HISTORICAL PERSPECTIVE (HP)

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This course is offered by different departments on campus and focuses on historical change and how individuals and groups both initiate change and respond to social, economic and political forces. Taught by professors from across the College, Historical Perspectives courses link with College Reading and Writing in a two-semester, first-year writing sequence. Course focuses include critical and research writing and responsible use of the internet. Historical Perspectives courses are indicated with the letters “HP” at the beginning of the course title. Courses without this designation will not satisfy this requirement. This course may not double-count with Breadth, but can double-count with Critical Perspectives.

BIOL 151. HP: Evolution: An Historical Perspective. 4. An examination of the views of species origins prior to Darwin, Darwin’s theories and those of his contemporaries, and the history of evolutionary theory in modern times. One of the weekly class periods will be used to give students practical experience in the methods of evolutionary study, such as techniques for determining protein all types, and examining species relationships through DNA analysis. Prerequisite: ENGL 102. Fulfills historical perspectives requirement (1998 & 2019).

CHEM 151. HP: History of Science. 4. A historical perspective on the rise of science over the past centuries. The course examines the development of the scientific method and traces the people, institutions, movements and false starts that led to modern science. Does not count towards the chemistry major. Prerequisite: ENGL 102. Fulfills historical perspectives requirement (1998 & 2019).

ENGL 151. HP: Title Varies. 4. Prerequisite: ENGL 102. Fulfills historical perspectives requirement (1998 & 2019).

GEOL 151. HP: Climate and History. 4. Explores the roles of global climate and climate change in the evolution and development of human beings and their cultures. Topics include climate-driven migration, effects of ice ages, climate change during the last two millennia and their effects on subsistence, war, commerce and exploration and what to expect in the next century. Prerequisite: ENGL 102 Fulfills historical perspectives requirement (1998 & 2019).

HIST 101. HP: The Medieval Web. 4. This course examines the many changes in medieval Europe, centered around the idea of a “Christian Empire” in “Europe” from the time of Charlemagne in the 9th century to the mid-15th century. Through a close reading of sources in law, literature, religion, and biography, students explore a variety of topics: intercultural exchange, religious diversity, the papacy, crusades, feudalism, romance, and medieval art. HP Prerequisite: ENGL 102. Fulfills historical perspectives and social justice/environmental responsibility requirements (1998). Historical perspectives and evaluating systems and environments requirements (2019).

HIST 102. HP: The Web of Europe since 1400. 4. This course investigates the genesis and movements of the modern period, from the Renaissance to the fall of the Iron Curtain. On the basis of contemporary documents, students will discuss such issues as nationalism, the Reformation, absolutism, religion in the Age of Reason, egalitarianism and totalitarianism. Prerequisite: ENGL 102. Fulfills historical perspectives requirement (1998 & 2019).

HIST 103. HP: U.S. Origins: From Pre-Colonial Times to 1877. 4. This course begins by studying Native American cultures before European contact as well as emerging tensions as European populations migrated westward. Students analyze why the colonists revolted against Britain, how new democratic political institutions evolved, the complex place of African enslavement and how Reconstruction-era politics and reform traditions fostered a new industrialized nation state. Prerequisite: ENGL 102. Fulfills historical perspectives and social justice/environmental responsibility requirements (1998). Historical perspectives and evaluating systems and environments requirements (2019).

HIST 104. HP: Modern Times: The U.S. from 1877 to the Present. 4. This course analyzes how the United States became a mature industrialized consumer society, a haven for peoples from around the world, a welfare state and a global superpower. Studying both the benefits and costs of 20th century U.S. political and economic success enables students to understand some of the reasons why diverse social groups challenged the economic and political order. Prerequisite: ENGL 102. Fulfills historical perspectives and social justice/environmental responsibility requirements (1998). Historical perspectives and evaluating systems and environments requirements (2019).

HIST 164. HP: The Asian Pacific in Modern Times. 4. This course begins by studying Native American cultures before European contact as well as emerging tensions as European populations migrated westward. Students analyze why the colonists revolted against Britain, how new democratic political institutions evolved, the complex place of African enslavement and how Reconstruction-era politics and reform traditions fostered a new industrialized nation state. Prerequisite: ENGL 102. Fulfills historical perspective and intercultural requirements (1998). Historical perspectives and sociocultural engagement requirements (2019).

HIST 205 HP: American Imperialism, American Progressivism. 4. The years 1890-1925 witnessed tremendous upheavals as America became a world power abroad while at home, reform movements flourished alongside anti-immigrant campaigns, the lynching and disfranchisement of African-Americans, a widening gap between rich and poor, and a Red Scare. Students engage in a semester-long project to define this crucial era through the public writings of those who shaped it. Prerequisite: ENGL 102. Fulfills historical perspectives requirement (1998 & 2019).

HIST 212. HP: American Frontiers. 4. Defining frontiers as contested places where people met and struggled over control of natural resources, the labor necessary to exploit those resources, and the right to define the boundaries of society, the course examines various frontier regions across North America from the late 18th century through the early 20th. Prerequisite: ENGL 102. Fulfills historical perspectives and social justice/environmental responsibility requirements (1998). Historical perspectives and evaluating systems and environments requirement (2019).

HIST 218. HP: Legacies of History: The Case of California Indians. 4. This course tracks California history from the time before memory to present, and specifically engages the relationships between California Indians, settler colonial society, the power of the state, and the contested terrain of public memory. The course takes a presentist perspective, historicizing a number of critical contemporary issues facing California Indians, such as sovereignty, land use, casino gaming, disenrollment, recognition, political influence, public memory, and the relationships between Indian communities and academics. Fulfills historical perspectives requirement (1998 & 2019).
HIST 221. HP. North Carolina: Demographic History. 4. Explores the demographic history of North Carolina from before the European invasion to the present, grappling with the idea and definition of immigrant, foreigner and outsider, as well as with issues involving regionalism, race, class, gender, religious difference and ethnicity. Prerequisite: ENGL 102. Fulfills historical perspectives and social justice/ environmental responsibility requirements (1998). Historical perspective and evaluating systems and environments (2019).


HIST 238. HP. War and Peace: 20th Century Europe, 1914-present. 4. This course compares different European countries and examines their relations with each other in a very ideologically driven century. While the course emphasizes politics and diplomacy, peace, war and socio-economic developments, it will also consider the history of the arts, science and technology, women, the environment, business, religion, ideas, law, culture and biography. Prerequisite: ENGL 102. Fulfills historical perspectives requirement (1998 & 2019).

MUS 119. HP. Music and Social Conflict. 4. Examines a period of history that includes both the continuation of Classical/ Romantic traditions and the dramatic and sometimes sudden shifts in Western musical style directly affected by world crisis. The music studied will include works from the various movements of Modernism, Neoclassicism and specific works inspired by the Holocaust. Prerequisite: ENGL 102. Fulfills historical perspectives requirement (1998 & 2019).

MUS 152. HP. America and Its Musicals: 1900-1975 (THEA 152). 4. Traces the development of the American musical theatre from 1900 to 1975 with a primary focus on the years of significant transformation that begin in 1940. Studies the art from sociological, political, cultural, economic, artistic and historic perspectives. Analyzes individual artists and productions that have influenced and been influenced by the evolving American national identity. Prerequisite: ENGL 102. Fulfills historical perspectives requirement (1998 & 2019).

PSCI 207. HP. Intelligence Community: Keeping Us Safe. 4. This course examines the origins, evolution, and organizations of the U.S. intelligence community, its success and failures, its impact on American society, and its importance to our national security. Prerequisite: ENGL 102. Fulfills historical perspectives and intercultural requirements (1998). Historical perspectives and sociocultural engagement (2019).

REL 283. HP. Religions of the Minorities of Southwest China. 4. The course explores the religious traditions of the Naxi, Tibetans, Yi, Lisu, Moso and Bai peoples of Yunnan Province in Southwest China. The Chinese “Cultural Revolution” (1966-1976), which systematically devastated the religious lives of these peoples, serves as the course’s central historical focus. Prerequisite: ENGL 102. Fulfills historical perspectives and intercultural requirements (1998). Historical perspectives and sociocultural engagement (2019).

SOAN 216. HP. The Anthropology of Colonialism. 4. Introduces historical anthropology by exploring the socio-cultural dimensions of European colonialism from the late 15th century to the post-colonial period. The course focuses on the colonial experience in Africa, the Americas, Asia and the Middle East, particularly from the point of view of the colonized.