

selected themes and issues in Western history in an in-depth manner.

HIST 4216 United States Diplomacy since 1898 (3,2,1)

This course will focus on US diplomatic relations with the rest of the world since 1898. Beginning with the aftermath of the Spanish-American War and the Open Door Notes, students will delve into the events of American diplomacy to the present. Emphasis will be placed on specific events and times and on the underlying base for that diplomacy as it changes over time.

HIST 4217 Western Intellectual Thought (3,2,1)

This course traces Western intellectual development from classical Greece, through medieval scholasticism, the Renaissance, the Enlightenment, the Romantic Movement, and Marxism down to post-World War Two Existentialism, and what has been called “the exhaustion of ideals” of recent years. Attention will be paid to the Western intellectual tradition’s tremendous and continuing impact on China, Asia and the world.

HIST 4305 Sino-American Relations (3,2,1)

This course studies selected major issues in the political, economic and cultural interactions between China and the United States since the late eighteenth century. Special emphasis will be placed on the unique origin, nature and importance of China’s relations with United States in contrast with those with other Western powers. Discussion will also focus on selected issues considered to have affected their interaction, including some which may still continue to do so.

HIST 4306 Sino-Russian Relations (3,2,1)

The course studies the changing relations between China and Russia/ the Soviet Union. While touching on the historical issues relating to the early contacts between these two countries, it deals mainly with the period from the early nineteenth century to the present. It emphasizes the historical, geopolitical, ideological, socio-cultural, ethnic and economic factors which have shaped the evolution of the two complex states themselves, and their interactions at the state-to-state, regional and global levels.

HIST 4307 Topic Studies in Sino/Asian-Western Relations (3,2,1)

This course strives to enhance students’ knowledge of Sino/Asian-Western Relations by providing them with the opportunity for studying selected themes and issues in this area in an in-depth manner. Senior students are very much welcome.

HIST 4315 Introduction to Museum Studies (3,3,0)

This course will familiarize students with museum history and museum studies. Museums as we know them are relatively young institutions that emerged during the late 18th and early 19th centuries. We will trace the history of collecting and collections from the 16th to the 21st century in order to discuss how practices of collecting, functions of collections and target audiences changed over time. Secondly, we will analyse different types of museums, from history museums to science museums. Finally, the course will introduce methodological approaches in museum studies as theoretical and practical tools to explore with the history of material culture.

HIST 4316 Global History of the Seas, 1400-1950 (3,2,1)

This course takes a global perspective on the history of the seas from the fifteenth century until the twentieth century. Most histories focus on human societies on land and view the oceans as largely empty spaces between different landmasses. Instead, this course demonstrates that the seas were vital arenas of human activity. The oceans were conduits for the circulation of goods, people, technologies and ideas. Knowledge of life and activities at sea therefore adds an important dimension to our understanding of the histories of commerce, warfare and migration. By taking a global approach to the maritime world this course moves beyond regional and national histories. It emphasises the fluidity of the boundaries between human communities and the

global web of connections woven by maritime activity. Each week the class explores a different theme, ranging from naval warfare to the history of social communities at sea. Field trips to Hong Kong museums such as the Museum of Coastal Defence and the Maritime Museum will emphasise the intersection of global, regional and local maritime histories. By the end of the course, students will develop an understanding of how human activity at sea has shaped the history of the modern world.

HIST 4317 Global History of Tourism (3,2,1)

This course aims to examine the history of tourism from a global perspective. It presents an overview of the important types, structures, developing processes and future trends of tourism. Firstly, the course deals with early forms of travel in the Classical World and the Middle Ages. It then discusses the development of the Grand Tour, modern tourism, and the emergence of so-called educational journeys, which was a type of cultural travel undertaken by the middle classes in Europe. The course then traces the rise of mass tourism in the 19th century and considers how it evolved into contemporary globalized tourism. Special attention will be given to evaluation of the significance of globalized tourism from different scholarly perspectives, including cultural, social and economic approaches to the history of tourism.

HIST 4325 History of Africa since Independence (3,2,1)

While home to diverse and dynamic societies, Africa is often misunderstood and defined by stereotypes and vague generalities. In particular, beset by war, famine and poverty, the continent has long been regarded as “the hopeless continent”. This course is designed to give students a firm grasp of various topics and debates in the history of the African continent since independence from an interdisciplinary perspective. Importantly, the course focuses not only the review of major incidents, but also the exploration of preconceptions and misconceptions in understanding the African past. Students will leave the course with not only the ability to develop their own perspective on African issues but also with the tools necessary for them to be informed citizens and critical consumers of information relating to the African continent.

HIST 4326 Science and Society: A Historical Perspective (3,2,1)

This class will offer an introduction to the history of science and technology since the so-called Scientific Revolution of the 16th and 17th centuries. On the one hand we will ask what modern science is, how it was made, and how it came to be the most authoritative form of knowing. On the other hand it will be emphasized that science is, or implies more than, just a body of knowledge. We will trace how science and technology have been embedded in the societies that produced them and how they have been instrumentalised for economic and military purposes.

HIST 4327 Topic Studies in Comparative History (3,2,1)

Comparing similar historical events across time and space, this course encourages students to consider what is common and what is unique, and thereby to illuminate general patterns and moving forces in human history.

HIST 4335 Topic Studies in Global History (3,2,1)

This course aims to broaden students’ understanding of the construction of the modern world system characterized by integration and connectivity by exposing them to the various methods, themes and subject areas in global history.

HIST 4405 Oral History and Its Local Applications (3,3,0)

Following the guideline and standards adopted by the Oral History Association, the first part of the course tackles the basic concepts related to oral history. The second half focuses more on applications in the context of studying Hong Kong’s past. In addition to lectures, fieldwork is required.