Department of History

Please visit our website for more information about the department, including:

- Faculty specialties and areas of interest
- Faculty news and student accomplishments
- History minor requirements
- Advising
- History Graduate program

And much more!
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Title</th>
<th>Email</th>
<th>Phone</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Laurie Bernstein</td>
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<tr>
<td>Lorrin Reed Thomas - Department Chair</td>
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<tr>
<td>Wendy Woloson</td>
<td>Assistant Professor and Advisor to History Club</td>
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<td>(856) 225-6064</td>
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<tr>
<td>Juliet Wagner</td>
<td>Assistant Professor of History</td>
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</tbody>
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Contact Information Will be Updated as it is Available
TO MAJOR IN HISTORY, students must complete 33 credits of history courses (at least 18 at Rutgers).

Students should take the department’s required core course - 50:509:299 Perspectives in History (3 credits) - as soon as they can, securing a special permission number for registration from the department secretary Sharon Smith (856-225-6080, sas548@camden.rutgers.edu). Perspectives in History is designed to teach the following skills: 1. how to analyze primary sources; 2. how to read secondary sources in a critical manner; 3. how to cite sources properly; 4. how to write to the expectations of the discipline of history; 5. how to construct an historical argument; 6. how to evaluate the integrity, reliability, and usefulness of disparate sources; and 7. how to conduct independent research.

Of the remaining 30 credits for the history major, a maximum of 12 may be from 100- and 200- level courses, no more than 6 credits of which can be counted from Western Civilization I and II (510:101 and 510:102) and Development of US I and II (512:201 and 512:202). 18 credits must be from courses at the 300 to 400 level.

There is also a distribution requirement for these 30 credits: no fewer than 3 credits must be from each geographical area of 510 (European history), 512 (American history), and 516 (African, Asian, Latin American, and comparative history).

Courses offered in the university’s Honors College and internship program may also count toward the major, with the department chair’s permission.

If students wish, they may take more than 33 credits of history. Of special interest, especially to those considering graduate school, is the honors thesis in history (509:495), an independent study course to be taken in addition to the 33 credits required for the major.

Most lower-division history courses also fulfill one or more of Rutgers-Camden’s new General Education requirements.

Grades lower than C do not count toward fulfillment of the history major requirement.

Students should feel free to drop in and visit us in our offices at 429 Cooper Street. Department Undergraduate Program Coordinator, Dr. Kate Epstein, 856-225-2721 or History Department Chair, Dr. Lorrin Thomas, 856-225-2656 will gladly answer questions about our classes, about majoring in history, and about transferring credit for history courses taken at other schools. Students are also welcome to consult with a faculty member of their choice for history advising.
PERSPECTIVES ON HISTORY*
50:509:299:01
M/W 4:20 pm – 5:40 pm
Professor Golden

This is a required course open only to declared history majors. Perspectives on History is designed to teach students historiography, research methods, the critical analysis of primary sources, and writing skills. The historical focus of the course is the Great Depression in the United States. Students write a research paper on this topic using a significant number of primary and secondary sources. In addition, there are six writing assignments designed to help students become familiar with the analysis of primary sources.

*Fulfills Writing requirement

WESTERN CIVILIZATION I*
50:510:101:01
T/TH 1:30 pm - 2:50 pm
Professor Mokhberi

This course introduces students to the roots of Western civilization in Mesopotamia to the political and scientific revolutions of the 17th century. Students will explore the ancient worlds of Greece and Rome, the rise of Christianity, the Middle Ages including the Romanesque and Gothic Churches, the rise of Kings, the Renaissance, and rebellions against the state.

*Satisfies Global Studies Requirement
MAKING BRITAIN GREAT: THE RISE AND FALL OF AN ISLAND NATION
50:510:280:01
T/TH 1:30 pm - 2:50 pm
Professor Wagner

This course explores the history of modern Britain, charting its rise from small island kingdom to industrialized nation to global empire, and its subsequent decline since the Second World War. How did Britain’s development during the 19th and 20th centuries differ from that of its European neighbors, and its former colony, the USA? Why did Britain attain—and how did it lose—global dominance over the last 200 years? How did Britons understand their identity during that period, and what does it mean to be British today?

During the semester, students will become familiar with the story of Britain from the loss of the American colonies to the present, and read selected primary sources in order to gain insight into British history and to discuss these questions together.

THE RENAISSANCE AND* THE REFORMATION
50:510:315:01
T/TH 11:00 am - 12:20 pm
Professor Mokhberi

Kings, witches, war, religious violence, dance, and new artistic styles mark the European Renaissance. This course covers Europe’s transition from the Middle Ages to the Renaissance from 1300-1600. During this time, Europe underwent tremendous cultural, political, technological, military, and religious change. Students will explore humanist thought, the rise of new military and printing technology, European explorations, court culture, the arts, witchcraft trials, and new religious discourses.

*Satisfies Global Studies Requirement
This course has just about everything: Henry VIII and all six of his wives, Catholics killing Protestants and Protestants killing Catholics, Elizabeth the virgin queen, Shakespeare, bishops clipping the ears off of ministers, the English people clipping off the head of their king, communists and naked Quakers, the first truly modern revolution in world history, and, oh yes, the origins of almost all of American government and the political and economic ideas that shaped the United States.

More specifically: this course will examine the years from the late 1400s to the late 1700s to discover how tiny, insignificant, and peripheral England became the dominant global power between the late fifteenth century and the mid eighteenth century.
The course poses the central questions historians ask about Germany history in the Twentieth Century: How could such an advanced, modern country produce—quasi-democratically—as violent and repressive a regime as the Third Reich? Did the relative youth of the German nation and its roots in Prussian militarism doom the country to reaction and violence? Was the pace of economic modernization and democratization too fast for a politically inexperienced population? Did German foreign policy cause the First World War? Did the outcome of the First World War make the Second World War inevitable? Who voted for Hitler and why? How can we explain the horrific violence of the Second World War in a country in which Nationalists prided themselves on its advanced culture? To what extent were ordinary Germans responsible for the genocide? How did the two Germanies forget and remember the German past in remaking new national identities? Was reunification inevitable, and how did it change Germany at the close of the twentieth century?

A variety of primary source materials are included in order to encourage students to assess for themselves how to answer these questions. Sources include political caricatures, memoirs, photographs, parliamentary debates and speeches, contemporary journalism, and novels, with a strong emphasis on films.
Since the collapse of communism in 1991, observers have been struck by the similarities between contemporary Russia and the society that existed before the Revolutions of 1917. With Russian literature and first-hand accounts as our guides, we shall explore pre-revolutionary Russian history from the emergence of the Romanov dynasty in 1613 until the first revolution to shake the tsarist state in 1905. En route we shall encounter the lives not only of tsars like Peter the Great, Catherine the Great, and the last Romanov, Nicholas II, but of peasants, workers, and revolutionaries. Why did autocracy emerge as the form of rule in Russia? What was the relationship between Russia and the West? Why did Imperial Russia collapse in the early twentieth century? What are the historical roots of the contemporary struggle between Russia and Ukraine? Finally, what was unique and what was not about Russia’s historical path?
MAGIC IN THE ANCIENT GRECO-ROMAN WORLD
50:510:380:01
cross listed with 50:840:394:01
M/W 2:50 pm - 4:10 pm
Professor Walker

Bindings and curses, love charms and healing potions, amulets and talismans - from
the simple spells designed to meet the needs of the poor and desperate to the
complex theurgies of the philosophers, the people of the Greco-Roman World made
use of magic to try to influence the world around them. In this course we shall
examine the magicians of the ancient world and the techniques and devices they
used to serve their clientele. We shall consider ancient tablets and spell books as
well as literary descriptions of magic in the light of theories relating to the religious,
political, and social contexts in which magic was used.
UNITED STATES SURVEY I
50:512:201:01
M, W, F 10:10 am - 11:05 am
Kim Martin
and
50:512:201:02
M, W, F 9:05 am - 10:00 am
Professor Demirjian

This course explores the political, economic, cultural, and military history of what would become the United States in the years between the settlement of North America and the American Civil War. The course will also examine the roles played by ethnicity, race, gender, class, and localism in the possible formation of a national identity in Early America.

AFRICAN-AMERICAN HISTORY I
50:512:203:01
cross listed w/50:014:2013:01
M, W 1:20 pm - 2:40 pm
Professor Glasker

This course explores the history of black people from earliest times in Africa (Egypt, Nubia, Nok) to the Civil War, including slavery in world history and the Atlantic slave system. The course also examines the enslavement of people in the medieval world on the basis of religion, and white slavery or indentured servitude in colonial America and the Caribbean. In addition, this course will examine the impact of slavery on the slave family and gender roles; the abolitionist movement; and slave revolts. The course will include a community service/civic engagement component.
The goals of this course are two-fold. The first goal is for the students to become familiar with the major themes, events and influential ideas in the History of American Education in order to enhance the students’ work in education and their civic interaction with education. In particular: the purposes of education, private versus public responsibilities, local versus federal control of schools; curriculum content; teaching as a profession; and system reform versus pedagogical reform are some of the themes to be examined over time. The second goal is for the students to practice critical thinking and writing by way of their exposure to the methods and practices of “good” history. The course covers material from before the establishment of the United States to the present.

This course will examine recent African American history since the 1960s, and look at the state of contemporary black America. We will investigate the growing divide between the black middle class and those left behind in the ghetto. We will revisit the question of a culture of poverty and a sub-culture of violence. In addition we will explore mass incarceration and the rise of the police state.
HISTORY OF U.S. HEALTHCARE
50:512:362:01
cross listed w/50:499:457:01
M, W 2:50 pm - 4:10 pm
Professor Golden

This course looks at the history of American health care and examines how disease shaped American culture from the first colonial settlements to the passage of the Affordable Care Act. We look at the effects of illness on individuals and on communities paying attention to issues of immigration, race, gender, and public health policies. We analyze the development of healing professions and of institutions where sick people receive care. Students will explore these topics through the analysis of historical documents, films, art, music, and case studies.

20th CENTURY U.S. MILITARY HISTORY
50:512:383:01
T, TH 3:00 pm - 4:20 pm
Professor Epstein

Cuba, World War I, World War II, Vietnam, Iraq, Afghanistan: War has been central to modern US history. The nation currently spends about $600 billion a year on its military, or more than the next seven nations combined. Even when the United States is nominally at peace, its military power reaches across the globe. There was not a single year in the 20th century that the United States did not have forces fighting or stationed overseas.

Why did war become so important to the United States? How has the growth of US military power affected its position in the world? This course attempts to answer those questions. It begins with the United States’ first major overseas conflict, the Spanish-American War of 1898, and continues through the recent wars in Iraq and Afghanistan. We will study battles and generals, as well as the evolution of military institutions, labor markets, doctrine, technology, finance, logistics, and culture. Throughout, we will explore the relationship between Americans and their military in war and peace.
American history is populated with narratives focusing on the rich, famous, and powerful: we like success stories. But thriving capitalists comprised only a fraction of the population. How did "ordinary" people make do, get by, sometimes succeed, and often fail during the nineteenth century, a time marked by turbulent social and economic conditions during the transition to capitalism? This class will focus on the lives of individuals who are not chronicled in most history textbooks but who in fact created and lived the more common American experience. Among other people, we will read about criminals and conmen including robbers, pickpockets, counterfeiters, and drifters. We will also learn about the lives of marginal entrepreneurs such as junk dealers, professional beggars, rag pickers, boardinghouse keepers, and used goods dealers. We will pay special attention to the economic coping strategies of women, children, new immigrants, and African Americans. The class will discuss opportunity and failure in historical context and how people’s ways of eking out a living changed over time, whether experienced in the pawnshop, tenement house, city street, orphan asylum, or bankruptcy court.

The class will draw on primary sources including diaries, budget studies, city directories, census records, police reports, and newspaper exposés. Secondary sources on social and economic history will supplement the primary sources, providing essential historical context. Throughout the semester students will conduct in-depth analyses of primary source documents to demonstrate their understanding of how the lives of individuals not only helped shape but were also subjected to the prevailing socio-economic conditions of the time.

NOTE: This is a reading- and writing-intensive course. Students will be expected to actively participate in class discussion, write several short research papers throughout the semester, and take a final exam.
What can animal performances, popular music, leisure activities, fashion, and mass media teach us about the past?

By exploring the origins and meanings of such diverse things as circuses, magazines, television, denim, the theater, and hip hop, students will come away with a better understanding of how American mass culture was shaped over time. What does it mean to be American, and how has our popular culture over the centuries influenced how we think of ourselves as individuals, as members of groups, and as Americans?

The goals of this course are to introduce students to a wide range of primary and secondary sources; to teach them about aspects of the past that often have gone unnoticed and unstudied; to provide them with a better understanding of American history in general, putting chronological events into a cultural context; and to have students improve their critical reading and writing skills.

NOTE: This is a reading- and writing-intensive course. Students will be expected to actively participate in class discussion, write several short research papers throughout the semester, and take a final exam.
This course offers an introductory examination of Latin America’s history, politics, culture, and processes of socioeconomic change throughout the 19th, 20th, and 21st centuries. We compare the evolution of events along these lines in the different sub-regions and countries, noting where generalizations of the Latin American region are possible and where some sub-regional cases are unique. We start with a discussion of how colonial patterns of domination shaped the socio-economic and political structures of Latin American states after independence, which most countries in the region achieved in the 1820s. Thereafter, two centuries of state formation and development are examined. Throughout this period, the course explores in comparative perspective issues such as class formation, race, gender, national identity, “boom and boost” economic cycles, foreign influences, revolution and counter-revolution, and general social and political change.

This course will examine the history of China and the Chinese people from the collapse of the Ming Dynasty to the present time, including political, social, economic, and cultural developments. We will examine the rise of the Manchu Qing Dynasty, the partition of China into “spheres of influence” following the Opium War, the nationalist and communist revolutions of the 20th century, the disasters of Maoist rule, and China’s recent reemergence as a world-beating economic powerhouse.
GRADUATE COURSES
This course provides an advanced introduction to the primary economic, political, social, and cultural developments of the U.S. nineteenth century.

This course will investigate recent scholarship on the major developments in American history from the United States’ emergence as a global nuclear superpower in the wake of World War II through the Cold War and the collapse of the Soviet Union, down to the present day as the U.S. faces the asymmetrical threat of terrorism and possibly a new rival for global supremacy in the form of a resurgent China. In addition to exploring major domestic events, such as the civil rights movement, the rise of feminism and environmentalism, and the Reagan counterrevolution, we will also consider the effects of globalization, the rise of multinational corporations and NGOs, the ascendance of neoliberalism, and the ongoing influence of American culture and ideas on the rest of the world.
This is a research seminar in US History, 1898–1945. It follows from the Spring 2016 readings seminar in US History, 1898–1945.
This seminar goes behind the scenes of the production and communication of history in settings such as museums, historic sites, and archives, and in the digital realm. We will learn from controversies such as the display of the Enola Gay at the National Air and Space Museum in Washington, D.C., and the creation of the President’s House site exhibit in Philadelphia. We will see how civic engagement techniques and the interpretation of diverse, multiple narratives of history have come to the forefront of public history practice. We will investigate the interactions of history, memory, and tourism.

This seminar welcomes graduate students from all disciplines. Participants will have the opportunity to connect with the vibrant network of public history professionals in the Greater Philadelphia region. Each participant will visit a public history site, meet with a history professional, and produce a newsletter-style article and web page for the Public History Year in Review website. This project will build into a public history issue paper that draws upon the most current scholarship in the field (including The Public Historian, the leading journal in the field, which has an office on our own campus). Participants in the seminar will gain a realistic understanding of the employment outlook for public history by gathering and analyzing data from recent job postings. In addition, we will spend time at the Digital Studies Center to permit each participant to learn to create a professional website and social media presence.
History 550, Craft, is unique in the History Graduate curriculum. Other graduate courses ask you to master the historiography of a period or a significant issue or theme, or to produce your own historiography through research and writing. Craft requires you to consider what historians are doing when they go about making claims to explain past events. In Craft we will examine how and why historians can claim to provide explanations about the past and what assumptions (explicit and implicit—at times conscious, semi-conscious and even unconscious) historians make when they assert such claims.
### Undergraduate History Courses

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<th>Title</th>
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<th>Instructor</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>50:509:299:01</td>
<td>06451</td>
<td>Perspectives on History</td>
<td>M/W 4:30 pm - 5:40 pm</td>
<td>Golden</td>
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<td>50:510:101:01</td>
<td>03754</td>
<td>Western Civilization I</td>
<td>T/TH 1:30 pm - 2:50 pm</td>
<td>Mokhberi</td>
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<td>50:510:280:01</td>
<td>19924</td>
<td>Making Britain Great: The Rise and Fall of an Island Nation</td>
<td>T/TH 1:30 pm - 2:50 pm</td>
<td>Wagner</td>
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<td>50:510:315:01</td>
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<td>The Renaissance and the Reformation</td>
<td>T/TH 11:00 am - 12:20 pm</td>
<td>Mokhberi</td>
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<td>50:510:351:01</td>
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<td>Tudor and Stuart England</td>
<td>M/W 4:30 pm - 5:40 pm</td>
<td>Shankman</td>
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<td>50:510:355:01</td>
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<td>20th Century Germany</td>
<td>T/TH 4:30 pm - 5:50 pm</td>
<td>Wagner</td>
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<td>50:510:375:01</td>
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<td>Russia Under Tsars</td>
<td>T/TH 3:00 pm - 4:20 pm</td>
<td>Bernstein</td>
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<td>Magic in the Ancient Greco-Roman World</td>
<td>M/W 2:50 pm - 4:10 pm</td>
<td>Walker</td>
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<td>U.S. Survey I</td>
<td>M/W/F 10:10 am - 11:05 am</td>
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<td>50:512:201:02</td>
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<td>M/W/F 9:05 am - 10:00 am</td>
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<td>50:512:203:01</td>
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<td>African American History I</td>
<td>M/W 1:20 pm - 2:40 pm</td>
<td>Glasker</td>
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<td>50:512:230:01</td>
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<td>Education in America</td>
<td>T/TH 6:00 pm - 7:20 pm</td>
<td>D'Ignazio</td>
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<td>50:512:262:01</td>
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<td>Health and American Society</td>
<td>M/W 2:50 pm - 4:10 pm</td>
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<td>M/W 2:50 pm - 4:10 pm</td>
<td>Glasker</td>
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<td>50:512:383:01</td>
<td>15344</td>
<td>20th Century U.S. Military History</td>
<td>T/TH 3:00 pm - 4:20 pm</td>
<td>Epstein</td>
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<td>50:512:384:01</td>
<td>18538</td>
<td>Low Lifes</td>
<td>T/TH 11:00 am - 12:20 pm</td>
<td>Woloson</td>
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<tr>
<td>50:512:385:01</td>
<td>18537</td>
<td>History of American Pop Culture</td>
<td>T/TH 4:30 pm - 5:50 pm</td>
<td>Woloson</td>
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<tr>
<td>50:516:211:01</td>
<td>07734</td>
<td>Latin America I</td>
<td>T/TH 9:30 am - 10:50 am</td>
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<tr>
<td>50:516:346:01</td>
<td>18540</td>
<td>Modern China</td>
<td>M/W 1:20 pm - 2:40 pm</td>
<td>Kapur</td>
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### Graduate History Courses

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<tr>
<td>56:512:506:01</td>
<td>20024</td>
<td>Readings: 1820-1898</td>
<td>W 6:00 pm - 8:40 pm</td>
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<tr>
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<td>M 6:00 pm - 8:40 pm</td>
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<td>56:512:511:01</td>
<td>20026</td>
<td>Research U.S. 1898-1945</td>
<td>TH 6:00 pm - 8:40 pm</td>
<td>Epstein</td>
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<tr>
<td>56:512:531:01</td>
<td>10717</td>
<td>Issues in Public History</td>
<td>TH 6:00 pm - 8:40 pm</td>
<td>Mires</td>
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<tr>
<td>56:512:550:01</td>
<td>13481</td>
<td>The Craft of History</td>
<td>T 6:00 pm - 8:40 pm</td>
<td>Thomas</td>
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