History

IN THE COLLEGE OF ARTS AND LETTERS

OFFICE: Arts and Letters 588
TELEPHONE: 619-594-5262 / FAX: 619-594-2210
WEBSITE: http://history.sdsu.edu/

Faculty
Edward J. Beasley, Ph.D., Professor of History, Chair of Department
Pierre Asselin, Ph.D., Professor of History,
The Dwight E. Stanford Chair in American Foreign Relations
Edward J. Blum, Ph.D., Professor of History
Kathryn J. Edgerton-Tarpley, Ph.D., Professor of History
Sarah S. Elkind, Ph.D., Professor of History
Joanne M. Ferraro, Ph.D., Albert W. Johnson Distinguished Professor of History, Emeritus
Eve Kornfeld, Ph.D., Professor of History [Senate Distinguished Professor]
Mathew S. Kuefler, Ph.D., Professor of History
Andrew Wiese, Ph.D., Professor of History
Pablo E. Ben, Ph.D., Associate Professor of History
David P. Cline, Ph.D., Associate Professor of History
Paula S. De Vos, Ph.D., Associate Professor of History
(Related Advisers)
Ranin Kazemi, Ph.D., Associate Professor of History
Angel D. Nieves, Ph.D., Associate Professor of History
Thomas P. Passananti, Ph.D., Associate Professor of History
Walter D. Penrose, Ph.D., Associate Professor of History
Elizabeth Ann Pollard, Ph.D., Associate Professor of History
(Graduate Advisor)
John C. Putman, Ph.D., Associate Professor of History
Chiou-Ling Yeh, Ph.D., Associate Professor of History
Annika E. Frieberg, Ph.D., Assistant Professor of History

The Dwight E. Stanford Chair in American Foreign Relations

A gift from alumnus Dwight E. Stanford, who earned a bachelor’s degree in American history in 1936 from San Diego State College (now SDSU), established The Dwight E. Stanford Chair in American Foreign Relations. The current appointee to the chair is Dr. Pierre Asselin, a distinguished scholar-teacher who is an expert on U.S. interventions in the Third World, Southeast Asia, and the global Cold War. He is a leading international authority on the Vietnam War and regularly travels to Vietnam for research.

The Nasatir Professor of Modern Jewish History

The Nasatir Professorship was established in honor of the late Professor Abraham Nasatir, a specialist in European colonial history in North America. Nasatir taught history at SDSU for 46 years and was active in the community as an advocate of Jewish education. The Professorship was held by Dr. Lawrence Baron, Professor Emeritus, and a distinguished scholar of European intellectual history and Holocaust studies, from 1988 until 2012.

General Information

The Department of History offers graduate study leading to the Master of Arts degree in history.

The Master of Arts degree is designed to provide advanced training for (1) students who plan to terminate their graduate studies at the master’s level, (2) those who anticipate further study leading to a doctoral degree in history or related fields, and (3) those who plan to teach history at the secondary or community college levels.

Research facilities include a substantial library of over one million titles and an impressive periodical collection. The library is the depository for the documents of the United States and the state of California, and receives all publications of the United Nations and the Organization of American States. The library also houses 1,500 linear feet of manuscript materials as well as audiotapes, films, oral histories, and photographs of the greater San Diego area. The College of Arts and Letters houses the Social Science Research Laboratory which includes a well-equipped data processing center. The San Diego Historical Society and the San Diego Public Library contain many manuscript collections pertinent to local history. Located north of San Diego is the National Archives and Records Administration at Laguna Niguel.

Admission to Graduate Study

All students must satisfy the general requirements for admission to the university with classified graduate standing, as described in Part Two of this bulletin. As an additional requirement, the student must have completed a bachelor’s degree with an undergraduate major in history or have taken enough units in history and related fields to demonstrate sufficient preparation for the program. The minimum grade point average required for application to the M.A. program in history is 2.85 in an acceptable earned baccalaureate degree or in the last 60 semester (90 quarter) units attempted and 3.0 in the major (not necessarily history), plus a satisfactory score on the GRE General Test. Applicants holding an acceptable post-baccalaureate degree earned at an institution accredited by a regional accrediting association also meet minimum qualifications.

Students applying for admission should electronically submit the university application available at http://www.calstate.edu/apply along with the $55 application fee.

All applicants must submit admissions materials separately to SDSU Graduate Admissions and to the Department of History. See http://history.sdsu.edu/graduate_program/how_to_apply.htm for information on application instructions and materials.

Advancement to Candidacy

All students must satisfy the general requirements for advancement to candidacy, as stated in Part Four of this bulletin, as well as the specific requirements of the department. All students should consult the graduate adviser.

Specific Requirements for the Master of Arts Degree

(Major Code: 22051) (SIMS Code: 113301)

In addition to meeting the requirements for classified graduate standing and the basic requirements for the master’s degree as described in Part Four of this bulletin, the student must complete a graduate program of 30 units which includes a major consisting of at least 24 units in history from courses listed below as acceptable for the master’s degree program, at least 21 units of which must be in 600- and 700-numbered courses. Students may elect either Plan A, requiring a thesis, or Plan B, requiring a comprehensive written examination in two fields of history chosen in consultation with the graduate adviser. For Plan B, faculty meet with the student for a one-hour oral assessment one week following the examination if further consultation is necessary.

Required courses are History 601, 665; nine units attempted and 3.0 in the major (not necessarily history), plus a satisfactory score on the GRE General Test. Applicants holding an acceptable post-baccalaureate degree earned at an institution accredited by a regional accrediting association also meet minimum qualifications.

All applicants must submit admissions materials separately to SDSU Graduate Admissions and to the Department of History. See http://history.sdsu.edu/graduate_program/how_to_apply.htm for information on application instructions and materials.

General Information

The Department of History offers graduate study leading to the Master of Arts degree in history.

The Master of Arts degree is designed to provide advanced training for (1) students who plan to terminate their graduate studies at the master’s level, (2) those who anticipate further study leading to a doctoral degree in history or related fields, and (3) those who plan to teach history at the secondary or community college levels.

Research facilities include a substantial library of over one million titles and an impressive periodical collection. The library is the depository for the documents of the United States and the state of California, and receives all publications of the United Nations and the Organization of American States. The library also houses 1,500 linear feet of manuscript materials as well as audiotapes, films, oral histories, and photographs of the greater San Diego area. The College of Arts and Letters houses the Social Science Research Laboratory which includes a well-equipped data processing center. The San Diego Historical Society and the San Diego Public Library contain many manuscript collections pertinent to local history. Located north of San Diego is the National Archives and Records Administration at Laguna Niguel.
Courses Acceptable for Master's Degree Program in History (HIST)

Refer to Courses and Curricula and Regulations of the Division of Graduate Affairs sections of this bulletin for explanation of the course numbering system, unit or credit hour, prerequisites, and related information.

UPPER DIVISION COURSES

NOTE: Courses for Field (A) Thematic, Comparative, and Interdisciplinary History; or Field (B) The Ancient Through Early Modern World; or Field (C) The Modern World, are identified in the course title as (A), (B), or (C).

HIST 500. Topics in Ancient History (A) (3)
Prerequisite: Upper division or graduate standing.
Variable topics in ancient history throughout the world may include: Women in Greek and Roman societies, magic in the Greco-Roman World, Silk Roads, and pre-contact Mesoamerica. See Class Schedule for specific topic. May be repeated with new content. Maximum credit six units.

HIST 501. History of Ancient Near Eastern Civilizations (B) (3)
Major civilizations of Near East from the origin of civilization to Roman Conquest, including Egyptians, Babylonians, Hebrews, and Persians. Social, political, and religious problems.

HIST 502. Ancient Greece (B) (3)
Greek history from prehistoric period through Age of Alexander the Great. Emphasis on political, social, cultural and institutional developments, and historiography. Secondary attention to military, economic, and religious topics.

HIST 503. Ancient Rome (B) (3)
Roman history from origins of Rome to fall of the Empire. Emphasis on political, social, cultural and institutional developments, and historiography. Secondary attention to military, economic, and religious topics.

HIST 504. The Dark Ages (B) (3)
(Same course as Humanities 504)
Europe and the Mediterranean, sixth to eleventh centuries C.E. through various approaches: political, economic, social, and cultural. Topics include the barbarians and Vikings, the Byzantine, Arab, and Holy Roman Empires, the Norman Conquest, Charlemagne, Beowulf, feudalism, and serfdom.

HIST 505. The Later Middle Ages (B) (3)
Europe and the Mediterranean 1100-1450 C.E. through various approaches: political, economic, social, and cultural. Development of kingdoms of western Europe and relationship to Byzantine empire and other states.

HIST 506. The Renaissance (B) (3)
(Same course as Humanities 506)
Intellectual, artistic, social, and economic transformation in Europe from fourteenth to seventeenth centuries.

HIST 507. The Reformation (B) (3)
(Same course as Religious Studies 507)
Continental Europe, 1500-1648. Split of Christendom; political and intellectual dissent; social fabric of family life; relationship between gender, class, and power; cultural stratification of European society.

HIST 508. The Fall of the Roman Empire (B) (3)
Prerequisite: Upper division or graduate standing.
History of Mediterranean region between third and sixth centuries C.E. Changes in society, politics, economics, the military, gender, sexuality, religion, literature, art, archaeology, and law. Compelling perceptions of the period as one of "fall" versus one of "transformation."

HIST 509. British Century: Waterloo to World War I (C) (3)
Prerequisite: Upper division or graduate standing.
History of England, 1815-1914, to include industrial supremacy; struggles over urban problems, reform, democratization, labor organization, national self-image; interplay of liberalism and collectivism; sources of social stability and instability; women's rights; jingoism; coming of World War I.

HIST 510. History of England Since World War II (C) (3)
Prerequisite: Upper division or graduate standing.
History of England since World War II: post-war period, the Cold War, decolonization, and the American Century.

HIST 511. History of Europe Since the Enlightenment (B) (3)
Prerequisite: Upper division or graduate standing.
History of Europe since the Enlightenment: social, political, economic, cultural, and religious developments.

HIST 512A. The Great War: A Turning Point in European History (C) (3)
Forces and events that shaped Europe in period prior to and during World War I, 1890-1919.

HIST 512B. The Age of Dictators and Contemporary Europe (C) (3)
Europe in the age of dictatorship, world war, decline, and recovery.

HIST 514. History of Science: From Revolution to Evolution (A) (3)
Prerequisite: Upper division or graduate standing.
Development of early modern European science. Origins of Western concept of "science," Greco-Roman and Arabic roots of science, impact of Renaissance humanism and voyages of exploration on Scientific Revolution, and imperial context of evolutionary theories and scientific racism.

HIST 516. Imperialism and the Colonial Experience (A) (3)
Prerequisite: Upper division or graduate standing.
Imperialism and colonialism as these transformed both colonizing and colonized peoples, e.g., modernization, racism, Orientalism, multi-ethnic, Great Power competition, anti-colonial resistance, and nationalism.

HIST 527. The Holocaust in Feature Films (A) (3)
Two lectures and two hours of activity.
Prerequisite: Upper division or graduate standing.
Depiction of the Nazi policy of destroying European Jewry and its impact on the perpetrators, bystanders, victims, and the post-war world in feature films.

HIST 528. Social History of Early Modern Europe (B) (3)
Prerequisite: Upper division or graduate standing.
Historical survey of European society emphasizing changes in the family, health, diet, standard of living, urbanism, crime, migration, and literacy, from 1350 to beginning of Industrial Revolution.

HIST 532. Topics in Early American History (B) (3)
Prerequisites: Upper division or graduate standing and three units in history at the college level.
Variable topics in history of colonial America and the early republic. Possible topics include: Women and the Family; Race, Class and Labor; American Revolution; Religion and Politics; Immigrants’ Experiences. See Class Schedule for topic. May be repeated with new content. Maximum credit six units.

HIST 533. Antebellum America (C) (3)
Prerequisite: Upper division or graduate standing.
Westward expansion and movement, market revolution, democratic politics, revivalism, slavery, and women’s rights.

HIST 534. Civil War and Reconstruction (C) (3)
Prerequisite: Upper division or graduate standing.
Civil War and Reconstruction, emphasizing political affairs and role of Abraham Lincoln.

HIST 535. The Age of Roosevelt (C) (3)
The United States in Depression, War, and Cold War.

HIST 536. The United States Since World War II (C) (3)
Prerequisite: Upper division or graduate standing.
Major foreign and domestic issues confronting the United States, and the government policies and popular movements generated in response.

HIST 537. Star Trek, Culture, and History (C) (3)
Prerequisite: Upper division or graduate standing.
Explores relationship between Star Trek’s several television series, movies, novels, and the larger historical and cultural context of post-World War II America. Themes include race, gender, sexuality, foreign policy, terrorism, religion, and politics.

HIST 539. Topics in the History of the American West (C) (3)
Prerequisites: Upper division or graduate standing and three units of history at the college level.
Selected topics in history of American West such as Westward movement; Southwest borderlands; gender and the frontier; new western history. May be repeated with new content. Maximum credit six units.
HIST 540. Environmental History of the United States (C) (3)  
(Offered only at SDSU-IV)  
The relationship of Americans to their environment from colonial times to the present with emphasis on how attitudes and values have affected personal behavior and public policy toward the land.  
Prerequisite: Upper division or graduate standing.  

HIST 544A. Early American Foreign Relations (C) (3)  
Development of American foreign relations from Colonial Period to the Spanish-American-Filipino War.  
Prerequisite: Upper division or graduate standing.  

HIST 544B. Modern American Foreign Relations (C) (3)  
Development of American foreign relations since 1900.  
Prerequisite: Upper division or graduate standing.  

HIST 545. Constitutional History of the United States (C) (3)  
Development of American constitutional ideals and institutions from colonial period to the present. Examines historical context of significant legal issues and constitutional cases.  
Prerequisite: Upper division or graduate standing.  

HIST 548. Race and Ethnicity in United States History (A) (3)  
(Same course as Chicana and Chicano Studies 548)  
Prerequisite: Upper division or graduate standing.  
Race and ethnicity in America from colonial period through twentieth century to include historical construction of identity; colonization, slavery, state formation; labor, immigration, politics of whiteness; applicability of black/white binary of a multiethnic society.  

HIST 550. Colonial Mexico (B) (3)  
Social history of Mexico from pre-contact through early national period using primary and secondary sources. Processes of social and cultural negotiation involving gender, religion, environment, medicine, and urban experience.  
Prerequisite: Upper division or graduate standing.  

HIST 551. Modern Mexico (C) (3)  
Social history of Mexico since early national period using primary and secondary sources. Processes of social and cultural negotiation involving gender, religion, environment, medicine, and urban experience.  
Prerequisite: Upper division or graduate standing.  

HIST 553. History of Slavery in the Americas (3)  
(Same course as Latin American Studies 553)  
Prerequisite: Upper division or graduate standing.  
Trans-Atlantic slavery from the fifteenth to nineteenth centuries. Liberation movements, nation-states, revolution, slavery, and capitalism. Agency of enslaved people, agricultural and environmental transformations, legacies of trans-Atlantic slavery and contemporary enslavement, new communities and diversities, race and racism.  
Prerequisite: Upper division or graduate standing.  

HIST 556. History of Brazil (C) (3)  
(Same course as Latin American Studies 556)  
Prerequisite: Upper division or graduate standing.  
Economic, political, and social history of Brazil from precolonial era to present. Democratic and dictatorial rule, industrialization, populism, race and racism, and slavery.  
Prerequisite: Upper division or graduate standing.  

HIST 557. Dictatorships and Human Rights in Latin America (C) (3)  
Prerequisite: Upper division or graduate standing.  
Chinese history before 1600 CE. Confucianism, Daoism, Legalism; emperors and evolution of Chinese state; gender and sexuality; Buddhism and daily life along Silk Route; Song technological and commercial revolution; Mongol invasions; Ming voyages; China’s role in pre-modern world history.  
Prerequisite: Upper division or graduate standing.  

HIST 558. Latin America in World Affairs (C) (3)  
History of Latin America's political and economic relations with Europe, the Soviet Union, the United States, and the Third World.  
Prerequisite: Upper division or graduate standing.  

HIST 560. Modern Japan: From Samurai to Sony (C) (3)  
Prerequisite: Upper division or graduate standing.  
Japanese history from 1600 to present. Late-samurai period; nineteenth century industrialization and imperialism; Japan in World War II: Nanjing, Pearl Harbor, Hiroshima, foundations of post-war “economic miracle”; gender relations, anime, and identity in contemporary Japan; Japan's role in twenty-first century world.  
Prerequisite: Upper division or graduate standing.  

HIST 574. Arab-Israeli Relations, Past and Present (C) (3)  
Arab-Israeli conflict and diplomacy over Palestine from perspectives of Zionism, Arab nationalism, and Great Power relations from nineteenth century to present.  
Prerequisite: Upper division or graduate standing.  

HIST 580. Topics in the History of War and Violence (A) (3)  
Prerequisite: Upper division or graduate standing.  
History of war and violence may include: Violence in Africa, modern genocide, trauma and modern East Asia, social suffering in historical perspective. See Class Schedule for specific topic. May be repeated with new content. Maximum credit six units.  
Prerequisite: Upper division or graduate standing.  

HIST 581. Topics in Urban History (A) (3)  
Prerequisite: Upper division or graduate standing.  
Variable topics in urban history may include: The city in United States history, Chinatowns, suburbs and suburbanization, urban politics. See Class Schedule for specific topic. May be repeated with new content. Maximum credit six units.  
Prerequisite: Upper division or graduate standing.  

HIST 582. Topics in Social and Cultural History (A) (3)  
Prerequisite: Upper division or graduate standing.  
Variable topics in social and cultural history may include: Ritual in early modern Europe, radicals ad revolutionaries, intellectuals and society, families in former times, and American popular culture. See Class Schedule for specific topic. May be repeated with new content. Maximum credit six units.  
Prerequisite: Upper division or graduate standing.  

HIST 583. Topics in History of Gender and Sexuality (A) (3)  
Prerequisite: Upper division or graduate standing.  
Variable topics in history of gender and sexuality may include: Gay and Lesbian history, Asian American gender and sexuality, genders in Latin America. See Class Schedule for specific topic. May be repeated with new content. Maximum credit six units.  
Prerequisite: Upper division or graduate standing.  

HIST 584. Topics in Environmental History (A) (3)  
Prerequisite: Upper division or graduate standing.  
Variable topics in environmental history may include: Press, politics, environment, world environmental history, water and society. See Class Schedule for specific topic. May be repeated with new content. Maximum credit six units.  
Prerequisite: Upper division or graduate standing.  

HIST 585. History of the Sixties (C) (3)  
Prerequisite: Upper division or graduate standing.  
Variable topics in the history of the 1960s may include: America in the 1960s, Africa in the 1960s, politics and protests in 1960s, Europe in the 1960s. See Class Schedule for specific topic. May be repeated with new content. Maximum credit six units.  
Prerequisite: Upper division or graduate standing.  

HIST 586. Topics in World History (A) (3)  
Prerequisite: Upper division or graduate standing.  
Major historical problems, themes, or topics from global, chronological, and geographical perspectives of world history to include frontiers, food and famine, violence and warfare, science, religion and magic, the Atlantic world, medieval era. See Class Schedule for specific topic. May be repeated with new content. Maximum credit six units.  
Prerequisite: Upper division or graduate standing.  

HIST 596. Selected Studies in History (A) (B) (C) (1-4)  
Topics in various fields of history, such as biography, war, science, technology, urbanization, minority groups, immigration, and capitalism. May be repeated with new content. See Class Schedule for specific content. Limit of nine units of any combination of 296, 496, 596 courses applicable to a bachelor’s degree. Maximum credit of six units of 596 applicable to a bachelor’s degree. Credit for 596 and 696 applicable to a master’s degree with approval of the graduate adviser.
GRADUATE COURSES

NOTE: All graduate courses in the Department of History have a prerequisite of 12 units of upper division courses in history, or consent of the instructor.

HIST 601. Seminar in Historical Methods (3)
Historical methodologies, historiography, and critical analysis.

HIST 620. Directed Readings in European History (3)
Prerequisite: Consent of instructor.
Selected readings in historical literature and primary sources in a designated area of European history. May be repeated with new content. See Class Schedule for specific content. Maximum credit six units applicable to a master's degree.

HIST 630. Directed Readings in United States History (3)
Prerequisite: Consent of instructor.
Selected readings in historical literature and primary sources in a designated area of United States history. May be repeated with new content. See Class Schedule for specific content. Maximum credit six units applicable to a master's degree.

HIST 640. Directed Readings in Latin American History (3)
Prerequisite: Consent of instructor.
Selected readings in historical literature and primary sources in a designated area of Latin American history. May be repeated with new content. See Class Schedule for specific content. Maximum credit six units applicable to a master's degree.

HIST 650. Directed Readings in Asian History (3)
Prerequisite: Consent of instructor.
Selected readings in historical literature and primary sources in a designated area of Asian history. May be repeated with new content. See Class Schedule for specific content. Maximum credit six units applicable to a master's degree.

HIST 665. Seminar in History (3)
Prerequisites: History 601; six units selected from History 620, 630, 640, 650, or 680, three units of which may be taken concurrently; six additional units in history appropriate to student's program; consent of instructor.
Directed research on topics selected from a designated area of history. Maximum credit six units applicable to a master's degree.

HIST 680. Directed Reading in Selected Topics (3)
Prerequisite: Consent of instructor.
Selected readings in comparative, interdisciplinary, and topical history. May be repeated with new content. See Class Schedule for specific content. Maximum credit six units applicable to a master's degree.

HIST 696. Special Topics in History (1-3)
Prerequisite: Consent of instructor.
Intensive study in specific areas of history. May be repeated with new content. See Class Schedule for specific content. Credit for 596 and 696 applicable to a master's degree with approval of the graduate adviser.

HIST 795. Area Studies in History (3) Cr/NC
Prerequisite: Advancement to candidacy.
Preparation for the comprehensive examinations in two fields of history for those students taking the M.A. under Plan B. Maximum credit three units applicable to a master's degree.

HIST 797. Research (3) Cr/NC/RP
Prerequisites: Advancement to candidacy and written approval of the History Department graduate adviser.
Independent research in a specialized subject in history.

HIST 798. Special Study (1-3) Cr/NC/RP
Prerequisite: Consent of staff; to be arranged with department chair and instructor.
Individual study. Maximum credit six units applicable to a master's degree.

HIST 799A. Thesis (3) Cr/NC/RP
Prerequisites: An officially appointed thesis committee and advancement to candidacy.
Preparation of a project or thesis for the master's degree.

HIST 799B. Thesis Extension (0) Cr/NC
Prerequisite: Prior registration in Thesis 799A with an assigned grade symbol of RP.
Registration required in any semester or term following assignment of RP in Course 799A in which the student expects to use the facilities and resources of the university; also student must be registered in the course when the completed thesis is granted final approval.

HIST 799C. Comprehensive Examination Extension (0) Cr/NC
Prerequisite: Completion or concurrent enrollment in degree program courses.
Registration required of students whose only requirement is completion of the comprehensive examination for the master's degree. Registration in 799C limited to two semesters.