INS Course Descriptions that are co-listed with the Department of History; Fall 2015

INS 310-J: GANDHI AND THE MAKING OF MODERN INDIA

Professor Sumita Dutt; Mondays, Wednesdays, and Fridays 8:00AM-8:50AM

This course will study the rise and significance of Mohandas Karamchand Gandhi, leader of the non-violent nationalist movement against the British Empire in India at the turn of the twentieth century. Through a detailed study of his numerous writings we will explore Gandhi’s theories and praxis of civil disobedience, satyagraha, non-violent protest, moral discipline, and critique of modernity as well as his alternative vision of civil society and polity. We will explore issues of political mobilization, strategies of “passive” resistance, relations between Hindus and Muslims, Hindu caste society’s ills and the question of untouchables, modern science, technology and economic growth, the place of women in society, self reliance, individual and collective responsibilities.

INS 310-6K: AFRICAN-AMERICAN EXPERIENCE, II

Professor Donald Spivey; Tuesdays 6:25pm-9:05pm

INS 310 is an exploration of those factors that have shaped and been shaped by people of African descent in the United States from the end of Reconstruction to the present. Some of the issues we will examine are: the impact of industrial and technological development on black Americans, the African-American educational experience, leadership in the black community, the evolution and impact of ideologies from integration to Black Nationalism, the African-American urban experience, the cultural life of the community in the era of the Harlem Renaissance, the modern civil rights movement and its aftermath, and the current state of black America.

INS 310-H: WWI AND THE MIDDLE EAST

Professor Aimee Genell; Mondays and Wednesdays 3:35-4:50PM

This class will cover the period between the Young Turk Revolution in 1908 and the demise of the Ottoman Empire in the early 1920s. It will examine a series of historical debates, including the Ottoman decision to enter the war on the side of the Central Powers, Ottoman mobilization practices, the Armenian Genocide, the Arab Revolt as well as the Middle East at the Paris Peace Conference. The course will analyze the violence associated with the breakdown of imperial rule during World War I and will conclude with a discussion of the legacies of Ottoman rule in Anatolia, the Balkans, and the Arab provinces.
INS Course Descriptions that are co-listed with the Department of History; Fall 2015

INS 311-O GLOBAL CONSUMER SOCIETY

Professor Eduardo Elena; Tuesdays and Thursdays 9:30AM-10:45AM

In the United States we are surrounded today with a seemingly limitless variety of consumer goods, and we are offered constant reminders of the increasingly globalized nature of modern life. Too often, however, such commentary reflects a shocking ignorance about the origins and evolution of contemporary consumer society. This course seeks a deeper understanding of these transformations by exploring the historical relationship between consumption and globalization. Spanning a broad arc of time (but with a focus on the twentieth century), the course explores the impact of innovations in agriculture, trade, industrialization, advertising, and culture on everyday life in multiple societies. The lectures and readings consider cases studies in the Americas, Asia, Europe, and Africa that reveal underlying convergences and divergences worldwide as well as the unresolved social, ethical, and environmental problems associated with consumption.

INS 310-Q: WOMEN'S AMERICA II

Professor Sybil Lipschultz; Tuesdays and Thursdays 12:30PM-1:45PM

This course covers the main themes in American Women’s History during the Twentieth Century. The topics we consider will serve students with a general interest in this subject, as well as prepare students who seek a foundation for future classes in the field. Major questions raised by the course will revolve around the historical context of the following issues: domesticity versus public life; wage earning women; women in reform movements; women at war; childbirth and motherhood; the race and class of gender; gender stereotypes in the mass media; women and public policy. Readings will focus on both background materials by professional historians, and primary sources depicting the words, perspectives and ideas of the women who lived in various historical times. There will be two take-home exams.

INS 311-R: IMPERIAL RUSSIA

Professor Krista Goff; Tuesdays and Thursdays 2:00PM-3:15PM

This course is a survey of the Russian Empire from the sixteenth century to the dawn of the Bolshevik Revolution in 1917. We will integrate local histories of imperial peripheries (including Siberia, Central Asia, Crimea, and the Caucasus) into the major themes that have defined Russian history. Topics covered will include: the politics, technologies, and practices of imperial expansion and rule; debates about “westernization” and Russian identity; serfdom and peasant life; industrialization and modernization; revolutionary and reactionary currents in the nineteenth century; state reforms; and the causes of the 1905 and 1917 revolutions.
INS Course Descriptions that are co-listed with the Department of History; Fall 2015

INS 311-R: MIDDLE EASTERN HISTORY 600-1800

Professor Aimee Genell; Tuesdays and Thursdays 2-3:15

This course aims to introduce students to Islamic empires in the pre-modern world from the arrival of Islam in 7th century through the end of 18th century. This course will trace the emergence and expansion of successive Islamic empires in the Middle East, the Mediterranean world, as well as Central and South Asia. Along with political institutions and imperial practices, this course will analyze Islamic doctrine and intellectual thought. The first half of the class charts the rise and spread of Islam, the institution of the Caliphate, the Sunni-Shia divide, the Islamic Medieval Near East and the importance of Sufism to Islamic and scientific thought. The second half of the class examines the importance of the Asian mobility for the creation of new Islamic polities that challenged the Arab Caliphates, including the Mongol, Mamluk, Safavid, Ottoman and Mughal empires. The course will end by considering new internal and external challenges faced by the Islamic empires in the eighteenth century. Other subjects covered include: Slavery, non-Muslims, the Hajj and Islamic science and geography.

INS 311-S: CUBA AND AFRICA

Professor Edmund Abaka; Tuesdays and Thursdays 3:30PM-4:45PM

This course examines the relationship between Cuba and Africa from the period of the slave trade to late 1990s. The course is divided into three sections. Section one deals with Cuba and Africa during the period of the slave trade. The next section will deal with the Cuban revolution and the contribution of Cuba’s Black population to the revolution. In the final section, we shall emphasize Cuba’s Africa policy from the Cuban revolution to the independence of Angola, Mozambique, Guinea Bissau, Cape Verde and Principé. This section is designed to answer certain fundamental questions: Why did a small country like Cuba play such a preponderant role in Africa during the decolonization period, a time of heightened antagonism due to the Cold War between the superpowers?

INS 503-48: GLOBAL GENOCIDES

Professor Krista Goff; Mondays 4:00PM-6:30PM

From German colonial atrocities against the Herero and Nama at the turn of the 20th century to Rwanda and Bosnia in the 1990s, mass killings marked every decade and every corner of the globe during this “century of genocide.” Yet, as recent events in Sudan and elsewhere have shown, genocidal violence can hardly be isolated to one period in time. This course will help you better understand this dark phenomenon and define its blurry contours. Is genocide a symptom of the modern world? What are the networks, patterns, and characteristics that bind mass killings across the globe into shared systems of violence? What motivates perpetrators to kill, and how do you achieve reconciliation or justice in places scarred by mass death?
INS Course Descriptions that are co-listed with the Department of History; Fall 2015

INS 503: GLOBAL HISTORY OF MILITARY OCCUPATION: FROM NAPOLEON IN EGYPT TO THE U.S. IN IRAQ

Professor Aimee Genell; Thursdays 4:00-6:30pm

This course analyzes the theory and practice of military occupation from the early nineteenth century until the US invasion and occupation of Iraq. This course will consider political, legal, and military aspects of occupation through comparative examination of a series of case studies. “Occupation” will be used as a conceptual category to examine diverse phenomena in nineteenth and twenty-century international history including the expansion and collapse of modern empires and the rise of national states. It will consider the role of international law in imperial expansion, changes in the definition of sovereignty, as well as the transformative uses of military occupation in engineering the modern state. In addition to seminar participation, students are required to write a term paper based upon original research of primary materials.

INS 504-48: SLAVERY AND CAPITALISM

Professor Scott Heerman; Wednesdays 4:00PM-6:30PM AA621

How did slavery support the creation and expansion of capitalism in the United States? Over two and a half centuries, slavery, free labor, and capitalism related to each other in complicated ways. They also underwent dynamic changes. In 1650, most people living in colonial North America worked in some form of unfree labor (slavery, indentured servitude, apprenticeship, convict labor, etc.). Yet by 1876, free wage labor achieved dominance in the United States. We will explore that transition to understand what institutions, practices, ideologies, and major events supported the expansion of capitalism and, in time, the rise of free wage labor in the United States. The seminar will also grapple with larger conceptual and theoretical questions about definition of slavery, capitalism, and free labor.