# DEPARTMENT OF HISTORY FACULTY

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<td>Avella, Steven</td>
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SPRING 2016 COURSE DESCRIPTIONS

HIST 3104—The Civil War Era
TTh 11:00 – 12:15
Dr. James Marten
The Civil War Era (HIST 3104) will explore the origins of the sectional conflict between the North and the South, the most important military campaigns and battles of the Civil War, and the efforts to reconstruct the Union after the Confederacy surrendered. Among the topics that will be addressed are slavery, in its moral, constitutional, economic, and human contexts; expansion; the debates over Congressional power versus states’ rights; the effects of the war on American society; and the legacies of the Civil War in the century since the conflict ended. In addition to readings and essay exams, students will employ traditional primary sources related to Civil War veterans to complete a collaborative digital history project. Grades will be based on the digital project, short papers, and essay exams.

HIST 3108—United States in the Twentieth Century
TTh 12:30-1:45
Dr. Steven Avella
This course traces the development of the United States from 1945 through the end of the Reagan administration. During the first part of this era (1945-1973), historian Morton Keller notes, "the primary thrust of American life was playing out of the political, economic, social, cultural/intellectual, and foreign policy attitudes and impulses created by the powerful national experience of the Great Depression and World War II." The second part of this era (1973-1988), Keller observes, was, "a time dominated by the erosion of those earlier assumptions and conditions, and the reshaping of American social, economic, political, cultural and international relations, a process whose full configuration is far from complete.

We will cover the complex political and foreign policy terrain of this part of the twentieth century--accentuating the role of Democratic and Republican administrations over time. However, critical to understanding this era were the significant social and cultural movements that significantly transformed America. Special attention is given to the distinct but intersecting efforts of the Civil Rights and women's movements, and the rise of youth culture. We will examine shifting views on sexuality--including a view of the role of gay, lesbian and transgender Americans. We will conclude with an examination of the rise of modern conservatism during the 1970s and 1980s.

HIST 3118—American Military History
MWF 10:00-10:50
Fr. Michael Zeps, S.J.
Though this is an upper division course it is treated more like a survey/lecture course emphasizing important people, places and events from colonial times to the present. We will concentrate on the wars themselves rather than on the social role of the military in American society. Developments between wars will be treated according to the schema: new weapons, military policy (organization, strategy, tactics), political objectives as the role of America in the world evolves, and moral attitudes. The makeup of the class will make discussion possible, even likely. The guiding philosophy will be that found in On War by the Prussian Karl von Clausewitz. Regular quizzes and three tests will encourage people to keep up with the reading. A research paper of 6-8 pages in length will also be required. Grading will be as follows: first 2 tests, 40% (20% each), final exam 30%, combined quizzes 20% and the paper 10%.
HIST 3127—The Vietnam War Era
(Can count towards group I and III, will need to specify if not group I)
TTh 9:30-10:45
Dr. David McDaniel
The theme of this course is reflected in the words of one of the war’s chief architects Henry A. Kissinger who said: “Vietnam is still with us. It has created doubts about American judgment, about American credibility, about American power—not only at home, but throughout the world.” History 3127 will examine the history of the Vietnam War from the perspective of the United States. It will provide the student with the historical background that set the stage for the conflict, the events that led directly to the war, the primary political and military issues involved at home and abroad, and an overview of the major battles. Further, and quite significantly, this course will also consider the non-military aspects of the war, such as the changing political climate in the United States during the late 1960s, the rise of a determined anti-war movement that exerted a profound impact on the outcome of the struggle, the nature of the cultural and political polarization wrought by America’s longest war, and finally the lingering scars caused by division and defeat.

HIST 3201—Ancient Greece and Rome
MWF 12:00-12:50
Dr. Jennifer Finn
This course will trace the history of the Ancient Greeks and Romans, beginning from the Minoan and Mycenaean periods. From the earliest Greek city-states, we will study the wars, institutions, and religions that shaped Greek society, viewing their world through the rich tradition of Homer, mythology, and historiography. A special focus will be placed on Alexander the Great and his legacy in the newly imagined Hellenistic World. From there we will move to the foundation of Rome and follow its progress from a revolutionary Republican government to its expansion as a great empire, studying the characters of its imperial leaders, its transformations in conflict and diplomacy, and the beginnings of institutionalized religion. Our last focus will be the cause of the fall of the Roman Empire, and its legacy to the present day. In addition to primary (in translation) and secondary sources, the course will also focus on material culture, and the students will have many opportunities to discuss and debate the effectiveness, qualities, and lessons of ancient societies.

HIST 4101/5101—Applied History
Tu 2:00-4:30
Dr. James Marten
Applied History (HIST 4101) will introduce students to the technological, theoretical, and practical issues related to the presentation of historical material in a museum setting—both real and virtual. They will work closely with the staff of the Milwaukee County Historical Society to conceive and execute supporting material for the MCHS exhibit on “Brewers and Brewing in Milwaukee.” Students will gain experience in collaboration, digital technologies, research in primary sources, and working with non-profits. Grades will be based on short individual projects and papers and on a major team-based project presented to their “client”—the director of the MCHS.
This spring, students will have the opportunity to engage in an intensive, interdisciplinary study of modern Irish history and culture centered on one of the defining events of twentieth-century Irish history: the 1916 Easter Rising, when a small group of Irish men and women attempted to seize control of Dublin and declare Irish independence from the United Kingdom. HIST 4260 will focus on the period between 1858 and 1948, beginning with the creation of the underground Irish Republican Brotherhood and ending with the declaration of the Irish Republic in the 26-county state with its capital in Dublin. (Interested students may wish to pair HIST 4260 with ENGL 4513, which will focus on the various literary movements from the late 19th to the early 21st centuries that have participated in the fraught project of responding to a history of colonial domination, civil war, and independence.) Students in HIST 4260 will also have two distinctive opportunities: first, they will undertake a digital humanities project utilizing primary source documents from the revolutionary period and mapping technologies to create presentations about the revolutionary era; and second, they will have the chance to meet with visiting scholars brought to campus via an internal Mellon Grant to see how different disciplines examine the interrelationship of social change, cultural innovation, and political revolution.

HIST 4264/5264—Modern Germany 1870 to the Present
MWF 1:00-1:50
Dr. Peter Staudenmaier
Germany stands at the center of some of the most famous and infamous events of the past century, including two world wars, the Holocaust, the Berlin Wall, and the division of Europe between East and West in the Cold War. We will trace this tumultuous history from the creation of Germany as a unified country to its present status as one of the leading nations in the contemporary world. Examining the enormous social and cultural changes in German life over the past century and a half, our analysis will focus on individuals as well as institutions, ideas as well as actions. Special attention will be given to the interaction between political structures and personal beliefs. Our task will be to understand both the astonishing creativity and the unparalleled destructiveness of modern German history.

HIST 4270/5270—Russia to 1861: Russia Under the Tsars
MWF 10:00-10:50
Dr. Alan Ball
The land of Ivan the Terrible, Peter the Great, and Catherine the Great emerged from the Mongol conquest as a major European power—instrumental in the dismembering of Poland and the defeat of Napoleon. At the same time, the heavy hand of tsarist rule gave rise to numerous insurrections, ranging from massive serf rebellions led by exotic pretenders to the birth of revolutionary socialism that would eventually put an end to the tsarist era.

This course surveys factors that shaped Russia down to the emergence of the revolutionary movement and the emancipation of the serfs in the middle of the nineteenth century. While the subject is intriguing in its own regard—both for its epic scale and its cast of extraordinary personalities—an introduction to Russia under the tsars also makes more understandable the Russian Revolution of 1917 and many of the features that characterized the Soviet Union thereafter. Long before Joseph Stalin and the Communist Party, for instance, Russia acquired rulers who imposed immense burdens on a large population in order to
accomplish remarkable feats. Similarly, the nation’s fascinating relations with Western lands—seen by Russians variously as a source of ideological threat, military danger, alluring culture, and eventually a model for reform—predated analogous Cold War themes by centuries. Indeed, decades after the demise of the Soviet Union and the end of the Cold War, current tension between Russia and the West over Ukraine displays striking parallels with conflict in the same region that persisted for centuries between Muscovite tsars and their Western neighbors.

Lectures and several periods of discussion in small groups form the heart of the course. These discussions will provide an opportunity to explore topics that arise from memoirs, travel accounts, articles, and Russian literature. A student’s grade will be determined by participation in the discussion groups and a capstone essay in the form of a take-home final exam.

HIST 4350/5350—The Caribbean
MWF 11:00-11:50
Dr. Michael Donoghue
This course examines the history of the Caribbean from pre-colonial times to the 20th century. We will explore major topics such as imperialism, slavery, piracy, race, gender, the transformation of work and economy, state formation, U.S. intervention, and competing political systems. These topics will be discussed in the context of an island or a region, depending on each week’s focus. Emphasis will be given to the differences in historical experience and to the complex interactions of the diverse peoples and cultures that make up the Caribbean. The course will employ a lecture-discussion format and grades will be calculated as follows: midterm exam, 20%; final exam, 30%; 3 short papers, 30%; class participation and weekly writing exercises, 20%.

HIST 4450/5450—North Africa
TTh 12:30-1:45
Dr. Phillip Naylor
North Africa links civilizations and offers an array of opportunities to study also West Asian, European and African histories. This interaction within and between civilizations and societies, a —transcultural experience— is thematic in this course. Inspired by North Africans Ibn Khaldun, Jacques Berque, and Malik Bennabi, the course features pluralist approaches to North African history. Examinations will be objective and subjective. Students should also expect a research paper.

HIST 4931/5931-101—Topics in History: Native America 1491 to the Present
MWF 12:00-12:50
Dr. Bryan Rindfleisch
A survey of Native American history from 1491 (before Columbus’s “Discovery”) to the present. This course explores the diverse cultures and histories of indigenous peoples in the present-day United States, and focuses on particular themes such as colonization and decolonization, settler colonialism, intimacy and violence, removal and “survivance,” assimilation and allotment, along with sovereignty and self-determination. This class also grapples with contemporary issues related to Native mascots, treaties, casinos, cultural representation, and more. Prereq: Soph. stdg.
HIST 4953/5953-101—Readings in History: World War 1 and its Aftermath
TTh 11:00-12:15
Dr. Julius Ruff
The American diplomat and historian, George F. Kennan, called the First World War “the seminal catastrophe of the twentieth century.” The conflict precipitated the Russian Revolution of 1917 and the rise of communism, laid foundations for conflicts in the Middle East that still threaten the world’s peace and security, and in the German defeat of 1918 sowed the seeds for the Nazi movement and a second world war. As we observe the centennial of the conflict that participants called “The Great War,” we will examine World War I in all of its aspects through directed readings on the war to introduce students to the issues that the conflict raised. Each weekly class will address a topic central to the study of the war, and class meetings will be built around student reports on readings and discussion. The course grade will be based on four short papers (40%), a final examination (40%), and class participation (20%).

HIST 4955-701—Undergraduate Seminar in History: Twentieth Century U.S. Foreign Relations
M 4:30-7:00
Dr. Michael Donoghue
This course is a continuation of a 2 semester pairing for students who have already taken HIST 4953 Readings in 20th Century U.S. Foreign Relations in the fall of 2015. Therefore students who enroll in HIST 4955 for the spring should already have a strong grounding from their previous historiographical papers in an area of specialization in U.S. foreign relations history from which to select, investigate, and write a major research paper. These larger subjects of specialization from which students will chose a topic to write their papers on could include the U.S. decision to intervene in the First World War, the negotiations and fight to ratify the Treaty of Versailles, U.S. interventions in Latin America and Asia during the supposedly isolationist 1920s, the threatening international atmosphere of the 1930s that drew America back into global conflict, the U.S. conduct of the Second World War, the Cold War, and U.S. responses to decolonization and the fear of communism in areas such as Korea, Vietnam, the Middle East, Japan, China, Africa, and Latin America. Students might also focus their research papers on an aspect or component of the recent “War on Terror” or on a gendered/cultural approach to U.S. global interventions over the past century. This course will meet a few times early in the semester to prepare further the research projects of the participants. Students will then be released to conduct their investigations and write their papers with periodic follow-up meetings with their instructor. The final results of their efforts will be formal presentations of each student’s project and a final and original research paper 18-20 pages in length drawn largely from primary sources that is due at the end of the course.

HIST 4955-702—Undergraduate Seminar in History: Charlie Chan Meets Uncle Sam
W 4:30-7
Dr. Daniel Meissner
Since the first U.S.-flagged ship, the Empress of China, set sail for the Orient on February 22, 1784, Americans and Chinese have been engaged in an extended, circumspect process of mutual discovery. Missionary, merchant and travelogue accounts forged an American image of the Chinese and their culture as inscrutable, mysterious, devious, and seductive. Businessmen, coolie, and student reports created a Chinese image of Americans and their culture as industrious, wanton, brash and racist. Historical circumstances influenced these respective images, as the roller coaster relationship of the two nations fluctuated between friendship and hostility. “Charlie Chan Meets Uncle Sam” explores the evolution of this relationship from the late 18th century to the present, providing insight into the process of the cultural construction of the Orient and the Occident.
HIST 6125-101—United States In the Twentieth Century
TTh 9:30-10:45
Dr. Steven Avella
This graduate-level readings class is intended to acquaint students with the major historiographical issues and works of 20th century U.S. history. We will sample some of the major works on the chronological periods of this epoch and conclude with a study of trends shaping the historical research and writing today.

HIST 6240-101—Early Modern Europe
Th 2:00-4:30
Dr. Julius Ruff
This course is designed to acquaint students with the major historical literature dealing with the early modern period, an era roughly bracketed by the reformations of the sixteenth century and the fall of Napoleon in 1815. Each weekly meeting will be topically oriented around discussion of a common reading and the readings of individual students. Major topics for weekly discussion will include: the reformations of the sixteenth century; the economic, demographic, and social structures of Old Regime Europe; development of royal absolutism; the Enlightenment and popular culture; the causes of the French Revolution; the nature of that revolution; and Napoleon Bonaparte in his French and European contexts. The course grade will be based on weekly reading reports (40%), a final historiographical essay (40%), and class participation (20%).

HIST 6300-101—Early Modern World History
W 2:00-4:30
Dr. Michael Wert
This course will introduce students to the historiography of the early modern world. Topics include: the rise of capitalism, diverging trajectories among world regions, the construction of spatial categories, state-building, colonization, and the relationship between societies and the environment. In addition to studying broader historiographical themes we will learn how to incorporate questions raised in world history into our own projects, and discuss approaches to teaching world history.

HIST 6500-701—Atlantic Slaveries
M 4:30-7:00
Dr. Kristen Foster
In this readings course, we will focus on the history and development of slavery in the Atlantic World with a particular emphasis on slavery in the New World. Through shared weekly readings and intense discussion, we will explore briefly the global history of slavery. We will move then to an exploration of the work that has been done on the Atlantic slave trade and its impact on Africa, Europe, and the Americas. Finally, we will look at American slavery in detail. We will use the development of this institution to study the economics, politics, and cultures of slavery and race. We will explore regional developments. And we will use slavery to better understand the interconnectedness of gender, sexuality, and power. This course requires weekly reading and energetic discussion. Students will be required to write a short precis each week and one longer paper that will allow them to focus on slavery in a context of their choosing.
HIST 6954-701—The Material Turn in History
Th 4:30-7:00
Dr. Lezlie Knox

Historians traditionally have focused on written sources. We comb archives for letters, receipts, and other textual ephemera, as well as exploit print and digitized documents whenever possible. But increasingly over the past two decades, historians have been following scholars in Anthropology, Art History, and other fields toward objects as sources for the past. This "material turn in History" will be the organizing theme for the spring research seminar. We will explore various methodological approaches to analyzing and writing about material culture—-not rejecting the written word, but considering how physical objects and visual evidence can enhance our research projects. Besides class meetings focusing on shared readings, we will have two off-campus site visits to the Chipstone Foundation in Fox Point and the Newberry Library in Chicago. By the end of the semester each member of the seminar will produce an article-length piece of original scholarship based on at least some material objects and also a poster that will be presented to the Department at a "mini-conference."