DEPARTMENT OF HISTORY & GEOGRAPHY

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The history faculty is committed to developing a historical consciousness in our students. The study of history helps students understand the origins, courses, and consequences of the major political, economic, social, and cultural changes in history and relate these changes to the continuing course of history today. Expanding the realm of students’ experience beyond the limits imposed by their own life span and mobility is vital. The study of history allows students to perceive a greater range of alternatives and possibilities in life’s decisions made by people in different times and places. Students who major in History usually prepare for careers in teaching, government, law, or business.

History

Students desiring this major should declare their interest to the chairperson of the Department of History and Geography so that they can be assigned History faculty advisors. Applicants must have a minimum GPA of 2.0 to declare this major.

History (Education)

- ACT composite score on file
- Successful completion of the Missouri General Education Assessment (MoGEA)
- Overall GPA of 2.75
- Education course GPA of 3.0
- Content area GPA of 3.0
- Satisfactory completion of EDU 202/203

ACT and MoGEA scores should be received the semester before application for admission to teacher education is made (up to 4 months should be allowed for scores to be processed).

Majors

- History (Bachelor of Arts, B.A.) (http://catalog.missouriwestern.edu/undergraduate/liberal-arts-sciences/history-geography/history-ba)
- History (Bachelor of Science, B.S.) (http://catalog.missouriwestern.edu/undergraduate/liberal-arts-sciences/history-geography/history-bs)
- History with Teacher Certification (Bachelor of Arts, B.A.) (http://catalog.missouriwestern.edu/undergraduate/liberal-arts-sciences/history-geography/history-teacher-certification-ba)
- History with Teacher Certification (Bachelor of Science, B.S.) (http://catalog.missouriwestern.edu/undergraduate/liberal-arts-sciences/history-geography/history-teacher-certification-bs)
- International Studies (Bachelor of Arts, B.A.) (http://catalog.missouriwestern.edu/undergraduate/interdisciplinary-studies/international-studies-ba)

Minors

- European History Minor (http://catalog.missouriwestern.edu/undergraduate/liberal-arts-sciences/history-geography/european-history-minor)
- General History Minor (http://catalog.missouriwestern.edu/undergraduate/liberal-arts-sciences/history-geography/general-history-minor)
- Geography Minor (http://catalog.missouriwestern.edu/undergraduate/liberal-arts-sciences/history-geography/geography-minor)
- International Studies Minor (http://catalog.missouriwestern.edu/undergraduate/interdisciplinary-studies/international-studies-minor)
- Peace and Conflict Studies Minor (http://catalog.missouriwestern.edu/undergraduate/interdisciplinary-studies/peace-conflict-studies-minor)
- United States History Minor (http://catalog.missouriwestern.edu/undergraduate/liberal-arts-sciences/history-geography/united-states-history-minor)

Courses

Geography (GEO)

GEO 100 World Geography Credits: 3
Typically Offered: Fall, Spring.
Course Description: A systematic and regional analysis of the world’s diverse cultural realms emphasizing the five themes of geography (location, place, interaction of people and the physical environment, movement, and region).
CORE 42: MOTR GEOG 101; World Regional Geography

GEO 160 Physical Geography Credits: 4
Typically Offered: Departmental Discretion.
Course Description: Analysis of Earth’s physical systems, Earth-Sun relationships, weather and climate, soils and landforms, fluvial processes, global vegetation, exercises involving data collection, aerial photography and map interpretation, and data analysis. Three hours lecture and two hours lab.
CORE 42: MOTR GEOG 100L; Physical Geography with Lab
GEO 210  Geography of the United States and Canada  Credits: 3  
Typically Offered: Departmental Discretion.  
Course Description: A systematic and regional analysis of the contemporary physical, cultural, and economic geography of the United States and Canada. Examination of environmental influences on people and the ways people change the environment as evidenced in agriculture, religion, industry, and urban areas. LAS Computer Literacy.  

GEO 220  Geography of Europe  Credits: 3  
Typically Offered: Departmental Discretion.  
Course Description: A systematic and regional analysis of the contemporary physical, cultural, and economic geography of the nations and regions west of Russia; trends of development as affected by changing political structures and the European Union. LAS International/Intercultural. Prerequisite(s): A course in geography or European history.  

GEO 330  Globalization, Labor, and Resources  Credits: 3  
Typically Offered: Departmental Discretion.  
Course Description: Patterns of distribution, production, and consumption of the world’s resources; theories of geographic location related to agricultural, industrial, and service activities; globalization and internationalization; population and migration impacts on the economy; the role of the state in the economy; theories of development and underdevelopment. Prerequisite(s): ECO 260 or GEO 100.  

GEO 420  Geography of the United States and Canada  Credits: 3  
Typically Offered: Departmental Discretion.  
Course Description: A systematic and regional analysis of the contemporary physical, cultural, and economic geography of the United States and Canada. Examination of environmental influences on people and the ways people change the environment as evidenced in agriculture, religion, industry, and urban areas. LAS Computer Literacy.  

HIS 120  Modern World History  Credits: 3  
Typically Offered: Departmental Discretion.  
Course Description: A survey of the political, social, and economic history of the world (Europe, Africa, Middle East, India, Far East, and Latin America) from 1815 to the present.  

CORE 22: MOTR HIST 202; World History II
HIS 235 Historic Preservation Field School  Credits: 3  
Typically Offered: Departmental Discretion.  
Course Description: Intensive field experience in documenting and preserving an existing built environment as well as the historic landscape. Students actively participate in a survey of an urban neighborhood. Class sessions consist of lecture, discussion, field work, and lab. Lecture and discussion cover a wide array of issues in historic preservation. Field work includes tours, inspection, photography, and documentation of historic buildings. This course may be taken more than once for credit as an elective, but only once to fulfill a requirement for the major in either the B.A. or B.S. program in History.  

HIS 245 History of the Middle East in the Twentieth Century  Credits: 3  
Typically Offered: Departmental Discretion.  
Course Description: An examination of the historical developments in the Middle East since 1900, with special attention to the origins of current political, social, and economic issues in a region plagued by instability.  

HIS 290 The Historian's Craft  Credits: 3  
Typically Offered: Spring.  
Course Description: This course introduces students to the methods used by historians to analyze, interpret, and write about the past. Students will learn basic skills which may include, but are not limited to: locating and assessing source material; analyzing primary and secondary sources; writing analytical, comparative, historiographical, and review essays; conducting oral interviews; conducting oral presentations; reviewing movies. Various thematic approaches will be offered. Prerequisite(s): HIS 140 or HIS 150, and HIS 200 or HIS 210 or HIS 230, and ENG 104, and must be a declared major or minor in history.  

HIS 300 American Colonial History  Credits: 3  
Typically Offered: Spring (odd-numbered years).  
Course Description: The founding of North American colonies by Spain, France, and Great Britain; cross-cultural interactions between Europeans and Native Americans; race and slavery; religious diversity; economic growth; imperial conflicts; British colonial administration and the path to Revolution. LAS Writing. Prerequisite(s): HIS 140 and HIS 150, and a grade of C or higher in HIS 290 or departmental approval.  

HIS 301 Early National Period  Credits: 3  
Typically Offered: Fall (odd-numbered years).  
Course Description: Transition from colonial settings to constitutional republic; birth of political parties; Jeffersonian republicanism; Native American conflicts; race and slavery; women's expanded opportunities; War of 1812; economic growth and transportation innovations; Jacksonian democracy. LAS Writing. Prerequisite(s): HIS 140 and HIS 150, and grade of C or higher in HIS 290 or departmental approval.  

HIS 302 Antebellum America  Credits: 3  
Typically Offered: Departmental Discretion.  
Course Description: Postwar expansion; rise of American nationalism and the growth of the West; revival of the two-party system; Jacksonian democracy; humanitarian crusades; the Mexican War. LAS Writing. Prerequisite(s): HIS 140 and HIS 150, and grade of C or higher in HIS 290 or departmental approval.  

HIS 305 The American Frontier  Credits: 3  
Typically Offered: Departmental Discretion.  
Course Description: Westward expansion of the United States over three centuries; colonial frontier, trans-Appalachian frontier, trans-Mississippi frontier; significance of the frontier in American history. Prerequisite(s): HIS 140 and HIS 150, and grade of C or higher in HIS 290 or departmental approval.  

HIS 310 English History to 1688  Credits: 3  
Typically Offered: Fall (even-numbered years).  
Course Description: An examination of the history of England from the Roman era through the Glorious Revolution; emphasis on political events, social institutions, and cultural developments that shaped the ancient, medieval, and early modern English past. LAS Writing. Prerequisite(s): HIS 200 and HIS 210, and grade of C or higher in HIS 290 or departmental approval.  

HIS 320 English History since 1688  Credits: 3  
Typically Offered: Departmental Discretion.  
Course Description: An examination of major facts and interpretations of the history of England from the Glorious Revolution to the present; emphasis on evolution of parliamentary government and the rise and decline of the British Empire. LAS International/Intercultural. Prerequisite(s): HIS 210 and HIS 230, and grade of C or higher in HIS 290 or departmental approval.  

HIS 325 American Economic History  Credits: 3  
Typically Offered: Departmental Discretion.  
Course Description: English mercantilism, laissez-faire and its effect on American economic development, the emergence of the corporation and the trust, the issue of government regulation, and the role of the government in the economy of today. Prerequisite(s): HIS 140 and HIS 150, and grade of C or higher in HIS 290 or departmental approval.  

HIS 330 Recent United States History  Credits: 3  
Typically Offered: Fall.  
Course Description: United States since 1945; wartime mobilization; rise of American hegemony; Cold War anticommunism; Civil rights; suburbanization; gender politics; cultural rebellions; Great Society; Conservative ascendency; Globalization; war on terror; Great Recession. Prerequisite(s): HIS 140 and HIS 150, and grade of C or higher in HIS 290 or departmental approval.  

HIS 335 Medieval Europe  Credits: 3  
Typically Offered: Fall (odd-numbered years).  
Course Description: An examination of Medieval European history focusing on the medieval origins of modern European institutions. Students will read several historical monographs in order to understand the narrative of medieval history and to gain a greater knowledge about how modern historians write about the medieval past. Prerequisite(s): HIS 200 and HIS 210, and grade of C or higher in HIS 290 or departmental approval.  

HIS 336 The Crusades  Credits: 3  
Typically Offered: Spring (even-numbered years).  
Course Description: An examination of the origin and history of the wars fought between Christendom and Islam in the Middle Ages. Emphasizes the history of these wars from the perspective of all the cultures involved as well as the influence of the idea of the crusades and crusading on medieval and modern thought. LAS International/ Intercultural. Prerequisite(s): HIS 200 and HIS 210, and grade of C or higher in HIS 290 or departmental approval.  

HIS 339 Europe 1815-1914  Credits: 3  
Typically Offered: Fall (even-numbered years).  
Course Description: Europe from the Congress of Vienna to 1914; reaction and revolution, nationalistic movements, rise of socialism-communism, the diplomatic background of World War I. Prerequisite(s): HIS 230 and grade of C or higher in HIS 290 or departmental approval.
HIS 340  Recent European History    Credits: 3
Typically Offered: Spring (odd-numbered years).
Course Description: Europe in World War I, the rise of dictatorships, the League of Nations, new alignments, World War II, and the postwar period. Prerequisite(s): HIS 230 and grade of C or higher in HIS 290 or departmental approval.

HIS 342  The Russian Kingdom and Empire 1462-1917    Credits: 3
Typically Offered: Spring (even-numbered years).
Course Description: Restoration of the Russian kingdom by Ivan III “the Great,” establishment of royal absolutism by Ivan IV “the Terrible;” the Time of Troubles; emergence of the Russian empire; invasion by Napoleon; expansion of empire; collapse of the monarchy. Prerequisite(s): HIS 210 and HIS 230, and grade of C or higher in HIS 290 or departmental approval.

HIS 345  Military History    Credits: 3
Typically Offered: Fall (odd-numbered years).
Course Description: The historical development and application of military strategy, tactics, doctrine, and technology from ancient times to the present. Prerequisite(s): HIS 140 or HIS 150 or HIS 200 or HIS 210 or HIS 230, and a grade of C or higher in HIS 290 or departmental approval.

HIS 350  History of the Far East    Credits: 3
Typically Offered: Departmental Discretion.
Course Description: East Asia and the Pacific from antiquity to the present. Topics may include religion, politics, economics, impact of European and American traders and missionaries, interactions with European empires, resistance to Westernization, and the emergence of contemporary China, Japan, and Pacific nations. Prerequisite(s): HIS 210 or HIS 230, and a grade of C or higher in HIS 290 or departmental approval.

HIS 355  Study Abroad in History    Credits: 3
Typically Offered: Departmental Discretion.
Course Description: An intensive three-week upper-level course in European history. A special fee is assessed for the course. This course is only taught in the summer. Deadline for application is March 1. This course may be taken more than once for credit as an elective, but only once to fulfill a requirement for an upper-level course for the major in either the B.A. or B.S. program in History. Prerequisite(s): HIS 200 or HIS 210 or HIS 230.

HIS 365  Methods of Teaching Social Studies    Credits: 5
Typically Offered: Fall.
Course Description: Principles and methods of teaching social studies in secondary school: objectives, problems, materials, and methods applied to the social studies curriculum. Methods include electronic portfolio, website technology, and traditional lesson plans/unit plans for each discipline involved. Those disciplines include economics, geography, government and political science, history, psychology, and sociology. Prerequisite(s): Departmental approval. Must be taken prior to Junior Teaching Experience.

HIS 370  History of Latin America    Credits: 3
Typically Offered: Spring (even-numbered years).
Course Description: A survey course including pre-Columbian cultures, colonial period, independence movements, national developments, relations with the United States and Europe. LAS International/Intercultural. Prerequisite(s): HIS 140 or HIS 210, and grade of C or higher in HIS 290 or departmental approval.

HIS 380  The French Revolution and Napoleon    Credits: 3
Typically Offered: Departmental Discretion.
Course Description: Old Regime France; the origins of the French Revolution; political, social, religious, and cultural reforms; political shifts from monarchy to republic to dictatorship; popular and state-sanctioned violence; counter-revolution; the Terror; the Directory; the rise of Napoleon; the Napoleonic Wars; the impact of the French Revolution and Napoleon on the world. Prerequisite(s): HIS 210 and HIS 230, and grade of C or higher in HIS 290 or departmental approval.

HIS 390  Heresy, Witchcraft, and Magic in Pre-Modern Europe    Credits: 3
Typically Offered: Departmental Discretion.
Course Description: Examines the evolution of religious beliefs and practices in pre-modern Europe. Particular attention is given to how definitions of heresy, witchcraft, and magic changed over time and methods used by Church and State to enforce religious conformity. Prerequisite(s): HIS 200 and HIS 210, and grade of C or higher in HIS 290 or departmental approval.

HIS 400  Civil War and Reconstruction    Credits: 3
Typically Offered: Departmental Discretion.
Course Description: Westward expansion; U.S.-Mexican War; sectional crises and coming of the Civil War; slavery and abolition; political, social, and economic developments in the Civil War; African-American freedom; political, social, and economic effects of the nation's reconstruction. Prerequisite(s): HIS 140 and HIS 150, and grade of C or higher in HIS 290 or departmental approval.

HIS 420  History of Africa    Credits: 3
Typically Offered: Departmental Discretion.
Course Description: Examines the evolution of religious beliefs and practices in pre-modern Africa. Particular attention is given to how definitions of heresy, witchcraft, and magic changed over time and methods used by Church and State to enforce religious conformity. Prerequisite(s): HIS 200, HIS 210, or HIS 230, and a grade of C or higher in HIS 290 or departmental approval.

HIS 450  Independent Research/Project    Credits: 1-5
Typically Offered: Fall, Spring.
Course Description: Investigation of a research problem, project, or topic on an individual conference basis. Prerequisite(s): Completion of major-minor declaration in history major or minor, minimum 2.5 GPA in major field, grade of C or higher in HIS 290, and departmental approval.

Faculty
Dominic DeBrincat (2015) Assistant Professor, History. B.A., University of Michigan-Dearborn; J.D., M.A., Wayne State University; Ph.D., University of Connecticut.

Dawn Drake (2012) Associate Professor, Geography. B.S., Indiana University of Pennsylvania; M.S., University of Delaware; Ph.D., University of Tennessee.
