

# History Course Offerings – Spring 2012

## **HIS 102: Introduction to African-American Studies**

This is an interdisciplinary exploration of the experience and initiative of people of African descent throughout the world. Students will be introduced to the history, religion, sociology, politics, economics, creative production and psychology of African peoples, especially in the United States. In addition, the course introduces a variety of perspectives, theories, practical applications and methods of studying African peoples and their social evolution.

## **HIS 103: African-American History I**

Black interpretations of West African history and culture prior to the European invasions. The brutalizing impact of the slave trade on its victims and the accomplishments of the generations subjected to the distortions and degradation of American slave society before legal emancipation.

## **HIS 104: African-American History II**

Black evaluations of the Afro-American resistance to legal and cultural racism from the Civil War to the black revolution of the 1960's and '70s. A clarification of the impact of this constant struggle on the character of black Americans is the main theme.

## **HIS 105: Western Civilization: Ancient and Medieval**

A survey of Western civilization from the building of pyramids to the age of faith, chivalry, crusades and cathedrals. It will highlight our oriental heritage, Greece and Rome; Christianity, the Germanic invasions and medieval life with emphasis on the rise of the middle class and national states.

## **HIS 106: Western Civilization: Renaissance to the Napoleonic Era**

A survey of Western Civilization from the 1300's to 1815 focusing on the Italian Renaissance, the Reformation, the Counter Reformation, the Scientific Revolution, the Enlightenment, the Age of Revolution and the Napoleonic Era.

## **HIS 108: Western Civilization: Modern Europe**

Europe from the Industrial Revolution to the Nuclear Age. An analysis of world developments which followed the Industrial Revolution including Capitalism, Nationalism, Imperialism, Socialism, World War I Fascism, World War II and post-war changes.

## **HIS 111: History of the U.S. to 1865**

A survey of the origin of the clash between the colonies and Great Britain, the framing of the Constitution, Jacksonian Democracy and its influence on the American character, the slavery issue, the growth of industry and territorial expansion.

## **HIS 112: History of the U.S. Since 1865**

A survey of the reconstruction of the nation after the Civil War, the rise of industrial and urban dominance, the struggles affecting agriculture, industry and labor, the growth of the American empire, and the increasing role of government in American life.

## **HIS 211: History of Sport in the U.S.**

A survey of sport from the earliest Native American, African and European roots to the sport and games-oriented contemporary society. Professional, amateur and inter-collegiate sports for men and women, and the Olympic Games movement are examined in detail.

## **HIS 226: Modern Russian History**

Traces Russo-Soviet history from the last Tsar and the revolutions of 1917 to the present. It includes a brief review of Marxist and other revolutionary movements, Lenin and Stalin, U.S.-Soviet Alliance in World War II, origins of the Cold War, contemporary internal and foreign aspects of Soviet policy.

## **HIS 230: The Civil War & Reconstruction**

This course examines the steps, causes, people, and events that led to the Civil War, the war itself, and the postwar period of Reconstruction. Special emphasis is placed on the dynamics and conflicts between the agrarian South and the emerging industrial North, and the reasons behind the war's outcome.

## **HIS 232: The U.S. in the 20th Century**

Major social, political and economic problems of the U.S. with particular emphasis on the post World War II period.

### **HIS 234: The Contemporary African-American Experience**

A course of study dealing with the black experience in American life from 1933 to the present. Its main goal will be to study the significant events during this period that have impacted upon African-Americans with particular emphasis on the Civil Rights Movement and its major personalities.  
(Damon City Campus)

### **HIS 254: Modern East Asian History**

The course will survey the histories of China, Japan, and possibly additional East Asian countries from 1600 to the present. Topics will include the rise and fall of the Qing Dynasty, Edo Japan, the Meiji Restoration, World War II in Asia, the Chinese revolutions of 1911 and 1949, the Korean War, and postwar developments in East Asia. (Spring semester only)

### **HIS 260: World War II**

A survey of modern history from Hitler's youth in Vienna to the dropping of the atomic bombs on Hiroshima and Nagasaki.

### **HIS 262: The Cold War Era**

This course examines the period 1945-1992 – the years before, during, and just following the end of the Cold War. Special emphasis is placed on the nuclear age and its various impacts upon U.S. society; the Cold War conflict between the United States and the former Soviet Union; the ramifications of the United States' engagement in the Vietnam War; and the collapse of the Soviet Union.

### **HIS 275: History and Cultural Analysis of the Holocaust, Genocide, and Human Rights**

The Holocaust is explored as a transcendent narrative, a lens for exploring genocide and human rights. Building upon knowledge gained in American history and western civilization, both historical and cultural analyses are used to reflect upon the human capacity to marginalize, objectify, terrorize, and exterminate the "other" simply for existing. The course's major theme is that theoretically and pragmatically, liberal democracy and human rights--clearly articulated and consistently enforced--are the only constraints against the "beast" of state-sponsored or state-initiated violence.

