**DEPARTMENT OF HISTORY – FALL 2024**

**GRADUATE COURSE OFFERINGS**

**H. 733 - (41514) COLLAPSE OF THE SOVIET UNION**

**Prof. K. Antonova Wednesdays 4:30-6:10pm - In person – KY 417**

**In this course, students will explore the causes and consequences of the collapse of the Soviet Union in August, 1991. Through readings and discussion, we will consider a variety of interpretations of the causes of collapse (nationalism, ideology, technology, international relations, economics, etc), evaluate the state of historiography on the subject, and explore what the collapse of the Soviet Union has meant for the USSR’s successor states, as well as for global international politics.**

**H. 735 - (40679) RISE AND FALL OF THE THIRD REICH**

**Prof. J. Sneeringer Thursdays 4:30-6:10pm - Hybrid – KY 324**

**This seminar will explore the most controversial period in modern German history, focusing on the rise and fall of Nazism. What exactly was Nazism and how did it take root during the Weimar Republic, Germany’s first democracy? Who supported it and why?  To what extent were the Nazis able to remake Germany and how popular was their vision of a “new order”? How did the racism at Nazism’s core evolve from idea to mass murder? While we will explore Hitler himself and the movement he built, we will also pay close attention to “everyday” Germans. How did people make sense of the upheavals that shook Germany from 1914 through 1945? What was daily life like in the Third Reich? Studying Nazi Germany forces us to think about how authoritarianism functions and the choices individuals make. We’ll conclude by considering Nazism’s legacies in individual and collective memory.**

**H. 784 (41512) SOURCES OF NEW YORK CITY HISTORY**

**Prof. K. Schlichting Mondays 4:30-6:10pm – Hybrid – KY 317**

**An intensive examination of the chief archival resources basic for the study of the history of New York City. Research papers and reports are prepared and presented by the student.**

**790 (41511) URBAN AFRICA**

**Prof. G. Davie Wednesdays 6:40-8:20pm -PH 304**

**This seminar will explore evolving and debated interpretations of urban life in sub-Saharan Africa from ancient times to the present day. Weekly readings will introduce students to interdisciplinary methodologies that make use of archival documents, orally**

**transmitted knowledge, ethnographic observation, and archeological research. We will also discuss brief memoires and films. With a focus on Dakar, Ibadan, Lagos, Nairobi, Bulawayo, Johannesburg, and other cities, this course will take a case-study approach to analyzing change and continuity. Students will develop a substantive final paper on a topic of their choice.**

**H. 776 – (41513) US CONSTITUTION 1865-PRESENT**

**Prof. M. Segal Mondays 6:40-8:20pm – HYBRID (KY 304)**

**History 776 picks up more or less where History 775 ends, introducing Master students in History to the study of the history of the U.S. Constitution and constitutional law from the Civil War. The course runs roughly chronologically, although we will occasionally follow a constitutional legal issue to recent and/or to ongoing cases (e.g., free speech, abortion law), particularly where legal precedent is in play. Running themes in the first semester course were so-called Indian law, and the constitutional law of slavery. A running theme of this semester will be uses of history in constitutional law, and throughout we will be interested in changes to the text of the Constitution itself, developments in how the Constitution was used and understood, as well as the possible social and political causes and effects of these shifts.**

**Our first area of inquiry will be Civil War law and Reconstruction, including the Reconstruction Amendments and dramatic changes in the Constitution’s uses under Lincoln during the war and under Reconstruction. We will take time here to consider the ways that Reconstruction and its methods still inform the state of the union and of black Americans’ treatment and status.**

**From there we will briefly survey demographic and economic change in the late 19th and early 20th centuries, and the changes to American law that were effected, including to what we now call reproductive rights as well as to labor law. All this to prepare us to think about the great changes to constitutional law throughout the Progressive Era. Topics in this second unit are: the development of First Amendment free speech law in the wake of the Espionage Act and American involvement in World War One; the Lochner era and related cases; the New Deal of the Roosevelt era. For this last topic we will also look to the revisiting of anti-trust law today (2020s) in the wake of the Reagan era.**

**Our Third unit will focus on the continued evolution of constitutional rights following the Second World War, with an emphasis on Civil Rights, Women’s rights and criminal law. Here we will pick up the thread from our first unit, and consider if we ought to think of these political and legal developments as a second “Reconstruction” with parallel, if different, challenges. Our fourth and final unit will focus on Constitutional Construction, and debates about the uses of history, with some examples drawn from constitutional law of our own century, such as recent cases on abortion law, gay marriage, free speech and/or the rights of convicted criminals.**

**This is a hybrid course. We will meet in person approximately 4 times in the semester. The rest of the time we will meet online. For this course, one is expected to have: a functioning laptop/desktop AND a laptop/desktop camera; wifi access with enough bandwidth to sustain camera, voice, and Zoom simultaneously; a quiet stationary place where one can participate fully in class.**

**H. 788 (40704) THE UNITED STATES AND THE VIETNAM WAR**

**Prof. P. Vellon Tuesdays 4:30-6:10pm – PH 108 – In person**

**This course explores how, and why, the United States became involved in Vietnam during the second half of the 20th century.  In part, the course will examine American foreign policy in Vietnam, the domestic impact of the war, including the antiwar movement and other rights-based movements for change, how race, class, and gender informed the composition of the armed forces, as well as larger questions related to issues such as nationalism, patriotism, dissent, and power.  Specific content goals of the course include political, economic, and social developments in the United States from the late 1940s through the early 1970s.  In addition, the course will examine the impact of race, class, and gender and how these social constructs have shaped, and continue to shape, American society.**

**H 791 (40703) INTRODUCTION TO HISTORICAL RESEARCH**

**Prof. B. Wintermute Tuesdays 6:40-8:20pm - In person – PH 154**

**This course will provide an introduction to historiography, to the primary and secondary sources used in historical research, to historical research methods, and to the writing of history. Examples of the primary sources to be covered include letters, diaries, documents, and historical newspapers. During the course students will assess primary sources, analyze secondary texts, and provide proper scholarly apparatus to their written work, including accurate and properly formatted citations and bibliography. Students will make use of the best secondary sources wherever they are available. Students will utilize primary sources located at QC or other libraries, including records and papers, published or unpublished, printed or online. The course goals include each student producing properly researched and documented historical papers.**

**H. 799 (40702)   ANTISEMITISM IN HISTORICAL PERSPECTIVE**

**Prof. E. Bemporad Tuesdays 6:40-8:20pm – On-line (Synchronous)**

**This course explores major issues in the history of antisemitism from the early Middle Ages to the modern period. With a particular focus on the “Blood Libel” and other conspiracy theories, the course will study the specific social, economic and political contexts as well as reasons that led to the emergence and/or persistence and permutations of antisemitism in different times and places in history. A strong emphasis will also be put on the study of the ideological, political, and social reactions and responses of individual Jews, as well as Jewish communities, to antisemitism.**

**HIST 799 (40701) HISTORY AND FILM: THE WAR FILM**

**Prof. B. Wintermute Thursdays 6:40-8:20pm - PH 202 - In person**

**Representations of war and combat are one of the oldest genres in film with early efforts as D. W. Griffith's 1909 silent film *The Hessian Renegades and* 1911's *Battle of Trafalgar* setting up the standards for those that follow.  This course will be comprised of two elements.  At the start of the course, we will engage critical texts on how visual media - film, and then later, television - functions as a venue for multiple discourses related to war, military institutions in society, cultural values, political themes, and ideological contextualizations of the world at the time of their creation, their screening for a contemporary audience, and their legacy messages for future generations.  Later in the course we will begin screening clips from films and television series related to the context of war and violence.  The final project will challenge students to prepare a viewers' guide to films related to a chosen topic.**