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SCW: Hist-courses Fall 2023

This course examines the history of Europe from the rise of ancient Greece (around 600 BCE) to the aftermath of the Renaissance and Reformation (around 1650 CE). It aims to introduce the study of history alongside the pre-modern history of Europe. In addition to considering the central political, cultural, and religious developments of the era, we look in detail at some primary sources created at the time and analyze how historians can use them to

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This course surveys the history of media from the broadest sense to encompass the full range of communications technologies, we will begin with the papyrus scrolls of ancient Greece and move from there through the manuscript codex of the Middle Ages, the printed book of the age of Gutenberg, newspapers in the 18th and 19th centuries, radio and film in the 20th century, and the internet and social media of our own digital age. Several recurrent questions will frame our survey of media landscapes: How, to what ends, and in what institutional settings are particular media used? How do they affect modes of thinking? And what are the relations of different media to the various historical forms of religious, political, and economic power?

Grading: midterm and final exams; one short paper; and class participation.

This course examines the history of modern Russia from Peter the Great to the collapse of the Soviet Union. It covers the early reforms of Peter the Great (1703-1725), territorial expansion under Catherine the Great (1764-1796), the period of reaction and reform under Alexander I (1801-1825), the period of reaction and reform under Nicholas I (1825-1855), the period of reaction and reform under Alexander II (1855-1881), the period of reaction and reform under Alexander III (1881-1894), the period of reaction and reform under Nicholas II (1894-1917), the revolution in late Czarist Russia, the nationalities, and the collapse of the Russian Empire in 1917. The second part of the course covers the history of Soviet Russia, between 1917 and 1991.



Explores the history of the Jews of New York from their arrival in the 17th century through the late 19th century – the period in which New York became the center of Jewish life in the United States – to the post-World War II suburban exodus. It concludes by examining the decline and revival of Jewish neighborhoods in New York today.

Grading: midterm and final exams, one paper, class attendance and active participation.