



# History

**Faculty:**

*William R. Culbreth*  
*Mark Metzler Sawin*  
*(chair)*  
*Mary S. Sprunger*

**Majors:**

- History
- History and Social Science

**Minors:**

- History
- History and Social Science
- Political Studies
- Pre-Law

**Teaching**

**Endorsement:**

- History and Social Science, Grades 6-12

**H**istory is the story of the past experience of humankind. The courses offered by the department are planned to provide a comprehensive overview of the American, European and non-Western segments of historical studies. A conscious effort is made to be critical in analysis and to view the saga of human experience through an Anabaptist peace and justice lens. The pre-law and political studies minors place such critical analysis in a contemporary, comparative and globalizing context. A major in this department prepares the student for future specialization, teaching, library science and research, law, journalism, and various forms of Christian service. It also serves as a good liberal arts orientation for those who prefer not to specialize.

**Major in History**

*A major consists of 30 SH in history including:*

- HIST 121 Introduction to History  
 and Methods . . . . .3
- HIST 452 Seminar in History . . . . .3

Majors are strongly encouraged to take a wide range of history courses (United States, European, area studies) and to acquire a high level of proficiency in at least one foreign language.

**Major in History and Social Science**

*This interdepartmental major of 45 SH consists of the following:*

**United States History (6 SH)**

- Choose two of the following courses:*
- HIST 131 United States History  
 to 1865 . . . . .3
  - HIST 132 United States History  
 1865 to the Present . . . . .3

**Careers in History include** secondary education; public service; law; mediation, jobs at local, state and national government agencies; international development; graduate studies; library degree; archival library or museum work.

*HIST 222 African-American History . . . . .	.3
*HIST 312 History of Nineteenth- Century America . . . . .	.3
*HIST 321 Modernizing America . . . .	.3
*HIST 411 The History of Recent America . . . . .	.3

*(History/Social Science students pursuing teacher licensure are required to take HIST 131 and HIST 132. In addition HIST 222, HIST 321 and/or HIST 411 are strongly recommended.)*

**European and World History  
(6 SH)**

*Choose two of the following courses:*

HIST 181 The Global Past I: Prehistory to 1500 . . . . .	.3
HIST 182 The Global Past II: 1500 to the Present . . . . .	.3
*HIST 231 Medieval Europe . . . . .	.3
*HIST 362 Renaissance and Reformation Europe . . . . .	.3
*HIST 391 Seventeenth- and Eighteenth-Century Europe. . . . .	.3
*HIST 461 Nineteenth- and Twentieth- Century Europe. . . . .	.3

*(History/Social Science students pursuing teacher licensure are required to take HIST 181 and HIST 182. In addition, HIST 391 and HIST 461 are strongly recommended.)*

**Area Studies (3 SH)**

*Choose one of the following courses:*

*HIST 212 History of Latin America .3
*HIST 251 History of Africa . . . . . .3
*HIST 371 History of Asia . . . . . .3
*HIST 432 History of the Middle East . . . . . .3

**Historiography (6 SH)**

HIST 121 Introduction to History and Methods. . . . .	.3
HIST 452 Seminar in History . . . . .	.3

**Political Studies (12 SH)**

POL 101 Introduction to Politics . . . .	.3
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*Choose three of the following courses:*

*POL 201 Comparative Government .3
*POL 302 Constitutional Issues. . . . .3
*POL 311 International Relations . . . .3
*POL 401 Human Rights and Dignity.3

**Economics (3 SH)**

ECON 201 Survey of Economics . . . .	.3
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**Geography (3 SH)**

GEOG 231 Cultural Geography . . . . .	.3
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**Social Science (6 SH)**

*Choose two of the following courses:*

PSYC 101 General Psychology. . . . .	.3
PSYC 202 Developmental Psychology. . . . .	.3
SOC 101 Introduction to Sociology. . . . .	.3

*(Students pursuing teacher licensure must take PSYC 202 and SOC 101.)*

**Major in History and  
Social Science, Teaching  
Endorsement for Grades  
6-12**

This program will prepare students to teach history and social science by instructing them in the major themes outlined by the National Council for the Social Studies (NCSS):

1. Culture and Cultural Diversity
2. Time, Continuity, and Change
3. People, Places, and Environment
4. Individual Development and Identity
5. Individuals, Groups and Institutions
6. Power, Authority and Governance
7. Production, Distribution, and Consumption
8. Science, Technology and Society
9. Global Connections
10. Civic Ideals and Practices

The courses listed in the history and social science major (pages 99-100) and the secondary education courses (page 89) make up the program for teacher licensure, grades 6-12.

### Minor in History

A history minor requires 18 SH of history which should include courses in U.S., European and Area Studies.

### Minor in History and Social Science

A minor in history and social science requires 18 SH. This includes 6 SH in history, 6 SH from the political studies section of the major, and 3 SH each in economics and geography.

### Minor in Political Studies

A minor in political studies requires 18 SH: 12 SH in political studies including POL 101 Introduction to Politics, and 6 SH chosen from geography, history, economics, or peacebuilding and development.

### Pre-Law Minor

The pre-law minor is an interdisciplinary and interdepartmental minor. It is designed to complement a variety of majors to prepare students for a range of careers including traditional practices of

law, mediation, environmental law, international development, politics, human rights work, victim offender reconciliation, and juvenile justice. The minor will consider peace, justice, mercy and faith within the practice of law. Students will learn to understand diverse perspectives and to craft a worldview that speaks meaningfully to a complex globe. Students will survey a range of legal careers and will learn pre-professional test-taking skills and strategies for affordable graduate education. The minor consists of the following 22-24 semester hours, including an internship:

- BUAD 411 Business Law **OR**
- \*PXD 331 Restorative Justice. . . . .3
- \*PHIL 223 Logic and Critical Thinking . . . . .3
- \*PHIL 334 Ethics: Conceptions of Personal Good **OR**
- \*PHIL 341 Politics: Conceptions of Common Good . . . . .3
- \*POL 302 Constitutional Issues. . . . .3
- \*POL 401 Human Rights and Dignity.3
- POL 412 Law, Values, and Worldview . . . . .3
- POL 481 Pre-law Internship (may be satisfied by an internship for one's major) . . . . .1-3
- THEO 323 Biblical Theology of Peace and Justice. . . . .3

## World History (HIST)

### 181 The Global Past I: Prehistory to 1500 **3**

This course will present a broad overview of the history of world societies up to the early modern era. Some of the topics covered will be: the political, philosophical, and cultural legacies of ancient American, Asian, African, and European civilizations; the rise of some of the major religions (Judaism, Christianity, Islam, Hinduism and Buddhism); medieval society, institutions, and civilizations, and the evolution of representative government; the social, political, and economic contributions of selected civilizations in Africa, Asia, Europe and the Americas; women's roles in pre-modern societies; the origins of colonialism as overseas contacts between Europe and other parts of the world develop; the culture and ideas of the Renaissance and Reformation; and the origins of capitalism. This course contributes related content to NCSS themes: 1, 2, 5, 6, 8, 9.

**182 The Global Past II: 1500 to the Present** **3**

This course will cover major themes in world history from the early modern era to the present. Some of the topics covered will be: the intellectual revolution of the 17th and 18th centuries (Enlightenment) in Europe and America; the American, French and Russian revolutions; the Industrial Revolution and its impact on politics and culture; the global influences of European ideologies such as liberalism, republicanism, Marxism, nationalism, communism and fascism; imperialism; twentieth-century international relations and the cultural effects of the two world wars, the Korean and Vietnam wars, and the breakdown of the Cold War; the struggle for women's rights and changing gender roles; and independence movements and the breakdown of colonialism and genocide. This course contributes related content to NCSS themes: 1, 2, 5, 6, 8, 9.

**\*352 History of Women** **3**

A comparative study of how women around the world (organized around geographical regions) have experienced history. Emphasis will be on understanding changing gender roles in light of different historical events and cultures. The course will also provide an opportunity to examine current gender issues. This course contributes related content to NCSS themes: 2, 4, 5, 6, 7, 9, 10.

## U.S. History (HIST)

**131 United States History to 1865** **3**

This course will highlight major events in Virginia history, the American Revolution, the development of the constitution, the role of religion in American history, and re-create the main outlines of how the United States became a nation-state. Topics include: the tragedy of racism, the emergence of a capitalist economy, the battle for women's rights, and the influx of immigrants. This course contributes related content to NCSS themes: 3, 5, 6.

**132 United States History 1865 to the Present** **3**

This course will address the changing role of America in the world, and the origins, effect, and aftermath of the world wars, the Korea and Vietnam wars, and the Cold War. American history in the 20th century is marked by powerful historical forces such as economic depressions, population shifts from rural to urban settings, life-changing discoveries in science and technology, and profound re-orientations in lifestyles. This course contributes related content to NCSS themes: 3, 5, 7.

**\*222 African-American History** **3**

A narrative history of the African-American experience, driven by the study of African-American literature and culture. Beginning with the development of race-based slavery and ending with current issues of affirmative action, this course will trace the changing history of what it has meant to be both "African" and "American" in the larger American context. This course contributes related content to NCSS themes: 5, 4, 10. (Spring 2012)

**\*312 History of Nineteenth-Century America** **3**

This course examines the critical years of national development from 1789 to 1865. American self-idealization and reform, commercial and early industrial development, continental expansion, regionalism, and the slavery controversy are examined. Special attention is given to the Civil War and the subsequent Reconstruction period. The experiences of women, immigrants, Native Americans and African Americans will receive attention. This course contributes related content to NCSS themes: 4, 6, 8. (Spring 2013)

**\*321 Modernizing America, 1865-1940** **3**  
This course is a study of the United States during the “Modern” period, a time when the country moved from a booming but tattered nation reeling from a civil war to an international giant with immense military and industrial power. Major themes include industrialization, economic vitality, immigration, urbanization, the Social Gospel and Progressive movements, normalization, World War I, the rise of the “New Negro,” and the New Deal. This course contributes related content to NCSS themes: 6, 7, 8. (Fall 2012)

**\*411 The History of Recent America, 1941-Present** **3**  
This course begins with World War II and then marches through the Cold War, suburbanization, the civil rights movements, and the ever-expanding U.S. presence in global issues. Major themes include radical political movements, Vietnam, Watergate, TV-culture, the Religious Right, and the Reagan/Bush years. Special attention is paid to U.S. involvement in global activities from the end of the Cold War to the present, with a strong emphasis on the roots of the current “War on Terror.” This course contributes related content to NCSS themes: 6, 7, 8, 10. Registration priority given to juniors and seniors majoring in the department. (Fall 2011)

## European History (HIST)

**\*231 Medieval Europe** **3**  
A history of Europe from the late Roman Empire to the sixteenth century, with emphasis on the political, social, cultural and economic developments. Events and themes include feudalism, the rise and development of Christendom, art and architecture, church/state tensions, the Crusades, courtly love, monasticism and women. Personalities include kings and queens, popes, knights and female mystics. This course contributes related content to NCSS themes: 5, 6. (Spring 2012)

**\*362 Renaissance and Reformation Europe** **3**  
A study of the Italian and Northern Renaissance movements and a careful examination of the 16th-century reformations, both Protestant and Catholic. Besides cultural, intellectual, religious and political aspects of the period, social history and gender themes will be considered. Students will get to know diverse personalities such as Michelangelo, Machiavelli, Bloody Mary and Martin Luther and be able to understand them in their historical contexts. This course contributes related content to NCSS themes: 5, 6, 9, 10. (Spring 2013)

**\*391 Seventeenth- and Eighteenth-Century Europe** **3**  
The origins of many modern realities are found in this period of European history: imperialism, liberalism, conservatism, representative government, skepticism, religious tolerance, standing armies, laissez-faire capitalism, and a faith in science, reason and technology to bring about progress. This course uncovers these origins through a survey of political, social, economic, gender and cultural history from 1550 to 1815. Major themes include religious warfare, the witchcraft craze, overseas expansion, Rembrandt’s Amsterdam, the Scientific Revolution, absolutism and constitutionalism, the Enlightenment, and the French Revolution, culminating in Napoleon’s empire. Students will try to grasp the mentality of the era through philosophy and literature from the times and through a series of historical movies (the Early Modern Film Festival). This course contributes related content to NCSS themes: 6, 8, 9. (Fall 2012)

**\*461 Nineteenth- and Twentieth-Century Europe** **3**  
A history of Europe from the French Revolution to the present. Themes include revolution, industrialization, women’s suffrage, militarism, imperialism and genocide, the rise and fall of communism, the world wars, fascism, the reunification of Eastern and Western Europe, and the emergence of the European Union. This course contributes related content to NCSS themes: 6, 8, 10. (Fall 2011)

## Area Studies (HIST)

### \*212 History of Latin America **3**

An area study of Spanish- and Portuguese-speaking America as a major world region. Explores the cultural, economic and social diversity through the historical, geographic and political perspectives. This course contributes related content to NCSS themes: 1, 4, 9. (Spring 2012)

### \*251 History of Africa **3**

A survey of African history during the colonial and contemporary era. This course contributes related content to NCSS themes: 1, 4, 9. (Fall 2011)

### \*371 History of Asia **3**

An area study of Asia generally and/or certain sub-areas specifically (e.g. Southeast Asia, Vietnam, India, China, Japan) covering the cultural, economic, and social structures of the region in a historical context. This course contributes related content to NCSS themes: 1, 4, 9. (Fall 2012)

### \*432 History of the Middle East **3**

A historical survey of the Middle East with particular focus on Iran, Iraq, Afghanistan and the Arab-Israeli conflict. The role of past and present U.S. foreign policies in these countries will be highlighted. This course contributes related content to NCSS themes: 1, 4, 9. (Spring 2013)

## Historiography (HIST)

### 121 Introduction to History and Methods **3**

This course is required for all history majors and strongly recommended for history and social science majors and all history minors. It serves as a general introduction to the discipline of history and will provide an overview of historical methods and research skills through a thematic analysis of a specific historical area such as U.S. Cultural History, European Social History, etc. The specific thematic area will vary from year to year depending on the instructor's area of specialization. This course contributes related content to NCSS theme 2 and is limited to history and history and social science majors and minors, and students considering these programs. This class is not open to non-majors seeking a writing intensive course.

### 452 Seminar in History **3**

A study of the history of historical writing as well as the nature and meaning of history. The main focus of the seminar is independent original research and writing of a major paper. This course contributes related content to NCSS theme 2. This course is required for all history and history and social science majors and serves as the capstone course for the department. It is not open to non-majors except by permission of the instructor.

## Topics (HIST)

### 342 Topics in History **3**

This course is offered as instructors with special expertise in an area are available.

**382 Church History****3**

This course provides an overview of the stories of Christianity, beginning with the New Testament period and coming up to the sixteenth century of the Common Era. It describes the varied successes and failures in the witness of Christians as they spread west into Europe, east toward China, and south into Africa. While this story may seem far removed from the church experiences of many class members, the course will help them begin to connect to the questions people of faith have struggled with, and to learn from the different answers Christians in many places developed. (CHST 341)

**421 History Tutorial****3**

A course taught in the Socratic tutorial style. Students will negotiate a specific subject and reading list with the assigned professor. Multiple Tutorial groups may run concurrently. The course may be repeated as a different class if the area of study and focus is significantly changed.

**\*422 Mennonite History and Thought****3**

A survey of the Anabaptist movement and Mennonites throughout the world from the sixteenth to twenty-first centuries. Issues include pacifism, wealth, political participation, community and tensions between faith and the dominant culture. Particular attention is given to the Anabaptist vision and its relevance for 21st-century American life. (CHST 422) (Spring 2013)

**441 History Internship****1-3**

Designed for upper level history majors who want to explore career options and gain practical experience in fields that pertain to history. Placements include museums, historical societies, libraries, archives, law firms and government offices. Approval from the history department needed one semester in advance. Students take initiative in arranging their own placement. Internship can be completed in the summer. Grading is on a pass/fail basis.

**499 Independent Study****3****Geography (GEOG)****231 Cultural Geography****3**

A geo-cultural study with an introduction to the many variations in the human habitat. It applies the regional concept to the study of cultural geography. This course contributes related content to NCSS themes: 1, 2, 3, 8, 9.

**Political Studies (POL)****101 Introduction to Politics****3**

An introduction to the academic study of politics that provides an overview of the fundamental ideas of civic and political processes and institutions. It will examine the interplay between individual rights and the common good, the majority versus the minority, and the responsibilities of individuals and of the government. It will also serve as a survey of various governing models, but will focus primarily on the legal, political and civic processes of the United States on a federal, state (Virginia), and local level, recognizing that Americans are a diverse people united by a common belief in the legitimacy of a democratically elected republican form of government. This course contributes related content to NCSS themes: 2, 5, 6, 9, 10.

- \*201 Comparative Government** **3**  
 The purpose of this course is to introduce students to the variety of political systems and to assess their functional performance. This course contributes related content to NCSS themes: 2, 5, 6, 9, 10. (Fall 2012)
- \*302 Constitutional Issues** **3**  
 Historic constitutional law developments are presented, as are comparative constitutional approaches across diverse governments. Students work with landmark constitutional cases to develop basic legal reading skills. Selected domestic and international constitutional issues are researched, briefs written, and arguments orally debated in class. Stresses analytical, advocacy, and research skills. (Spring 2013)
- \*311 International Relations** **3**  
 This course focuses on contemporary power relationships between nation-states and diverse transnational actors. Significant time is devoted to a study of the problems and possibilities of international peace. Global eco-politics also receive attention. This course contributes related content to NCSS themes: 1, 3, 6, 9. (Fall 2011)
- \*401 Human Rights and Dignity** **3**  
 Surveys fundamental conventions, tribunals, truth commissions, and ethics underlying the effort to further human rights and dignity worldwide. Via case studies past and present, as well as virtual links to human rights advocates in other countries, this course draws students into problem-solving on domestic and international fronts. There is also some exposure to the United Nations system and the work of non-governmental organizations. (Fall 2011)
- 412 Law, Values, and Worldview** **3**  
 This course introduces a range of law practices and issues that will stimulate students to reflect on Law as a vocation and where they might fit in. Students will have an opportunity to learn from practicing lawyers and visit the courthouse. In addition, the course will introduce students to the changing role of lawyers in history, current trends in law such as holistic practice, the traditional Mennonite aversion to “taking things to the law,” and the effectiveness of the adversarial model. Students will also start to understand what it means to think like a lawyer and explore what law school is really like. This class is limited to upper-level pre-law, political studies, and history students unless permission is granted by the instructor.
- 441 Political Studies Internship** **1-3**  
 Designed for upper-level political studies minors who want to explore career options and gain practical experience in local, state or federal government work. Approval from the history department is required one semester in advance. Students take initiative in arranging their own placement. Internship can be completed in the summer. Grading is on a pass/fail basis.
- 481 Pre-Law Internship** **1-3**  
 Minors enter a semester or summer-session internship through their major. Some options would be in the immediate area, while others would tap into EMU and MCC programs in Washington, New York, and abroad. These might include paralegal work, mediation work, VORP, WCSC, SALT, or the MCC U.N. Liaison. Note: Students completing an internship/practicum for their major (e.g. Business, PXD) can use this to satisfy the pre-law internship.

*\*Indicates courses offered every two or three years.*