related to the main themes of the course, in addition to reading and discussing historical texts.

79-283 Hungry World: Food and Famine in the Global Perspective
Intermittent: 9 units
The science and technology of the Green Revolution in the second half of the 20th century were heralded as a miracle. Agricultural science promised seeds, peasants, companies, governments, scientists, economists, exporters, and planners would work together to support growing populations, especially in the post-colonial world. The human population on Earth reached 6 billion by the year 2000; 7.6 billion were estimated around 2017. The United Nations predicts 8.6 billion by 2030. Awareness of living in this unique period of human history brought new debates among scholars, practitioners, and planners thinking about the critical role of agriculture and development on Earth. How can we conceptualize, hope, and plan for best possible outcomes for a human population that depends on agriculture and development? How has the legacy of the Green Revolution fared (or betrayed) public enthusiasm for innovative fixes? This interdisciplinary course will use methods and case studies drawing on History, Historical Demography, Anthropology, Cultural Studies, Regional Studies, Geosciences and Agricultural Sciences, and International Economic Development. If students wish to pursue a particular thematic or regional interest, there will be room in this course to explore particular cases in depth.

79-288 Bananas, Baseball, and Borders: Latin America and the United States
Intermittent: 9 units
This course will examine the tumultuous and paradoxical relationship between Latin America and the United States from the time of independence to the present, with an emphasis on Mexico, Central America, and the Caribbean during the Cold War (1945-1989) and its aftermath (1990s-present). We will literally talk about bananas, baseball and borders; the title also alludes to the key dimensions of the relationship we will study: economic, cultural, and geopolitical. We will learn about the actions of U.S. and Latin American government leaders and diplomats along with many other kinds of people including activists, artists, and journalists; athletes, movie stars, and scientists; and migrant workers, tourists, and drug traffickers. Mondays and Wednesdays will feature interactive lectures, videos and in-class activities; Fridays will be entirely devoted to student-driven discussion. Evaluation will be based on participation; two written analysis of historical documents, and a final reflection.

79-289 Animal Planet: An Environmental History of People and Animals
Intermittent: 9 units
Why do modern societies go to great lengths to protect some animals and slaughter others? Why do some cultures make pets of animals that other cultures turn into a meal? What are the environmental ramifications of hunting, domestication, and trading animals? Is there a connection between human pandemics like COVID-19 and animals? Why are there so many cute animals inhabiting social media? These are some of the questions that we will seek to answer as we trace changes in human–animal relationships over time. We will explore these themes through both texts and visual representations (art, film, photography) of animals. Evaluation will be based on active participation in class discussions, submission of weekly field notes, and a final curated exhibit of images of people and animals.

79-290 The Slave Passage: From West Africa to the Americas
Intermittent: 6 units
"The Slave Passage" begins among flourishing, technologically advanced, and globally connected regions of Western Africa before the advent of the trans-Atlantic slave trade. It tells the painful story of African captives during the Middle Passage, piecing together the historical record to recognize their suffering aboard the slaving vessels and their multiple strategies of resistance. Students will study slave narratives, slave ship logs, and autobiographies of former enslaved people, as well as analyze films depicting the Middle Passage and New World enslavement.

79-291 Innovation and Entertainment: A Business History of American Popular Culture
Intermittent: 9 units
This course will examine one topic in popular culture and entertainment per week, from newspapers to streaming services. The course will consider these industries through the lens of business history, documenting innovation and the development of entertainment as commodities. While we will seek to answer as we trace changes over the years, we will primarily focus on the birth of new industries. Guiding questions will be: How did the country's economy, society, and politics develop the development of popular culture? How did performers and entrepreneurs develop industries around new innovations in popular culture? And how did popular culture shape the country's economy, society, and politics?

79-293 Inward Odyssey
Intermittent: 9 units
This course is ONLY offered at Carnegie Mellon in Qatar. Inward Odyssey will explore world history by examining it through the outward-looking eyes of travel writers, on the assumption that travelogues, though supposedly written about the "other," in fact provide crucial insights about the mindset of the culture that produced them, and often serve as a vehicle for cultural self-exploration or even self-criticism. In terms of content, this course is intended to overlap with World History, Islam and the European World, and US-Arab Encounters. However, this course is intended to be a skills course, designed not to teach students about specific historical periods, but rather to give students the tools they need to conduct their own critical explorations into the historical past.
79-295 Legacies of Fascism and Anti-Fascism: From 1930s Spain to Russia's war on Ukraine
Intermittent: 3 units
Russia's war on Ukraine has elicited divergent responses from different political and civil actors and scholars around the globe. Many of these responses are steeped in the history of the 1930s and World War II, including around questions of fascism and anti-fascism. In this course we will inquire whether the history of fascism and anti-fascism might provide us with any useful tools to address the current war in Ukraine. We will start by examining the history of the rise of fascism and of antifascist response, beginning with Mussolini's march on Rome in 1922 and the impact of Italian fascism on Spanish fascism and the outbreak of the Spanish Civil War (1936-1939). The final part of the course will focus on the origins of the war in Ukraine. We will hear from guest speakers, including relatives of volunteers and experts on the Spanish Civil War, as well as experts on the history of Ukraine, including Ukrainian scholars and refugees.

79-296 Religion in American Politics
Intermittent: 6 units
Religion figures prominently in American politics, especially in congressional election years. A common view, reinforced by some media and polling organizations, holds that “religiosity” correlates with conservative politics, but that’s highly misleading, as religious people are in fact all over the political map. Thomas Jefferson’s mention of a “wall of separation” between church and state indicates that religious institutions are generally kept separate from government in America, but religious motivations have always played an important part in our politics. This course will provide a historical perspective on religion in public life down to the present day, including religion’s influence on political parties and public policies, and the boundaries set by the Constitution on such activity.

79-297 Technology and Work
Intermittent: 9 units
In recent years, conversations about the relationship between technology and work seem to have been conducted with particular fervor: claims of revolutionary ease and freedom sit side-by-side with dystopian visions of exploitation, surveillance, and alienation. Will technological development lead to a new “sharing economy” or widespread deskillling? Will it bring general prosperity or enrich the few at the expense of the many? These concerns - though especially apparent today - are by no means new. In this course, we will examine their history, focusing in particular on North America and Europe in the past two centuries. We will examine the ways in which new technologies - from the assembly line to the washing machine to the personal computer - transformed what it meant to work, and how workers, their families, and the companies who employed them reacted to these changes. Our historical actors will include famous figures like Henry Ford, but also unnamed women, children, people with disabilities, and racial and ethnic minorities. Throughout, we will pay attention to who benefitted, who was harmed, and what broader economic, cultural, or social purposes these technologies were designed to serve.

79-298 Guns in American History: Culture, Violence, and Politics
Intermittent: 6 units
This course will describe and analyze aspects of the development of law and public policy related to guns in the United States from the colonial era to the present. Students will be expected to synthesize perspectives from social history, ethnography, public health, criminology, policy analysis, and legal scholarship. They will also engage the critical examination of popular culture and media representations of gun cultures and gun violence. Particular emphasis will be placed on changing views about the authority of the government to intervene in the production and ownership of guns, as well as the best way to balance individual and collective interests in a pluralistic society. Assignments may include reading quizzes, in-class debates, policy position papers, and film/documentary reviews.

79-299 Introduction to the History of Science
Intermittent: 9 units
This course provides an introduction to the history of modern science in Europe and North America, from the Enlightenment to the mid-twentieth century. Our goal is to understand scientific theories and practices on their own terms and as products of their own contexts, rather than as a progression of developments moving inevitably toward the present. The course seeks to explore both how and why science has become the dominant way of knowing about the natural world, as well as how scientific activity intersects with the history of religion, war, commerce, and the state. Most classes will involve active discussion of texts written by scientists, including Darwin, Einstein, McClintock, Laplace, Joule, Lovelace, and Paley.

79-300 History of American Public Policy
Intermittent: 9 units
This course will describe and analyze aspects of the development of public policy in the United States from the colonial era to the present, with a focus on the post-Civil War era. For the purposes of this course, public policy will be defined as the making of rules and laws and their implementation by government: 1) in response to the failure of private actors (i.e., markets) to reach desirable outcomes; 2) to regulate markets to influence their outcomes; or 3) in an attempt to achieve a particular normative vision of what society ought to be like. This course assumes that the public policy landscape is complex but still comprehensible given the proper set of analytical frameworks and appropriate historical background. Particular emphasis will be placed on: changing views about the authority of the government to intervene in economic and social issues; the best way to balance individual and collective interests; and the variability within society of the life courses of individuals. Topics to be covered include: immigration and health care/health insurance, among others.

79-301 History of Surveillance: From the Plantation to Data Capitalism
Intermittent: 6 units
Our awareness of surveillance has been dramatically heightened over the past few years. From Edward Snowden’s revelations about the U.S. National Security Agency’s data collection infrastructure to the extent to which companies like Facebook and Google monetize our personal information, surveillance has become one of the most controversial political issues of our time. In this course, we will place these developments in context, examining the long history of surveillance in the United States, and then begin with the 18th-century plantation “ overseer,” who was charged with ensuring the productivity and obedience of slaves under his watch. We will then move on to explore the emergence of commercial surveillance in the 19th century, which sought to gather intelligence on the credit worthiness and moral worthiness of businessmen in a rapidly growing, and increasingly impersonal, economy. Next, we will examine the shifting focus of surveillance from the late 19th century to the present, as it expanded from immigrants and criminals to include industrial workers, political radicals, civil rights activists (most notably Martin Luther King), the poor, and ultimately, all of us. Today, anyone who has a cell phone in their pocket, surfs the Internet, keeps up with friends through social networks, makes purchases with a credit card, uses membership cards, travels, or even just spends time in public spaces ought to assume that their movements, purchasing habits, communication metadata, social connections, and Internet browsing histories are being recorded, stored and analyzed for a variety of governmental and commercial purposes. In the final week of the course, we will debate the implications of these incursions into our public and private lives.

79-302 Killer Robots: The Ethics, Law, and Politics of Lethal Autonomous Weapons Systems
Intermittent: 6 units
[Note: students who have already taken this course under its former title 79-302, Drone Warfare and Killer Robots: Ethics, Law, Politics, and Strategy, may not enroll.] Unmanned aerial vehicles (drones) have become a central feature of the United States’ global counterterrorism strategy since September 11, 2001, and autonomous weapons systems (often called “killer robots” by critics) are increasingly being integrated into military and paramilitary operations around the world. According to proponents, drones and autonomous weapons systems are much safer than manned systems, so accurate that they can be used to target individuals and detect threats in real time, and efficient and inexpensive enough to be used for long-term surveillance and protection missions around the globe. According to critics, the use of such systems is problematic because of the obfuscation of historically accepted chains of accountability and responsibility, and the difficulty of translating complex ethical decision making processes into computer code. This course will evaluate these issues through the lenses of law, politics, morality, history, and military strategy.

79-303 Pittsburgh and the Transformation of Modern Urban America
Intermittent: 6 units
This course will focus on the transformations, both positive and negative, of Pittsburgh and the Pittsburgh region in the period from 1945 through the present. It will explore the following themes: the rise of industrial Pittsburgh, the redevelopment of the city in the Pittsburgh Renaissance; urban renewal and its consequences; the collapse of the steel industry and its impacts; the development of an Eds/Meds service economy; air, land and water environmental issues; and the city’s changing demographics.
79-304 African Americans in Pittsburgh
Intermittent: 6 units
This course will examine the development of Pittsburgh's African American community from the Great Depression and World War II through the era of de-industrialization during the late 20th and early 21st centuries. The course will emphasize not only the ways that a variety of external socioeconomic, cultural, and political forces shaped the history of black people in western Pennsylvania, but also the diverse strategies that African Americans devised to give meaning to their own lives and how these changed over time. Students will read both primary and secondary accounts of Pittsburgh's African American history; write short analytical papers on specific topics or themes; and engage in regular classroom discussions of assigned readings.

79-305 Moneyball Nation: Data in American Life
Intermittent: 9 units
From conducting clinical trials and evaluating prisoners' parole cases to drafting professional ballplayers, we increasingly make decisions using mathematical concepts and models. This course surveys the development of—and resistance to—such tools by grounding them in the recent cultural history of the United States. Focusing on baseball, medicine, and the law, we'll explore how and why Americans have come to believe mathematical and computational methods can solve complicated problems, even in seemingly unrelated moral, political, and social domains. The course encourages students to think critically about the wider implications of these transformations by situating their development historically.

79-306 Fact into Film: Translating History into Cinema
Intermittent: 9 units
From the very beginning, film has provided a window into the past. But how useful are the images we see through that window? For every person who reads a work of history, thousands will see a film on the same subject. But who will learn more? Can written history and filmed history perform the same tasks? Should we expect them to do so? How are these two historical forms related? How can they complement each other? This course will draw examples from across the history of film in order to examine how the medium of film impacts our understanding of facts and events, the ways that film transfers those facts to the screen, and how that process affects the creation of historical discourse. Films may include such titles as The Fall of the Roman Empire, The Gunfight at the O.K. Corral, Saving Private Ryan, World Trade Center, Enemy at the Gates, Lagaan and Hero.

79-307 Religion and Politics in the Middle East
Intermittent: 9 units
This course looks at the historic relationship among Islam, Judaism and Christianity and what they have to say about the nature of government, the state's treatment of religious minorities, and relations among states in the Middle East. We will consider the impact of religion on domestic and foreign policy in selected Middle Eastern countries and communities, the role of religion in fueling conflicts, the phenomenon of religious fundamentalism, the challenge and opportunity this presents to the United States, and the potential for religion to help advance Middle East peace. Over the course of the semester student teams will research and produce "updates" as to where religion and politics seem to be intersecting in the states we have been studying.

79-308 Crime and Justice in American Film
Intermittent: 9 units
Films dealing with criminal activities and criminal justice have always been popular at the box office. From the gangsters of the Thirties and the film noir of the Fifties to the more recent vigilante avenger films of Liam Neeson, the film industry has profited from films about crime and its consequences. How those subjects are portrayed, however, tells us a great deal about larger trends in American history and society. Every imaginable type of criminal activity has been depicted on screen, as have the legal ramifications of those acts. But these films raise profound questions. What is the nature of crime? What makes a criminal? Are there circumstances in which crime is justified? How do socioeconomic conditions affect the consequences? How fair and impartial is our justice system? Perhaps most importantly, how do depictions of crime and justice in popular media influence our answers to these questions? This class will utilize a variety of films to discuss the ways in which popular media portrays the sources of crime, the nature of criminals, the court and prison systems, and particular kinds of criminal acts. Films to be screened may include such titles as The Ox-Bow Incident, Out of the Past, 12 Angry Men, Young Mr. Lincoln, Brute Force, The Equalizer, Jack Reacher and Minority Report. By thoroughly discussing these films and related readings, we will be able to trace the various changes in attitude towards crime and justice in America over the last century.

79-309 The Chinese Revolution Through Film (1949-2000)
Intermittent: 9 units
This course is about both film and history. It is not a detailed history of film, but rather introduces some key issues of modern Chinese history and examines how that history is treated in film. Most of the films are made in China (including Taiwan and Hong Kong) but some are produced in the west. Topics that may be explored include the rise of the Communist Party, life in Maoist China, the Cultural Revolution, the Cold War/anti-imperialism, depictions of China's male and female heroes, the Reform-era under Mao's successors. Along with feature movies, we may view documentaries, propaganda films, TV shows and even music videos. In addition to providing a general history of the period, accompanying readings and assignments explore the social context and methodology of the films while developing critical skills in writing, analysis, and historical imagination.

79-310 U. S. Business History: 1870 to the Present
Intermittent: 9 units
This course explores the development of American business within its economic, political, and social context from the late nineteenth century to the present. Through the lens of "history of capitalism," readings and discussions will explore the interconnections of State and Market in the twentieth century United States that shaped how, why, and where business transactions occurred. Particular attention will be paid to the institutional, social, technological, environmental, labor, and cultural context in which American commerce developed, from the rise of the modern corporation in the late nineteenth century to the emergence of a true information economy in the twenty-first. Students will encounter primary sources, scholarly secondary readings, business case studies, and cultural artifacts as they explore how business functioned and changed over time in an American context.

79-312 War and Peace: A History of Peace Movements
Intermittent: 9 units
We generally assume war is a constant in our history and in the modern world. However, in every era there have been voices attempting to understand and ultimately prevent it. In the modern world, there has been a great deal of debate about the relationship of violence, capitalism, colonialism, empire, and racism to war. We will examine some of these debates among peace activists. Advocates for peace have attempted to build movements addressing the factors leading to war. What kinds of efforts have been made for a more peaceful world and how have they fared? We will examine how world leaders, business people, civil rights, and other peace activists have thought about war and peace. We will examine case studies of select wars and select peace movements.

79-313 "Unwanted": Refugees, Asylum Seekers, and Patterns of Global Migration
Intermittent: 6 units
What is home? What does it mean to belong? What does it mean to be mobile? Is mobility a privilege or a curse? How do experiences of migration, exile, and displacement shift one's understanding of home? This course examines the modern patterns of mobility and the emergence of 20th-century modern legal concepts such as "refugee" and "asylum"; the influence of the Cold War on the immigration policies in the US; and the criminalization of border-crossing.

79-314 The Politics and Culture of Memory
Intermittent: 9 units
What is the relationship between an individual person and collective memories? How do societies "remember"? This course proposes an interdisciplinary approach to the relationship between memory and history. It explores various ways in which societies have mobilized their remembrances of the past for political and economic ends in the present; how and whose memory began to matter in a global 20th century; and how individual testimonies have highlighted the role of body, experience, trauma, and nostalgia for writing new, more inclusive and heterogenous histories. We will analyze how the politics of memory intersected at a local and global scale, via a set of case studies that focus on the use and erasure of the past in post-1945 Western and Central Europe; political violence, civil war, and reconciliation in post-1990 Guatemala; and the role of remembrance and testimony for claims of moral retribution in the aftermath of colonialism (the Mau Mau in Kenya). This class will follow the format of a seminar. The professor will give short lectures each week in order to introduce the readings and place them within larger debates, but the course will mainly be discussion-oriented.
79-315 Thirsty Planet: The Politics of Water in Global Perspective
Intermittent: 9 units
Water is necessary for all forms of life on Earth. The purpose of this course is to introduce students to social and political aspects of water, using in-depth case studies that draw on a variety of perspectives. Examples of regional water projects we'll study include traditional tank irrigation in South India; international negotiations along the Nile River; and the U.S. Government in negotiation with native activists and fisheries on the Columbia River. In addition to regional variations, readings will include a variety of themes, for example, water and gender; water and armed conflict; and water and private companies versus public management. By the end of this course, students should be able to articulate their own answers to these questions: How have global organizations and participants characterized, enacted, and addressed problems of water supply and delivery for those who need it most? How do particular regions reflect global trends in water resource development, and how might these diverge from global trends? How have social and environmental studies in the literature of development come to understand the problem of water? One set of readings is assigned each week. Students should be prepared to discuss each week's readings in a thoughtul way during class meeting time.

79-316 Photography, the First 100 Years, 1839-1939
Intermittent: 9 units
Photography was announced to the world almost simultaneously in 1839, first in France and then a few months later in England. Accurate “ likenesses” of people were available to the masses, and soon reproducible images of faraway places were intriguing to all. This course will explore the earliest image-makers Daguerre and Fox Talbot, the Civil War photographs organized by Mathew Brady, the introduction in 1888 of the Kodak by George Eastman, the critically important social documentary photography of Jacob Riis, and his successor, Lewis Hine, the Photo-Secession of Alfred Stieglitz, the Harlem Renaissance of James VanDerZee, the precisionist f64 photographers Ansel Adams, Imogen Cunningham, and Edward Weston, and other important photographers from the period of World War II. The class will be introduced to 19th century processes, such as the daguerreotype, tintype, and ambrotype, as well as albumen prints, cyanotypes, and more.

79-317 Art, Anthropology, and Empire
Intermittent: 9 units
This seminar will explore the anthropology and history of aesthetic objects, as they travel from places considered “ primitive” or “ exotic,” to others deemed “ civilized” or “ Western.” First, we will consider twentieth-century anthropological attempts to develop ways of appreciating and understanding objects from other cultures, and in the process to reconsider the meaning of such terms as “ art” and “ aesthetics.” Then we will discuss several topics in the history of empire and the “ exotic” arts, including: the conquest, colonization and appropriation of indigenous objects; the politics of display and commodification of objects in world fairs; the processes by which locally-produced art objects are transformed into commodities traded in international art markets; the effects of “ exotic” art on such aesthetic movements as surrealism, etc.; and the appropriation of indigenous aesthetic styles by “ Western” artists. Finally, we will consider attempts by formerly colonized populations to reclaim objects from museums, and to organize new museums, aesthetic styles, and forms of artistic production that challenge imperialism’s persistent legacies.

79-318 Sustainable Social Change: History and Practice
Intermittent: 9 units
If you wanted to change the world, who would you ask for guidance? Mahatma Gandhi? Rachel Carson? Nelson Mandela? In this interdisciplinary course, we will examine the history of efforts to create sustainable social change. Through a series of targeted case studies, we will examine the successes and failures of notable leaders, past and present, who strove to address social problems nonviolently and to create lasting improvements in fields such as education, healthcare, and human rights. In keeping with the example of the people we will be studying, we will bring our questions and our findings out of the classroom through a variety of creative, student-driven experiments in sustainable social change.

79-319 India Through Film
Intermittent: 6 units
Bollywood films attract hundreds of millions of viewers, not just in India but throughout the world. The name “Bollywood” makes it seem that the Indian film industry is a junior partner, merely an echo of Hollywood. But more films are made in Mumbai every year than in Los Angeles. And Mumbai is only one of several film hubs in India. The rich diversity in Indian cinema speaks to the equally rich history of India itself. This course uses Indian movies to examine several key themes in India’s history. We will focus on the twentieth century and on questions of democracy, diversity, and development. This course includes a mandatory film screening on Wednesday evenings beginning at 6:30pm.

79-320 Women, Politics, and Protest
Intermittent: 9 units
This course examines the history of women’s rights agitation in the United States from the early nineteenth-century to the present. It investigates both well-known struggles for women’s equality—including the battles for women’s voting rights, an Equal Rights Amendment, and access to birth control—and also explores the history of lesser-known struggles for economic and racial justice. Because women often differed about what the most important issues facing their sex were, this course explores not only the issues that have united women, but also those that have divided them, keeping intersectionality and women’s diversity at the center of the course. This course is open to all students.

79-321 Documenting Human Rights
Intermittent: 9 units
This course will teach students about the origins of modern human rights and the evolution of methods to document the extent to which these rights are being upheld or violated. The need to understand and document human rights issues is at the center of the most pressing current events. From threats to democracy and civil rights at home and abroad to work holding perpetrators of mass harm accountable in legal proceedings to efforts to quantify and advance economic, social, cultural, and environmental rights, making human rights violations visible is fundamental to achieving a more just world. We will begin with an overview of the history of human rights, the main philosophical and political debates in the field, and the most relevant organizations, institutions, and agreements. We will then delve into several specific cases that highlight methodological opportunities and challenges in the context of human rights, including: the identification of victims, the disappeared, and missing migrants; efforts to estimate civilian casualties in war in real-time; the documentation of police brutality and other human rights violations (especially against minority groups) with smartphones and the analysis of human rights media; as well as the use of satellite imagery, drones, and GIS for the documentation of genocide, environmental rights violations, and war crimes. We will critically assess the documentation and measurement challenges that arise in each context and how the human rights and scientific communities have responded. After reviewing these cases, we will conclude by reflection on why the documentation of human rights actually matters and what happens to evidence once it is gathered. Students will then take what they’ve learned and do a multidisciplinary group project in which they document a rights violation in Western Pennsylvania.

79-322 Stalin and the Great Terror
Intermittent: 6 units
Joseph Stalin has been vilified and praised, damned and worshipped. He left behind a mixed and complex legacy. He created an industrialized modern economy in the Soviet Union and won a great and painful victory over the Nazis. At the same time, he built a police state, sent millions to labor camps, and destroyed the possibilities for socialist democracy. When he died, thousands of Soviet citizens wept at his funeral and the prisoners in the camps toasted his death. This course will examine Stalin, the man, and Stalinism, the phenomenon. Using history and film, we will explore one of the most complicated and influential dictatorships of the 20th century.

79-323 Making Modern Cities
Intermittent: 9 units
Cities have been a feature in the landscapes of human settlement for nearly 6000 years. This course will examine the origins and evolution of cities by examining the role of urban areas in the economic, cultural, political, and environmental history of the world. The main line of inquiry for this course emphasizes the culture of cities and the processes of urbanization that give rise to them. Students will explore why and how cities form, the functions they serve, the ways of life they support, and the problems and opportunities to which they give rise. Cities are socially and politically contested spaces, and observers of urban life have long-sought to understand the process of urbanization and the consequences of living in cities. Some argue that cities represent the crowning achievement of modernity; others suggest that cities are isolating and alienating, fostering discord, rather than social cohesion. The course integrates work by historians, urban planners, architects, political scientists, geographers, and sociologists to provide a comprehensive set of tools to understand and analyze modern urban life.

79-324 #MeToo: Naming and Resisting Gender Violence
Intermittent: 6 units
#MeToo represents a sea change in society’s response to gender-based violence. This course addresses gender-based violence as a public health and human rights issue, focusing on the U.S. and asking where we are, and how we got here. It will delineate the legal and social definitions of gender violence, explore how these definitions function both positively and negatively, and examine the long history of protest that has culminated in this moment. Come join the conversation! This course is open to all students.
79-325 U.S. Gay and Lesbian History
Intermittent: 6 units
US Gay and Lesbian History offers an overview of the changing context and circumstances of sexual minorities in American culture. From early constructions of moral approbrium, criminal deviance or medical pathology, the LGBT community emerged in the twentieth and twenty-first century as a political constituency and a vital part of contemporary society. Students should be aware that this course will necessarily address issues of intimate relations and sexuality as well as broader historical issues.

79-326 Shall We Dance? Culture, Politics, and Movement in the 20th Century
Intermittent: 6 units
Waltzes and flash mobs, hula and swing, disco and breakdance: this course will examine the history and practice of these and other popular dance movements across the course of the twentieth century. In doing so, we will pay particular attention to the ways in which dance both shaped and reflected major moments of political, cultural, and social change. Dancing bodies were used to justify imperial ambitions, explore new kinds of gender relations, and both uphold and upset racial hierarchies, making dancers key - if underappreciated - participants in the century’s tumultuous history. The course will include a mix of lecture and discussion, drawing on scholarly analyses, archival sources, films, literature, images, and live performances. Students will also be asked to explore at least one new dance form for themselves and reflect on the experience.

79-327 Making America Dry: A History of Prohibition, 1920-1933
Intermittent: 6 units
For over a decade in the 1920s and 1930s it was illegal for Americans to sell, purchase, or consume alcohol. Liquor, via the Volstead Act (1919) and the 20th Amendment, became the focal point of deep-seeded cultural conflicts: rural versus urban; religion and morality; social equality; women’s suffrage; police and political corruption and the fair administration of justice, to name just a few. By the end of the semester, you will better understand the long-lasting social, economic, and political ramifications of prohibition -- a legacy that we still grapple with today (especially in Pennsylvania)! In this discussion-based lecture, you will be able to share your thoughts on the history that we cover as well as connect it to contemporary issues. You will write three short essays as well as complete a few primary source analyses to engage with the history as well as demonstrate what you have learned. By the end of the course, you will better appreciate that when America went dry during the “Roaring Twenties,” it was about much more than alcohol.

79-328 Photographers and Photography Since World War II
Intermittent: 9 units
Invented in 1839, photography was a form of visual expression that immediately attracted a large public following. Starting around 1900, photography was practiced with two dominant strands. One of these firmly believed in the power of photographs to provide a window on the world, and was led by Lewis Hine, whose documentary photographs for the National Child Labor Committee helped to ameliorate living and working conditions for thousands of immigrant children. The other strand adhered to the philosophy of Alfred Stieglitz who adamantly affirmed that photographs were first and foremost reflections of the soul and were art objects, equal to painting, drawing and sculpture. These two schools of thought guided photographers throughout the twentieth century. This course traces the body of work of key figures in depth the tremendous range of photographic expression since World War II and examines in particular the contributions of significant image-makers such as Helen Levitt, W. Eugene Smith, Robert Frank, Diane Arbus, Garry Winogrand, Charles ‘Teenie’ Harris, Cindy Sherman, Carrie Mae Weems, Nan Goldin, James Nachtwey, and many others. Classes include a slide lecture, student presentation, and video segments that introduce a focused selection of images by major photographers in an attempt to understand their intentions, styles, and influences. As available, students will be expected to make one or more visits to photography exhibitions on view in Pittsburgh (locations to be announced at the first class.)

79-330 Medicine and Society: Health, Healers, and Hospitals
Intermittent: 9 units
How have notions of health and healing changed over time in the United States? Why are doctors seen as professional “heroes”? Why are hospitals so central to patient care and professional training? How have American healthcare developed into its present form? This course explores the history of American medicine and its relationship to American society. By exploring major developments in the history of American medicine and public health, students will examine the voices of historical actors, including physicians, patients, activists, policymakers, and researchers. In analyzing these voices, students will learn what was at stake as Americans confronted diseases and struggled to explain and cure them. Students will also examine medical research, education, disease patterns, patient experiences, and technologies from the colonial period to the present day. Readings include a range of primary accounts and secondary sources of medicine and health in America.

79-331 Body Politics: Women and Health in America
Intermittent: 9 units
[Note: Students who have taken 66-121, First Year Seminar: Body Politics: Women and Health in America, may not enroll.] This course takes a topical, intersectional approach to the history of U.S. women’s health in the nineteenth and twentieth centuries. It is less about governmental politics, although we do some of that. Rather, it sees bodies as cultural texts through which power is built and contested. The course covers topics such as the history of anatomy, menstruation, reproductive rights, body image, mental health, sexuality, violence, childbirth, and menopause. We explore how science and American culture both have constructed these issues over time (some of it is super whacky!), while also examining women’s organizing around them. This course is open to all students.

79-334 Climate Change and Climate Justice: Global Perspectives
Intermittent: 6 units
There remains no credible doubt that human activities are a leading cause of climate change, but profound questions persist over what measures to take, whom to hold accountable, and how to help those affected. What does an effective and just response look like when those who are most responsible for climate change are also often the most protected from its consequences? Who gets to participate in international negotiations and whose cosmologies or values are recognized there? How do debates about climate change relate to those concerning social policy? In this mini-course, we will examine these questions through the lens of Climate Justice. Both a transnational movement and an analytical orientation, Climate Justice compels us to consider how climate change reflects (and exacerbates) systemic inequalities within and between societies. Our exploration will engage case studies and perspectives from different parts of the world, including climate-related health disparities in the US, Indigenous Peoples’ calls for climate reparations, island nations facing displacement, and efforts by various parties to influence scientific and popular knowledge.

79-335 Banned Substances: Drugs and Alcohol in American History
Intermittent: 9 units
This course traces the development of laws, policies, and social movements related to alcohol and drugs in the United States. By highlighting the ideas proponents and opponents used to justify or oppose prohibition, students will examine how responses to drug and alcohol use has as much to do with ideologies of gender, race, ethnicity, and class as they do with the effects of the substances themselves. This course will also analyze how attempts at prohibition have been historically contingent and explore the ways debates surrounding drug and alcohol use can deepen our understanding of American history. Some topics to be considered include: the proliferation of alcohol abuse in the early Republic, temperance and prohibition movements, criminalization of drugs, the “war on drugs,” and legalization debates.

79-336 Introduction to Environmental Ideas
Intermittent: 9 units
By recognizing that environmental problems are themselves complex and require insights from multiple, political, and scientific perspectives, the interdisciplinary Program in Environmental and Sustainability Studies urges students to gain proficiency in different disciplinary habits of thinking. “Introduction to Environmental Ideas” fulfills the “Environmental Humanities Core Course” requirement for the Minor and Additional Major in Environmental and Sustainability Studies. This seminar-style course introduces key methods and approaches for interdisciplinary inquiry within a framework of Environmental Humanities. Students will practice recognizing and applying disciplinary and interdisciplinary criteria for problems of environment and sustainability; apply relevant historical context for key principles and terms used within the field of Environmental and Sustainability Studies; and take part in informed discussions about ways of seeing, and creating interventions for environmental problems that are simultaneously social, political, and technical. This course considers the different frameworks of Environmental justice; Climate Justice; Development Studies; and Sustainable Development. Preference for course registration goes to students already declared for the Minor or Additional Major in Environmental and Sustainability Studies.

79-337 Educational Policy and “School Choice”: Historical and Contemporary Perspectives
Intermittent: 6 units
Fierce battles have been fought over education policy throughout American history. Parents, teachers, students, and everyday Americans have sought to position schools to meet often conflicting goals. This course introduces students to historical and contemporary perspectives on the rise of charter schools and school privatization, debates over religion in the classroom, legal questions surrounding segregation and forced busing, as well as fundamental political shifts in who controls and funds public schools.
79-338 History of Education in America
Intermittent: 9 units
Americans have long understood schools both as mechanisms for inculcating communal values and as instruments for social reform. Schools have been alternatively described as pillars of democratic society and as authoritarian institutions for managing deviance. Institutions of education - whether schools, colleges, or universities - figure prominently in discussions of inequality and discrimination, opportunity and meritocracy. This course provides an introductory historical survey of American educational ideas and institutions. From debates in the 17th and 18th centuries over the proper balance of religious and secular education to fierce battles today over the role of the federal government, citizens have been politically mobilized through their concerns about education. By understanding the complicated history of American educational ideas and institutions, this course prepares students to engage critically with ongoing debates about the curriculum, vouchers, charter schools, and national standards.

79-339 Juvenile Delinquency & Film: From Soul of Youth (1920) to West Side Story (1961)
Intermittent: 6 units
How have American films portrayed juvenile delinquency and the juvenile justice system? What does filmmakers' portrayal of juvenile delinquency tell us about American culture and society? Do films vividly capture or distort the "realities" of juvenile crime and the operations of the justice system? This course uses feature films (to be viewed in advance of class) from the 1920s to the early 1960s, as well as sociological, psychological, and historical readings, to explore these issues. The course is run as a colloquium, with students playing central leadership roles in launching and guiding class discussions. The course will have a take-home midterm exam (essay), a final exam (essay), and a few short, written assignments linked to students' required oral presentations in class.

79-340 Juvenile Delinquency & Film: From "Boyz N the Hood"(1991) to "The Wire"(2002-08)
Intermittent: 6 units
How have American films portrayed juvenile crime, drug use, gang violence, and law enforcement responses (especially police and prisons) to juvenile crime and violence? How have American films portrayed individual juvenile delinquents, their families, and the communities in which they live? Do films vividly capture or distort the "realities" of juvenile crime and the operations of law enforcement? This course uses feature films from the late 20th and early 21st centuries, as well as social science and historical readings, to explore these issues. The course is run as a colloquium, with students playing central leadership roles in launching and guiding class discussions.

79-341 Football and Fútbol: American & Global Perspectives
Intermittent: 6 units
At least in the United States, the cultural reach of football is immense. American football owns a day of the week; Sunday has now become "NFL Sundays." Why is the United States different in choosing football over fútbol (i.e., soccer)? Why is "soccer" the most popular game in the world but not in America? This course will trace soccer's origins as a medieval ball game to an upper-class English activity to a global phenomenon that was largely a result of trade, colonization, and war. We will also examine how and why American football emerged in U.S. colleges during the late-nineteenth century and eventually became the most popular sport nationally. Readings will include primary sources, books, and journal articles that place both sports in the context of ongoing debates about race, class, and gender. You will have an opportunity to share what you learn through in-class discussions as well as short-essay and short-answer writing assignments. By the end of the semester, you will have a better appreciation as to why football and fútbol remain the most popular sports in the United States and the world.

79-342 Introduction to Science and Technology Studies
Intermittent: 9 units
This course provides an introduction to Science and Technology Studies, a vibrant interdisciplinary field that examines the ways that science and technology interact with contemporary politics, culture, and society. Using theories and methods from history, philosophy, anthropology, and sociology, we will examine topics including: the nature of scientific and technical knowledge; the formation of new fields of interdisciplinary expertise (e.g., atomic science, artificial intelligence, or genetic engineering); the emergence of risk societies; systems of classifications and categories and their impact on ideologies of race, sex, and gender; the possibility of objectivity; and the public understanding of science.

79-343 Education, Democracy, and Civil Rights
Intermittent: 9 units
What is the relationship between education and democracy? By examining a series of case studies at the intersection of education and the civil rights movement, this course will prepare students to approach contemporary educational debates as historically-informed critical thinkers. The controversy surrounding charter schools, vouchers, the common core, and the role of standardized testing cannot be understood outside the long history of debates regarding the relationship between education and democracy. Are schools meant to perpetuate the status quo? How did both traditional and more radical forms of education advance the struggle for civil rights? What role have students played in advancing civil rights and democracy? While exploring these questions, we will also partner with local high school students and teachers to bring our learning beyond the classroom.

79-344 Public History: Learning Outside the Classroom
Intermittent: 6 units
Museums and other non-academic institutions reach large audiences with an array of history offerings, including exhibitions, films, publications, performances, oral history, workshops, lectures, events, research, reenactments, lectures, social media, webinars, online, radio and television programming. These educational tools are calculated to engage diverse audiences. Museums and educational nonprofits are also actively collecting and preserving artifacts and archival materials. This course will focus on Pittsburgh history as students examine best practices in Public History. The class will study the inner workings of a large history museum's collection, exhibition, conservation and education programs. Students will participate in field trips and behind-the-scenes tours, virtual explorations, and "hands-on history" outside the classroom at the Heinz History Center and other Pittsburgh attractions. This course will especially interest students considering non-traditional careers in history, education, communications, and nonprofits. MAXIMUM ENROLLMENT IS 15. ALL CLASSES WILL BE HELD ONCE PER WEEK OFF CAMPUS, STARTING AT THE HEINZ HISTORY CENTER IN THE STRIP DISTRICT (1212 SMALLMAN STREET).

79-345 Roots of Rock & Roll
Intermittent: 9 units
This course is about open source, collaborative innovation and the impact of social and technological change on American music. We will spend the first half on early “remix” music (slave songs, Anglo-Appalachian ballads, ragtime, and Depression era blues and country). After studying Bessie Smith, Woody Guthrie, Lead Belly, Hank Williams, and other early artists, we’ll spend the second half on revolutionaries like Chuck Berry, Bob Dylan, Jimi Hendrix, and Janis Joplin. The format is informal lecture and discussion. Assignments include reading two books plus some articles, listening to short Spotify playlists, writing three short essays, and doing a final paper project. NB: This course may be taken pass-fail (with submission of appropriate form).

79-346 American Political Humor
Intermittent: 6 units
This course takes a cultural approach to U.S. history since the Civil War, as seen by the nation’s most astute and influential critics: its political humorists. Besides immortals like Mark Twain and contemporaries like Jon Stewart and Stephen Colbert, we will rediscover the satirical yet hilarious voices of H. L. Mencken, Will Rogers, Lenny Bruce, Dick Gregory, Richard Pryor, Nora Ephron, Dave Chapelle, and others through essays, recordings and films. At its sharpest edges, humor addresses issues of class, gender and race in American life, and provokes alternative thinking about mass culture, consumerism, and conformity. Assignments include short analytical essays and a final paper.

79-348 The American Soldier: A Social History of the U.S. Military
Intermittent: 6 units
Throughout American history, ordinary citizens joined the armed forces and saw their lives and country change as a result of the challenging times they lived through. This course will follow recent trends that integrate military life with social and cultural history, focusing on conscripted soldiers' experiences rather than on commanding officers' strategies. Guiding questions will be: How did the country determine who could and should serve? How did troops cope with the harsh realities of battle? How did war change life on the home front? And how did recruits' wartime ordeals shape their expectations of what society owed them as veterans?
79-350 Early Christianity
Intermittent: 9 units
This course examines the origins of Christianity in historical perspective. Using both Christian and non-Christian sources from the period, we will examine how and why Christianity assumed the form that it did by analyzing its background in the Jewish community of Palestine, its place in the classical world, and its relationship to other religious and philosophical traditions of the time. We will also examine historically how the earliest Christians understood the life and message of Jesus, the debates about belief and practice that arose among them, and the factors influencing the extraordinary spread of the movement in its earliest centuries. This course satisfies one of the elective requirements for the Religious Studies minor.

79-352 Christianity Divided: The Protestant and Catholic Reformations, 1450-1650
Intermittent: 9 units
At the dawn of the sixteenth century, most western Europeans shared a common religious identity as members of the Roman Catholic Church. Within less than two decades, this consensus began to crumble, and the very fabric of western culture was irrevocably altered. By 1550, Europe was splintered into various conflicting churches, confessions, sects, and factions, each with its own set of truths and its own plan for reforming the church and society at large. This period of rapid and unprecedented change in western history is commonly known as the Reformation. Though this term has traditionally referred to the birth of Protestantism, it also encompasses the simultaneous renewal and reform that occurred within Roman Catholicism. This course will survey the Reformations of the sixteenth century, both Protestant and Catholic, examining the causes of the Reformation, the dynamics of reform, and its significance for western society and culture. In the process, we will analyze such on-going problems as religious persecution and the accommodation of dissent, the relationship between religion and politics, and the interactions between ideology and political, social, and economic factors in the process of historical change.

79-353 Lock ’em up! Imprisoning Delinquent Youth, 1820s-2022
Intermittent: 6 units
[Note: students who have already taken this course under its former number 79-353 and former title, Imprisoning Kids: Legal, Historical, and Moral Perspectives, may not enroll.] Can young lawbreakers be rehabilitated, or should they be removed from society to prevent them endangering others? Since the 1820s, reformers, philanthropists, and state officials in the Western world have wrestled with the question of how to reduce juvenile crime and turn delinquents into good citizens. The institutions and policies they created reflected their conceptions of young criminals, their backgrounds and families, their gender and their race. How did experts develop a body of knowledge about at-risk youth, what practices did they put into place, and what spaces did they build to house and contain the children? How have the children themselves responded, developing a sense of their own identity through compliance with or resistance to reformers’ intent? In this course, we will explore ideas, practices, and institutions created to save juvenile delinquents, presented in reports and stills, as well as fiction and film. Students will read and view a variety of primary and secondary sources from North America and Europe from the early nineteenth to the late twentieth centuries. Assessment will include participation in class discussion, short written assignments, and a final project.

Intermittent: 6 units
Scandal, conspiracy, and partisan propaganda have been among the stuff of media ever since newspapers first appeared in America, and now they figure prominently in electronic media as well. The question “What is truth?” is not just a matter of philosophical speculation, but an essential issue in many aspects of contemporary life, from elections to pandemics to climate change and foreign wars. This course is necessarily “ripped from the headlines,” examining conflicts over credibility in print and online in the context of historical experience. We will explore ways of determining when news really is “fake” and when it’s more likely to be “an inconvenient truth.”

79-357 Science and the Body
Intermittent: 6 units
The human body has always been an object of fascination. Across time and space, people have wondered what lurks beneath the skin, why we get sick or remain well, and how to explain human variation. The methods used to investigate these questions have, however, varied widely. In this course, we will explore the diversity—from the dissection of medieval corpses to 19th century phrenology to contemporary biohacking—examining how different communities have sought to study, control, and change their bodies over the past several hundred years. In doing so, we will focus on how these scientific efforts were shaped by the political, cultural, and economic values of their times. We will also pay attention to the profound and often ongoing effects of these experiments, particularly on the people who served--both willingly and unwillingly—as their “human subjects.”

79-359 Truth, Lies, and Propaganda: A Historical Inquiry
Intermittent: 9 units
For many commentators, the election of Donald Trump in November 2016 marks the beginning of the “post-truth” era, in which reality is no longer knowable, or even relevant. While this narrative certainly captures the unease that many Americans feel, it is historically inaccurate. There never was a time in the past when we could readily discern truth from falsehood without difficulty. The goal of this course is to examine the social history of truth. We will explore the concept of truth in philosophy and science; the evolution of methods for discovering facts about the world; the centrality of trust in knowledge production; and the innumerable ways that facts have been questioned, manipulated, discredited, purposefully ignored, and fabricated over the past several centuries. The course will include case studies from science, law, politics, war, art, journalism, and history.

79-360 Crime, Policing, and the Law: Historical and Contemporary Perspectives
Intermittent: 9 units
This seminar will critically explore the development of the American criminal legal system from the colonial era to the present. Topics covered will include slave patrols, the 19th century origins of modern policing and incarceration, the factors leading to the emergence of urban police departments, changing understandings of crime and criminals, surveillance, the wars on crime and drugs (and their racial implications), mass incarceration, deaths in custody, police corruption, police oversight, and the portrayal of policing in popular culture. This course will be discussion-based and require significant reading.

79-363 The Rise of Modern Golf, 1860 to the Present
Intermittent: 6 units
Aristocratic pastime or the people’s game? This course will examine the emergence of golf as both a professional and amateur sport and as a popular leisure activity between 1860—when Prestwick Golf Club in Scotland hosted the first (British) Open— and the present day. Students will read and discuss historical, sociological, and literary texts, and view several documentary and feature films as well. This course will have a take-home midterm exam (essay), a final exam (essay), and a few short, written assignments linked to students’ required oral presentations in class.

79-364 From Midwife to Obstetrician: The Transformation of Modern Childbirth
Intermittent: 6 units
At-home births, epidurals, C-sections: women’s experiences with childbirth have varied widely over time. Many of these differing experiences stem from societal developments that first occurred in Europe during the seventeenth and eighteenth centuries. Focusing specifically on England and the United States, we will identify the factors (e.g., human agents, ideologies, etc.) that influenced major changes in the childbirth process and explore how these changes affected mothers and childbirth practitioners of the time. Additionally, we will consider what implications this historical study holds for interpreting contemporary debates surrounding women’s health issues, including but not limited to childbirth. Throughout this course, we will also make liberal use of primary sources to develop arguments about the large-scale changes that occurred between 1600 and the present. Through assigned readings, class discussions, and diverse course assignments, students will develop an informed perspective on the transformation(s) of childbirth.

79-365 The Black Death: Bubonic Plague in Medieval Europe
Intermittent: 6 units
This mini course covers the history of a devastating pandemic: the Black Death of 1349-1353. In their first exposure to bubonic plague, Europeans died quickly and painfully in truly shocking numbers. The Black Death’s path of destruction changed the course of European history. Each week of the course focuses on a major theme of the pandemic’s history: 1) the arrival and spread of the plague; 2) rates of mortality in various countries and reasons for its astounding lethality; 3) medical understanding of the plague -then and now; 4) efforts to stop or slow its spread; 5) religious interpretations and psychological reactions; 6) economic and social consequences; and 7) the Black Death in literature and art. Students will be required to read one book and seven articles. Grading will be based on class discussion and a weekly 2-3 page essay on class reading.
79-367 Disastrous Encounters
Interruption: 9 units
This course is ONLY offered at Carnegie Mellon in Qatar. Disastrous Encounters explores the complex interaction between human beings and their environment by examining incidents in which those disasters have proven destructive or fatal to humankind. By the end of the class students will be able to: Explain the scientific principles behind "natural" disasters, including cyclonic weather, global climate change, volcanoes, earthquakes, tsunamis, river flooding, famines, and diseases. Analyze to what extent a given disaster is in fact "natural" at all, but rather was either caused by or exacerbated by human actions. Draw connections between different types of disasters, recognizing that major disasters often produce predictable secondary disaster effects. Read documents critically, especially in terms of the author’s agenda and the author’s likely biases. Write strong analytical essays.

79-368 Un-natural Disasters: Societies and Environmental Hazards in Global Perspective
Interruption: 6 units
In the wake of Hurricane Katrina, Neil Smith famously observed that "there is no such thing as a natural disaster." This course takes a cue from Smith by examining the social production of disasters in the past and present, from acute environmental events like typhoons and earthquakes to disasters of "slow violence" like chronic exposure to toxic pollution and food insecurity. Examining case studies from around the world, we will explore how these different forms of disaster collide with inequalities of race, class, and gender - and in the process challenge us to rethink the relationship between nature and society.

79-370 Technology in the United States
Interruption: 9 units
This course examines the ways in which technology and society have shaped each other in the United States from the colonial era to the present. Topics include Native Americans and technologies, farming, industrialization, transportation, automobiles, aerospace, information technology, drugs, and biotechnology. Students will read a textbook, write brief essays about technologies of their choice, and discuss their essays and the text in class. The course welcome students from any major.

79-371 African American Urban History
Interruption: 9 units
As the ravages of the Covid-19 pandemic gradually lifts, the plight of poor and working class people of African descent will continue to occupy a prominent place in discussions of today's urban community. Effective contemporary public policies, movement strategies, educational programs, media campaigns, and sensitive philanthropic decisions will require deeper and more thoughtful perspectives on the history of urban race and class relations in the past. Focusing on the development of African American urban history from its colonial beginnings through today’s “Black Lives Matter Movement,” this course will emphasize the many ways that African Americans shaped American urban life through their roles as workers, community-builders, and political and social justice activists. In addition to weekly classroom discussions of assigned readings, students will write a series of short essays (based upon a mix of secondary and primary sources) on selected topics/themes in the development of African American urban life, culture, and politics.

79-372 The Rise and Fall of Pittsburgh Steel
Interruption: 6 units
For over 150 years, the Pittsburgh region was world-renowned for the scale and intensity of its iron and steel manufacturing complex. This mini course will trace the origins, explosive growth, stagnation and ultimate collapse of this remarkable industrial complex. Students will gain an understanding of Pittsburgh's rich industrial history - what makes it "The Steel City," understand the emergence and evolution of iron and steel making technology, appreciate the impact of Pittsburgh's iron and steel industrialization on living and working conditions for workers, and analyze the factors that drove the emergence of Pittsburgh steel then to its decline and collapse. The course is structured loosely around a set of periods in Pittsburgh's history through which key themes are drawn.

79-373 Culture and Revolution: The Socialist Experiment in Soviet Russia
Interruption: 6 units
In 1917, revolutionaries took power in Russia to create the world’s first socialist society. In a series of radical and unprecedented experiments, they attempted to remake every phase of social and cultural life, from sexual relations to art to education. How could life be lived in a new way and better way? What values should replace the old traditions based on patriarchy and class hierarchy? How could ordinary people be empowered to create a new culture? In this course, we will study the 1920s, a riotous decade of experimentation in cultural, social, and political life.

79-374 Intensive Field Ethnography
Interruption: 9 units
This course introduces students to the practice of intensive fieldwork and writing, emphasizing the role of reflexive engagement in analysis and documentation. Students will actively engage in real-world research and will be expected to assume an active role in the design, preparation, writing, and presentation of research results. This course will provide students with the skills necessary to conduct intensive fieldwork and writing, including the development of an ethnographic research project and the writing of a research paper.

79-375 Science & Religion
Interruption: 6 units
A widely held notion is that science and religion are perennially at war with one another. Debates over evolution, and more recently climate change, are cited as examples where the assumptions driving each discipline cannot coexist. Nevertheless, both science and religion continue to thrive in the 21st century, where the question of whether these two ways of seeing the world might, for some people at least, be more complementary than confrontational. We’ll explore the history of the relationship between science and religion and the different “ways of knowing” employed by each. Some common assumptions will be critically examined as we consider questions of fact and value, and the competency of science and religion to address the major challenges of our day.

79-376 Matter Movement
Interruption: 6 units
In “Matter Movement,” this course will emphasize the many ways that African Americans shaped American urban life through their roles as workers, community-builders, and political and social justice activists. In addition to weekly classroom discussions of assigned readings, students will write a series of short essays (based upon a mix of secondary and primary sources) on selected topics/themes in the development of African American urban life, culture, and politics.

79-377 Food, Culture, and Power: A History of Eating
Interruption: 9 units
How can human societies ensure that 8 billion people have enough good food to eat without exploiting people or the planet? This course will start with the assumption that the answer to that question requires not only technological innovations, but also an understanding of the cultural and political dimensions of food. For the first half of the course, we will explore the history of human eating, starting in deep time and then moving toward the present, considering along the way the historical evolution of food production and consumption, paying attention to both cultural diversity and cultural exchanges of foods and cuisine. Students will pursue individual research projects focused on a topic of their choice related to major course themes during the second half of the semester. Evaluation based on in-class participation, analytical reflections on weekly readings, and the research paper.

79-378 Gender in South Asia
Interruption: 9 units
This course introduces students to women's position and gender relations in South Asia from a historical perspective. Using gender as a lens of examining the past, we will examine how politics of race, class, caste and religion affected and continue to impact women in South Asian countries, primarily in India, Pakistan, Bangladesh and Sri Lanka. Attention is drawn to the processes by which gender is socially constructed, the prevalent forms of gender disparity and discrimination, as well as the factors of change to which these are subject. These topics are situated in the broader context of the region's history, society, and culture. We will reflect upon current and future debates within South Asian women's history in order to examine some of the issues and problems that arise in re-writing the past from a gendered perspective. The chronological focus of this course is on the condition of women in the subcontinent from the ancient times till the present day. Students are encouraged to make comparisons between women's position and gender relations in South Asia with the corresponding situations in their societies. Analysis and appreciation of the cross-cultural aspects of women's position and gender disparity constitute integral elements of the envisaged learning outcomes of this course. It would be of general interest to all students concerned with women's position and gender relations, as well as those interested in South Asia. To help evaluate the different historical and temporal experiences of South Asian women, this course will extensively use primary documents, secondary readings, films, and contemporary newspaper and Internet articles. Students will be required to actively engage and participate in class discussions and group debates, which will form a substantial part of individual evaluations.

79-379 Extreme Ethnography
Interruption: 9 units
Observation, participation and direct experience of "the field" are hallmarks of anthropological ways of knowing, and their representation has played a foundational role in ethnographic writing both past and present. Yet reflexive and postmodernist explorations of these topics have triggered contentious debates over the nature of anthropology as a scientific or humanistic enterprise, and over its ethical, political and epistemological value. In this seminar, we will approach such questions through an exploration of the extremes of ethnographic fieldwork and writing. We will consider such topics as: the colonial history and politics of explorers and ethnographers; liminality and the place of extreme experience—such as cultural dislocation, violence, dragnet, intoxication, sex, possession, and dreaming-in fieldwork and writing; field-notes as an ethnographic genre, and their relationship to "official" published ethnography; ethnographic surrealism and surrealist ethnography; the dimensions of sensory experience (visual, auditory, olfactory, etc.) in fieldwork and ethnography; collecting and the powers of "exotic" objects; inter-subjectivity and its implications; and experimentation with alternate ethnographic forms, such as autobiography, film, diary, and poetry.
79-380 Hostile Environments: The Politics of Pollution in Global Perspective
Intermittent: 9 units
Earth is an increasingly toxic planet. Fossil-fueled industrialization, chemical engineering, and resource-intensive consumerism have generated immense wealth, but they have also left long-term, cumulative legacies of toxic pollution and ecological harm. While these legacies affect everyone, their impacts are by no means evenly distributed. In this course, we will use the tools of anthropology, political ecology, and history to examine experiences of toxic exposure in different parts of the world, including Pittsburgh. Our analyses will ask how inequalities of race, class, and gender shape exposure as well as how cultural differences create divergent understandings of ecology, health, and their interrelationship. We will consider, moreover, how these disparities shape what people know about pollution and whether/how they demand accountability for it. Cases we explore will range from acute industrial disasters (and their aftermath) to the harms experienced by other-than-human beings to the gradual, often invisible exposures that affect all of us to varying degrees.

79-381 Energy and Empire: How Fossil Fuels Changed the World
Intermittent: 9 units
Few things have changed the world as much as petroleum: cars, airplanes, fertilizers, plastics are just some of the technologies derived from oil. Moreover, the wealth and power associated with “black gold” has shaped geopolitics in the twentieth century, giving rise to so-called “petro-states.” For the first five weeks, we will trace the evolution and expansion of “petrocultures” around the world. The remainder of the course will be organized around individual student research projects. The major learning objective of this course is to give students experience writing an original research paper. Students will be expected to define a research question, assemble a bibliography of sources, write and revise an analytical paper, and do an oral presentation. This course, open to all students, partially fulfills the Theoretical and Topical Core course requirement for Global Studies majors.

79-383 The History of Capitalism
Intermittent: 9 units
What is capitalism? How does it differ from systems that preceded it, and how did it come to revolutionize the globe? This course will cover the global development of capitalism from the 16th century to the present. We will examine the theories of Karl Marx and Adam Smith, who both attempted to theorize the new system of labor organization. We will look at how the transition from feudalism to capitalism took place, including the role of new world slavery, commodity production, dispossession of the peasantry, and changes in the household and gender relations. We will examine “globalization,” the latest dynamic phase of capitalism and its impact on people. Finally, we will discuss the advent of roboticization, the loss of industrial jobs, and the potential impact of casual labor, low wages, and unemployment on democracy and the rise of a technocratic elite.

79-384 Sex Before Kinsey: Theories of Sexuality in Europe and the US, 1890-1930
Intermittent: 6 units
This mini-course surveys the history of European and American “sexology” from the late 19th through the early 20th century. Students will be introduced to works of famous theorists and practitioners such as Sigmund Freud, Havelock Ellis, and Margaret Sanger [who opened the first birth control clinic in the U.S.]. Readings and discussion will cover theories of heterosexuality, homosexuality, female sexuality, transsexuality, and erotic fetishes. Readings will include scholarly articles and a small group of primary sources drawn from theorists’ publications/correspondence. The course grade will be based on attendance, participation/discussion of class readings, and three 3-4 page essays on the readings.

79-385 Out of Africa: The Making of the African Diaspora
Intermittent: 9 units
The trans-Atlantic slave trade dispersed Africans in the New World and the Caribbean, creating the African Diaspora. Generations of scholars have disputed whether descendants of enslaved Africans could have retained any of their African culture and/or fully assimilated into New World societies. This course will combine a chronological, geographical, and a thematic approach to the creation of new Africa-inspired cultures in both Africa and the African Diaspora. It will explore societies in the Caribbean, the US South, Latin America, and Africa and address themes, such as Africanisms, African survivals, African retentions, Creole languages, and religion.

79-386 A Tale of Two Epidemics: Influenza 1918 and Covid 19
Intermittent: 9 units
This course will compare the experiences of Americans during its two deadliest pandemics, the Influenza 1918 epidemic and the Covid-19 epidemic. Each week we will compare a facet of the two epidemics, such as government responses, medical knowledge, public health measures, African American experiences, global dimensions, and more. Students will do guided original research comparing a facet of the two epidemics.

79-387 General Francisco Franco: Fascism and its Legacies in Spain
Intermittent: 6 units
Francisco Franco was Europe’s longest-ruling dictator. He ruled over Spain from 1939 to 1975. This course will examine the social and cultural context of the rise of Fascism in Spain. We will focus especially on the colonial legacy of Spanish fascism; The fall of the democratic II Spanish Republic and Franco’s seizure of power during the bloody Spanish Civil War; the decades of his lengthy dictatorship; the social and cultural politics in transitioning Spain to democracy after his death; and the legacy of Spanish Fascism and Franco’s dictatorship in contemporary Spain. In addition to class lectures, students will become familiar with these themes through the reading and discussion of historical texts, current political and cultural debates, music and film.

79-388 Sports in American Culture
Intermittent: 9 units
[Note: students who have taken course number 79-388, with former titles, Race, Gender, and the Politics of Sports in America since 1900 or 79-388, History of Sports in the United States, may not enroll.] In this course, we will survey the history of sport in the United States from the late nineteenth-century into the twenty-first century. While we will discuss star athletes, famous games, and popular teams, we will focus more on evaluating the significance of sport in American history. We will address issues of race, gender, class, and politics; the commercialization of sport; as well as the relationship between intercollegiate athletics and higher education. We will pay particular attention to inclusion and exclusion in sport - who was allowed to play and who was not - and how that changed (or did not change) over time. By semester’s end, students will be able to look beyond the box scores and question how sports has reflected larger trends in American life as well as how it has influenced American history and our world today.

79-391 Nations and Nationalisms in South Asia
Intermittent: 9 units
This course examines the role which nationalism has played in the formation and political development of the nations and states of South Asia. It, therefore, examines nationalist forces in anti-colonial struggles, in post-colonial state formation and in contemporary political developments. It will be of relevance to students with an interest in political developments in Asia, with particular reference to forms of nationalism and nation-building.

79-392 Europe and the Islamic World
Intermittent: 9 units
Europe and the Islamic World explores the complex relationship between (Christian) Europe and Islamic civilization, from the conquest of the Byzantine Levant to modern-day Islamic immigration into Europe. The course will focus on a few landmark events in European/Islamic relations, such as the crusades, as well as various intellectual models describing European/Islamic relations over time. The course will also focus on developing research, writing, and documentary analysis skills relevant to the study of history.

79-393 Institutions of the Roman Church
Intermittent: 9 units
This course is only offered at Carnegie Mellon’s campus in Qatar. This course will explore the history of the Catholic Church, with a particular focus on the church as an evolving European institution. Although we will have to deal with theological arguments at times, abstract theology will not be the focus of the course. Instead, the course will be centered on two main questions. First, how did the Catholic Church manage to persist, for nearly two millennium, as a stable institutional entity within an ever-changing European milieu? Secondly, to what degree did the Catholic Church influence and/or reflect developments within Western European culture?
79-394 Exploring History through Geography
Intermittent: 6 units
For studying the past, space can be as important as time. Digital mapping and GeoLocation technologies influence our everyday interactions and perceptions of the world around us. Historians are thinking about how these technologies can change their fields of study, too. Through the “spatial turn” in the Humanities and Social Sciences, historians are using spatial experience to think more deeply about the meaning of place and space. Visualizing spatial relationships via new technologies can offer meaningful new ways to approach historical questions. This course will consider viewpoints from the discipline of Geography and explore the impact of new methods in the Digital Humanities, including the impact of digital tools such as Geographic Information Systems (GIS).

79-395 The Arts in Pittsburgh
Intermittent: 9 units
This course will examine the arts in Pittsburgh, both historically and in the present. We will focus especially on musical events and art exhibits scheduled by the city’s museums and concert halls during the current semester. The “curriculum” in other words will derive from the artistic presentations themselves, which will provide a springboard for reading assignments, seminar discussions, and research papers in the history of music and art. We will also examine the historical development of cultural institutions in Pittsburgh. The History Department will pay for students’ admission to all museums. However, students will be charged a supplemental fee (at significantly discounted prices) to help subsidize the considerable expense of purchasing tickets for concerts and performances by the Pittsburgh Symphony, Pittsburgh Opera, Chamber Music Society, and Renaissance and Baroque Society. Attendance at all musical events and art exhibits is required. Prerequisite: Please check your overall course schedule: you must be available for two-three hours to attend art exhibits on several Saturday afternoons, and to attend musical events on several Monday, Friday and/or Saturday evenings.

79-397 Environmental and Public Health Crises in the City
Intermittent: 6 units
Cities throughout the world are our largest and most vulnerable population centers. Yet, since their origins, cities have consistently faced environmental and public health challenges from both natural and human-made factors and their interaction. This course will explore some of these environmental and public health challenges and events over time, examining the factors that resulted in urban crises. A number of the environmental and public health cases considered will focus on Pittsburgh.

79-398 Documenting the 1967 Arab-Israeli War
Intermittent: 9 units
This course considers how historians practice their craft in interpreting great events with the 1967 Arab-Israeli war as the case study. Students read scholarly accounts of the war and then check them against one another as well as a variety of primary source materials such as memoirs, documents, speeches, newspapers, maps, eye-witness reports and public resolutions. We will constantly be asking if the sources support the secondary accounts or if there are other interpretations that might lead to different conclusions. We will be examining the texts for tangents left unexplored and possibly worthy of further research. Students should expect a significant reading load, frequent short assignments and a final research paper on a 1967 War-inspired topic.

79-400 Global Studies Research Seminar
Fall: 12 units
This research seminar is the capstone course for Global Studies majors. The course is designed to give you a chance to define and carry out a research project of personal interest. The first few weeks of the course will be devoted to developing a research topic and locating sources. We will then work on how to interpret and synthesize sources into a coherent and compelling thesis before you begin drafting your paper. Your research may be based on in-depth reading of a body of scholarly work, field notes from ethnographic observations, archival research, analysis of literary or visual media, or some combination of these sources. Incorporation of some non-English language sources is strongly encouraged where possible. Independent work, self-initiative, participation in discussion, and peer evaluations are required. There are several interim deadlines that will be strictly enforced in order to ensure successful completion of the course.

79-420 Historical Research Seminar
Fall: 12 units
The purpose of this research seminar is to help students conceptualize, design, organize, and execute a substantial research project that embodies and extends the knowledge and skill set they have been developing as History majors at Carnegie Mellon. The identification, collection and interpretation of relevant primary source data are integral parts of this intellectual task. Students will strive to hone written and oral presentation skills, deepen their command of research methodologies and strategies, and sharpen their abilities as a constructive critic of others’ research. The seminar seeks to develop these intellectual skills through a combination of in-class, student-led discussions of everyone’s research-in-progress, and regular individual consultations with the instructor. Prerequisite: 79-200 Min. grade C

79-449 EHPP Project Course
Fall: 12 units
This course, History and Public Policy Project Course is required for the History, History and Public Policy majors and is taken in the fall semester of the senior year. In this capstone course, History, Ethics, and Public Policy majors carry out a collaborative research project that examines a compelling current policy issue that can be illuminated with historical research and philosophical and policy analysis for a chosen client. The students develop an original research report based on both archival and contemporary policy analysis and they present their results to their client and a review panel.

79-453 Global Water and Development
Intermittent: 3 units
Water is necessary for all forms of life on Earth. An estimated 1 billion humans do not have satisfactory drinking water; an estimated 2 billion do not have access to adequate sanitation facilities for human health, safety, and dignity. For more than a hundred years, to address social inequalities in access to water, international organizations and scholars have created their own theories and ideas about providing water. This international community points out the social and cultural implications of technical provision of water resources. These debates about “development” showcase diverse theories, recommendations, and contradictions. The purpose of this course is to introduce students to critical studies of water and development. We will consider complex stories of social change, including unintended consequences, human and environmental impacts, and debates among experts.

79-454 The TransOceanic Railway
Intermittent: 3 units
This course is an introduction to railway restructuring and privatization, which arguably began in exactly 1990 with the privatization of Argentina’s railways. The Argentine model has been replicated all over the world, and in many settings and is modeled on the successful USA model of private ownership and operation of freight rail, which is generally considered a model for the world. Conversely, passenger rail in the USA almost disappeared while in the UK it has enjoyed a spectacular run with a doubling of ridership since the privatization of its railways in roughly the same era, i.e., the Thatcher years. The UK’s model has been replicated in various forms throughout Europe and beyond.

79-470 Simulating Conflict Resolution
Intermittent: 3 units
This course is only offered at Carnegie Mellon’s campus in Qatar. This pass-fail, 3-credit course for the Qatar campus is designed to prepare students for a capstone event: an international conflict resolution exercise, to be held in the 2018 Spring semester, that simulates a current Middle Eastern crisis. The course will consist of two parts. First, students will meet weekly with an instructor for 1 hour/week to discuss the historical and modern Middle East, so that they will be prepared to participate meaningfully in the simulation. For these classes, students will be expected to complete and discuss readings prepared by the instructor. Secondly, students will participate in the simulation exercise in late spring, taking the role of one of the Middle Eastern actors (these will be decided ahead of time) and role-playing their nation’s response to the specific crisis scenario. Finally, after the simulation, students will submit to the instructor a reflection paper on what they learned from participating in the event. Suggested pre- or co-req: Conflict Resolution (80-242 or 70-321).

79-491 Independent Study
Intermittent
An Independent Study is meant for students with a special interest in an area not covered by a formal history course. Readings and other work are negotiated between the student and an individual faculty member.
79-496 Chinese Language and Culture Before the Republic
All Semesters: 9 units
[Note: students who have taken course number 79-476, section A, Chinese Language and Culture, during the Fall 2021 Semester, may not enroll.]
With China as a growing political and economic power, understanding the country through its history and culture becomes necessary for students as responsible citizens of the world. This course is designed to help students, previously unexposed to Chinese culture and civilization, better understand China’s past. By learning about the history of the Middle Kingdom, students will be exposed to the deep and fascinating foundation of Chinese civilization. We will not cover thousands of years of history, but discuss a chronological timeline of dynasties for reference. Areas of focus include the general knowledge of geography, religion, art, ancient lifestyles, and values. This course is conducted in English with no requirement of prior knowledge of Chinese language.

79-505 Internship: Social & Political History
All Semesters
The Social and Political History program strongly encourages students to locate internship opportunities in Pittsburgh or elsewhere that complement their historical interests (as, for example, in a museum or historical society) or in areas of policy research that complement their historical interests (as, for example, in a government agency or non-profit organization). To earn academic credit for their internship, students will be required to maintain a weekly journal; write a short critical reflection on how the internship connects to their academic work; and share their experience with other Social and Political History majors. The Academic Advisor will assist students with matching their interests to local organizations. SPH students can earn up to 9 units in each internship. Please note, however, that internship credits (students may complete up to three internships) do not count toward fulfillment of course requirements for the SPH major (though the units do count toward graduation).

79-506 Global Studies Internship
Fall and Spring
This course provides Global Studies majors with a chance to explore global connections in Pittsburgh. Majors, working in close consultation with the Global Studies director and advisor, will arrange an internship with a non-governmental organization (usually in Pittsburgh) whose mission has a global reach. This could include an organization that supports projects in other countries, works with immigrants in the Pittsburgh area, or participates in international policy making/governance. We strongly encourage students to seek out opportunities that require use of a second language. Students will be required to maintain a weekly journal; write a short critical reflection on how the internship connects to academic work; and share their experience with other Global Studies majors. Global Studies advisor and director will assist students with matching their interests to local organizations and identifying an on-site supervisor available to collaborate in the ongoing and final evaluation of the student’s work. Prerequisite: Students must be Global Studies majors and obtain permission for the proposed internship from the Global Studies advisor.

79-510 Global Studies Guided Reading
All Semesters: 3 units
Global Studies Guided Reading (Fall 2022: The Environment and Climate Change) The main goal of this seminar is to encourage students to engage deeply with four books on a distinct topic, and discuss them under the guidance of the professor. You could think of this seminar as a more academically-oriented monthly book club! The small size of the seminar allows for a deep immersion in the readings, and for the development of critical thinking among students. The four books are selected by the professor, and the selection is based on several criteria, including the books’ impact, current relevance, regional foci, as well as diversity and inclusivity reflected by the authors’ different social, racial, and geographical backgrounds. The topics of the seminars each semester will vary, but all will have global relevance. (For instance, the Fall ’22 seminar will focus on the environment and climate change, and the Spring ’23 seminar will deal with the topic of cultural and historical memory). Important: In order to encourage all of the students’ constant participation and their deep engagement with the books, as well as foster a sense of intellectual community, this seminar will be strategically small. For these reasons, only the GS majors will be allowed to register for this monthly guided reading.