History

HIST 200  Intro Hist Interpretation  credit: 3 hours.
Through the careful examination of a specific topic or theme, this course provides a thorough introduction to historical interpretation. Particular attention will be devoted to research strategies, writing practices, handling primary and secondary sources, and the analysis of historiography. May be repeated to a maximum of 6 hours with permission of the Director of Undergraduate Studies.
Topics will be listed in the department's course guide at http://www.history.illinois.edu.

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<td>Lecture-Discussion</td>
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<td>09:30 AM - 10:50 AM</td>
<td>MW</td>
<td>327 - Gregory Hall</td>
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Topic: The History of the University of Illinois: Crime on Campus Description: From violent class fights and hazing rituals, Prohibition-era booze raids, to changing policies on student sexuality, and anti-war and anti-racism protests, issues related to crime and civil disobedience have always energized students and dominated campus life. This course uses crime and civil disobedience to explore the diverse and contested history of the University of Illinois from its establishment in 1867 to the present day. The readings will include primary sources like trial transcripts, newspapers, and pamphlets as well as a range of scholarship on these questions. Assignments include a source analysis, a mid-term examination, a poster presentation, and a research paper based on primary sources drawn from the university archives.

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Topic: History of the Native People in Latin America Description: How can we write the history of the indigenous people of Latin America from the colonial period to the modern era? This question has vexed generations of historians and they have found different ways of writing about the origins of Indians from Meso- and South American, their cultures, and their adaptations to new cultural influences. By reading the most outstanding of these historians - with a particular focus on the Andes - we want to analyze how Western concepts of natives have changed over time. Whenever we can, we try to counter these narratives with native peoples' own historiographies and self-perceptions. By doing so, we are induced to reflect upon changing historical methods over almost six hundred years; not least to reflect upon our own historical methods. This course proceeds in four thematic sections. We first discuss early modern European perceptions of Indians and early modern native self-perceptions. Afterwards we venture into the "laboratory" of ethnohistorical work and see how we can proceed to create reliable knowledge about past indigenous societies. We then continue to discuss the efforts by 18th- and 19th- century Creole scholars and Indians to re-negotiate the past. The course ends with a close look at twentieth-century indigenous realities, self-perceptions, and ethnographers' reconstructions of native societies.

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Topic: Global Environmental History Description: At its heart, environmental history is the study of the changing relationship between people and their environments over time. In this course, we will focus on the multiple intersections between environmental history and global history, including imperialism and colonialism, industrialization and consumerism, science and environmentalism, and, of course, globalization itself. In exploring these topics, you will also learn a variety of tips and methods that will help you investigate past environments and the complex role of humans in those environments. The readings for this course are a combination of short historical documents and a balance of articles and books on topics like the controversy over elephants in India’s national parks, the environment footprint of various commodities around the globe, and why environmentalists in the northern and southern hemispheres have not always shared the same goals and commitments.

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Title: American Families Topic: Families have been at the core of human existence for a long time. Ideas and imagery of ideal families continue to influence contemporary American life. This class will focus on the changes in American families from the pre-revolutionary period to the twenty-first century as a way to understand and research history from a variety of disciplinary
perspectives. From the family ideals (and dysfunctions) of the Puritans to “Hippie” families in the 1960s and same-sex families today, the seminar will approach different understandings of family as embedded in America’s shifting national identity.