The History major is for students who understand that shaping the future requires knowing the past. History courses explore many centuries of human experimentation and ingenuity, from the global to the individual scale. History majors learn to be effective storytellers and analysts, and to craft arguments that speak to broad audiences. They make extensive use of Yale’s vast library resources to create pioneering original research projects. Students of history learn to think about politics and government, sexuality, the economy, cultural and intellectual life, war and society, and other themes in broadly humanistic—rather than narrowly technocratic—ways.

History is one of Yale College’s most popular and intellectually diverse majors, encompassing nearly every region and time period of the global past. The study of history is excellent preparation for careers in many fields, including law, journalism, business and finance, education, politics and public policy, social activism, and the arts.

COURSE NUMBERING

Courses numbered HIST 001 to 099 are first-year seminars, with enrollment limited to eighteen. Courses numbered in the 100s explore the history of the United States or Canada; those in the 200s, Europe, Russia, and Britain; and those in the 300s, Africa, Asia, Latin America, and the Middle East. Courses numbered in the 400s address global topics. Courses whose numbers end with the letter "J" are departmental seminars; all departmental seminars are available for preregistration by History majors and are capped at fifteen students.

PREREQUISITE

The prerequisite for the major is two term courses in History. Courses completed in fulfillment of the prerequisite may be applied toward the requirements of the major.

REQUIREMENTS OF THE MAJOR

Ten term courses in History are required, including prerequisites, and in addition to the senior essay. No specific courses are required.

Upon declaration, all History majors select either the global or the specialist track. The global track is designed for students seeking a broad understanding of major trends in the history of human societies throughout the world. The specialist track is for students seeking to focus in a particular geographic region, such as the United States, or in a thematic pathway, such as empires and colonialism. Majors may change tracks until the end of the course selection period in the second term of the junior year.

The global track requires one course in each of five different geographic regions (see below). Students must also take two preindustrial courses, covering material before the year 1800, and two departmental seminars, identified by a "J" suffix to the course number (e.g., HIST 136J).

The specialist track requires at least five (and up to eight) courses in a particular geographic region or in a thematic pathway (see list below). Courses appropriate for each region and pathway are listed on the department website. Students must also take at least two courses outside their area of specialization, and their overall course work must include at least three geographic regions. Like students in the global track, students in the specialist track must take two preindustrial courses, covering material before the year 1800, and at least two departmental seminars, identified by a "J" suffix to the course number (e.g., HIST 136J). Students in the specialist track may design an area of specialization with the approval of a faculty adviser and the DUS.

Regions: United States; Europe; Latin America; Asia; Middle East and Africa.

Pathways: cultural history; empires and colonialism; environmental history; ideas and intellectuals; international history; politics and law; race, gender, and sexuality; religion in context; science, technology, and medicine; social change and social movements; war and society; the world economy.

Students in either track may count the same courses toward geographical, preindustrial, and seminar requirements. For instance, a departmental seminar on premodern Japan simultaneously fulfills the preindustrial, seminar, and Asia geographical requirements.

Departmental seminars

All students who declare the History major are entitled to preregister for two departmental seminars (designated by a course number ending in J, such as HIST 136J). Many seminars are popular and fill up quickly. Students may use their preregistration privileges at any time after declaring the major, in their sophomore, junior, or senior years. Sophomores contemplating study abroad are urged to consider taking at least one seminar in the sophomore year. Residential college seminars, study-abroad courses, and courses in other departments that count toward the History major do not fulfill the departmental seminar requirement.

Distinction in the major

Students who receive an A or A– on the two-term senior essay and who receive the requisite grades in their remaining course work are awarded Distinction in the Major. (See under Honors in the Undergraduate Curriculum section of this bulletin.) Students who do not complete the two-term senior essay are not eligible for Distinction.

Roadmap See visual roadmap of the requirements.
SENIOR REQUIREMENT

Students in the History major are not passive consumers of historical knowledge: they create original works of history themselves. As seniors, History majors complete a work of original research in close consultation with a faculty adviser. The range of acceptable topics and methodological approaches are wide. The aim is to take on study of a significant historical subject through research in accessible primary source materials.

Most students choose to complete a two-term independent senior essay, for a total of twelve course credits in the major. The two-term essay is required to earn Distinction in the Major. A smaller number of students choose to write an independent one-term essay, for a total of eleven course credits in the major.

The one-term senior essay History majors may choose to write a one-term independent senior essay during the fall term under the guidance of a faculty adviser; however, students who choose the one-term option are not eligible for Distinction in the Major or history prizes. The one-term essay is a substantial research paper (roughly half the length of the two-term senior essay) based on primary sources, along with a bibliographic essay. Seniors receive course credit for their departmental essays by enrolling in HIST 497 during the fall of senior year. In rare circumstances, with permission of the adviser and Senior Essay Director, a student enrolled in HIST 497 during the fall term may withdraw from the course in accordance with Yale College regulations on course withdrawal and enroll in HIST 497 during the spring term. Additional details about the senior essay are provided in the Senior Essay Handbook, available on the History Website.

The two-term senior essay History majors seeking to earn Distinction in the Major must complete a two-term independent senior essay under the guidance of a faculty adviser. The typical senior essay is 40–50 pages (no more than 12,500 words), plus a bibliography and bibliographical essay. Seniors receive course credit for their departmental essays by enrolling in HIST 495 (first term of senior year) and HIST 496 (second term of senior year). The grade for the final essay, determined by an outside reader in consultation with the faculty adviser, is applied retroactively to both terms. Additional details about the senior essay are provided in the Senior Essay Handbook, available on the History Website. History majors graduating in December may begin their two-term senior essay in the spring term and complete the senior essay during fall term.

Additional option for the senior essay Some students embark on the two-term essay but discover that their choice is not a good fit. Students who enroll in HIST 495 during the first term may opt out in consultation with their faculty adviser and the senior essay director. This decision must be made in accordance with Yale College regulations on course withdrawal. Instead, the student will enroll in HIST 497 in the spring term to write a one-term senior essay. Students who opt out will not be eligible for Distinction in the Major or History prizes. Additional details about the senior essay are provided in the Senior Essay Handbook, available on the History Website.

ADVISING

All students who declare the History major are assigned an adviser from among the departmental faculty. The adviser is available throughout the year for consultation about courses and the major. Students in the global track are assigned an adviser from the general History faculty. Students in the specialist track are assigned an adviser in their area of specialization. At the beginning of each term, students majoring in History must have their schedule signed and approved by their departmental adviser or by the DUS. Students may request a specific adviser in consultation with the DUS, though the department cannot always accommodate such requests.

Course substitution History majors are permitted to include up to two courses taught outside the department toward fulfillment of the major, with the approval of the DUS. Nondepartmental courses may fulfill geographic, region/pathway, and preindustrial distribution requirements. They may not fulfill departmental seminar or senior requirements.

Combined B.A./M.A. degree program Exceptionally able and well-prepared students may complete a course of study leading to the simultaneous award of the B.A. and M.A. degrees after eight terms of enrollment. See “Simultaneous Award of the Bachelor’s and Master’s Degrees” under Special Arrangements, section K, in the Academic Regulations. Interested students should consult the DUS prior to the sixth term of enrollment for specific requirements in History.

REQUIREMENTS OF THE MAJOR

Prerequisites 2 term courses in History

Number of courses 10 term courses (incl prereqs, not incl senior essay)

Distribution of courses Both tracks — 2 courses in preindustrial hist as specified; 2 departmental sems; Global track — 1 course in each of 5 geographical regions (U.S., Europe, Latin America, Asia, Africa/Middle East); Specialist track — 5 courses in specific region or pathway; at least 2 courses outside region or pathway; overall course work must include 3 regions

Substitution permitted 1 or 2 nondepartmental courses approved by DUS

Senior requirement Two-term senior essay (HIST 495 and 496) or one-term senior essay (HIST 497)

FACULTY OF THE DEPARTMENT OF HISTORY

Professors Abbas Amanat, Ned Blackhawk, David Blight, Daniel Botsman, Paul Bushkovitch, Deborah Coen, Carolyn Dean, Fabian Drixler, Carlos Eire, David Engerman, Paul Freedman, Joanne Freeman, John Gaddis, Beverly Gage, Bruce Gordon, Valerie Hansen, Robert Harms, Matthew Jacobson, Gilbert Joseph, Paul Kennedy, Benedict Kiernan, Jennifer Klein, Naomi Lamoreaux, Bentley Layton, Noel Lenski, Kathryn Lofton, Mary Lui, Daniel Magaziner, Joseph Manning, Ivan Marcus, John Merriman, Joanne Meyerowitz (Acting Chair [F]), Alan Mikhail (Chair [Sp]), Samuel Moyn, Nicholas Parrillo, Peter Perdue, Mark Peterson, Stephen Pitti, Naomi Rogers, Paul
Sabin, Lamin Sanneh, Stuart Schwartz, Timothy Snyder, David Sorkin, Harry Stout, John Warner, Anders Winroth, John Witt, Keith Wrightson

**Associate Professors** Paola Bertucci, Crystal Feimster, Andrew Johnston, Joanna Radin, Edward Rugemer, Marci Shore, Eliyahu Stern

**Assistant Professors** Jennifer Allen, Sergei Antonov, Rohit De, Marcela Echeverri, Anne Eller, Denise Ho, Isaac Nakhimovsky, William Rankin, Carolyn Roberts, Jonathan Wyrtzen

**Senior Lecturers** Becky Conekin, Jay Gitlin, Stuart Semmel, Rebecca Tannenbaum

**Lecturers** Sakena Aedin, Ivano Dal Prete, Rachel Elder, Jay Gitlin, Amelia Hintzen, Ian Johnson, Maria Jordan, George Levesque, Julia Mansfield, Jess Melvin, Gunther Peck, Chitra Ramalingam, Terence Renaud

**First-Year Seminars**

* **HIST 015b, History of Food and Cuisine**  Paul Freedman
  The history of food from the Middle Ages to the present, with a focus on the United States and Europe. How societies gathered and prepared food; culinary tastes of different times and places. The influence of taste on trade, colonization, and cultural exchange. The impact of immigration, globalization, and technology on food. Enrollment limited to freshmen. Preregistration required; see under Freshman Seminar Program.  **HU**

* **HIST 022a, What History Teaches**  John Gaddis
  An introduction to the discipline of history. History viewed as an art, a science, and something in between; differences between fact, interpretation, and consensus; history as a predictor of future events. Focus on issues such as the interdependence of variables, causation and verification, the role of individuals, and to what extent historical inquiry can or should be a moral enterprise.  **WR, HU**

* **HIST 033a / WGS 033a, Fashion in London and Paris, 1750 to the Present**  Staff
  Introduction to the history of Western fashion from the mid-eighteenth century to the present, with a focus on Paris and London. Approaches, methods, and theories scholars have historically employed to study fashion and dress. Enrollment limited to first-year students. Preregistration required; see under First-Year Seminar Program.  **WR, HU**

* **HIST 040a, Comparative Women's History**  Rebecca Tannenbaum
  Comparative perspective on the lives of women and their experiences, the ways in which historical forces shaped gender roles in different cultures, and the similarities and differences in gender roles across different time periods and around the world. Topics include work, family roles, political participation, health and sexuality, religious roles, and global feminisms.  **WR, HU**

* **HIST 041a, The Americas in the Age of Revolutions**  Marcela Echeverri Munoz
  The connections, contrasts, and legacies of revolutions in the British, French, and Spanish Atlantic empires in the eighteenth and nineteenth centuries. Interactions between liberalism, black politics and antislavery, indigenous autonomy and citizenship, and revolutions in the Atlantic world between the 1760s and 1880s. Topics include the foundations of the Atlantic empires, strands of anticolonialism across the Americas, social aspects of the revolutionary movements, abolitionism and emancipation processes, and relations between the emergent American nations. Enrollment limited to first-year students. Preregistration required; see under First-Year Seminar Program.  **WR, HU**

* **HIST 052b, Latin America from the Nineteenth Century to the Present**  Marcela Echeverri Munoz
  Introduction to Latin American history, beginning with the independence processes that led to the creation of the region's nations in the nineteenth century. Focus on nationalism, race, revolution, and development. Exploration of ideas, technology, economic forces, and people that have transformed Latin American landscapes and politics.  **WR, HU**

* **HIST 055b, Latin America from the Nineteenth Century to the Present**  Staff
  Chronological and thematic exploration of modern London as a metropolitan and imperial center from the late-nineteenth-century to the present day. Topics include race, gay rights, women’s rights, consumer culture, the experience of war, and the development of a multi-racial society. The fashion, food, and popular music of London emerge as important components of the city’s global identity in the twentieth century. Enrollment limited to first-year students. Preregistration required; see under First-Year Seminar Program.  **WR, HU**

* **HIST 072b, Thinking about History**  Valerie Hansen
  How the great historians of ancient Greece, Rome, China, the Islamic world, and nineteenth-century Europe created modern historical method. How to evaluate the reliability of sources, both primary and secondary, and assess the relationship between fact and interpretation. Using historical method to make sense of our world today. Enrollment limited to freshmen. Preregistration required; see under Freshman Seminar Program.  **WR, HU, RP**

* **HIST 090b / HUMS 090b, Thinking about History**  Stuart Semmel
  An introduction to the discipline of history. Exploration of influential historical narratives; the philosophy of history; the emergence of historical subdisciplines including history from below, microhistory, the new cultural history, and Big History; and interdisciplinary engagement with anthropology, literary criticism, art history, and psychology. Enrollment limited to first-year students. Preregistration required; see under First-Year Seminar Program.  **WR, HU**
Lecture Courses

HIST 103a, The World Circa 1800  Stuart Semmel
Global history studies cross-cultural interactions, connections, influences, and conflicts. Our subjects include: colonial expansion; war and resistance; slavery; migration and diaspora; the diffusion of ideas and technologies; and the transplanting of crops, livestock, and bacteria. Looking at the world around 1800 lets us consider the impact of European imperial expansion, the French revolution, religious movements, industrialization, and the “international” emergence of “nationalism.” We consider and explore the very notions of “modernization” and “globalization.” HU

HIST 107a / AMST 133a / ER&M 187a, Introduction to American Indian History  Ned Blackhawk
Survey of American Indian history, beginning with creation traditions and migration theories and continuing to the present day. Focus on American Indian nations whose homelands are located within the contemporary United States. Complexity and change within American Indian societies, with emphasis on creative adaptations to changing historical circumstances. HU

HIST 115a / AMST 188a, The Colonial Period of American History  Mark Peterson
This course explores the history of North America from the period of European colonization through the era of the Seven Years’ War, from roughly 1492 to 1763. Emphasis is placed on the migration of people from Europe and Africa to North America; their contact and interaction with Native Americans; the formation of new societies and economies; and the corresponding development of new political and social ideas in America, with special attention paid to the evolving relationship between slavery and freedom. Although the course addresses the major themes and issues of early American history, the lectures and readings frequently focus on the lives of individuals, both prominent and obscure, who shaped and were shaped by larger forces and developments. HU

HIST 119b / AFAM 172b, The Civil War and Reconstruction Era, 1845–1877  David Blight
The causes, course, and consequences of the American Civil War. A search for the multiple meanings of a transformative event, including national, sectional, racial, constitutional, social, gender, intellectual, and individual dimensions. HU

HIST 135b / ECON 182b, American Economic History  Staff
The growth of the American economy since 1790, both as a unique historical record and as an illustration of factors in the process of economic development. The American experience viewed in the context of its European background and patterns of industrialization overseas. After introductory microeconomics. WR, SO

HIST 147a / AMST 247a / FILM 244a / HLTH 170a / HSHM 202a, Media and Medicine in Modern America  John Warner and Gretchen Berland
Relationships between medicine, health, and the media in the United States from 1870 to the present. The changing role of the media in shaping conceptions of the body, creating new diseases, influencing health and health policy, crafting the image of the medical profession, informing expectations of medicine and constructions of citizenship, and the medicalization of American life. HU

HIST 165b / AMST 199b, The American Century  Beverly Gage
United States politics, political thought, and social movements in the 20th century. Pivotal elections and political figures (Wilson, Roosevelt, Nixon, Reagan) as well as politics from below (civil rights, labor, women’s activism). Emphasis on political ideas such as liberalism, conservatism, and radicalism, and on the intersection between domestic and foreign affairs. Primary research in Yale archival collections. Students who have already completed HIST 136J must have the instructor’s permission to enroll in this course, and will perform alternate readings during some weeks. WR, HU

HIST 166b / AMST 299b, The History of Right Now  Matthew Jacobson
Historiographic narrative of United States history over the past century and critical/methodological practices of thinking historically and of identifying ways in which in our present has been conditioned by historical legacies, both momentous and subtle. Topics include the New Deal, WWII, the arms race, Reaganomics, and 9/11 in terms of their lasting influence on American conditions in the present. HU RP

HIST 169b, Early National America  Joanne Freeman
An introduction to America’s first decades as a nation. Topics include the creation of a national politics, partisan conflict in the states and on a national level, the logistics of democratic politicking, and changes in American society and culture. HU

HIST 183a / AMST 272a / ER&M 282a, Asian American History, 1800 to the Present  Mary Lui
An introduction to the history of East, South, and Southeast Asian migrations and settlement to the United States from the late eighteenth century to the present. Major themes include labor migration, community formation, U.S. imperialism, legal exclusion, racial segregation, gender and sexuality, cultural representations, and political resistance. HU

HIST 184a / AFAM 160a / AFST 184a / AMST 160a, The Rise and Fall of Atlantic Slavery  Edward Rugemer
The history of peoples of African descent throughout the Americas, from the first African American societies of the sixteenth century through the century-long process of emancipation. HU

HIST 187b / AFAM 162b / AMST 162b, African American History from Emancipation to the Present  Staff
An examination of the African American experience since 1861. Meanings of freedom and citizenship are distilled through appraisal of race and class formations, the processes and effects of cultural consumption, and the grand narrative of the civil rights movement. WR, HU
HIST 188b / AMST 234b / ER&M 243b / RLST 342b, Spiritual But Not Religious  Zareena Grewal
Study of the historical and contemporary “unchurching” trends in American religious life in a comparative perspective and across different scales of analysis in order to think about the relationship between spirituality, formal religion, secular psychology and the self-help industry.  HU, SO

HIST 202a, European Civilization, 1648–1945  John Merriman
An overview of the economic, social, political, and intellectual history of modern Europe. Topics include the rise of absolute states, the scientific revolution, the Enlightenment, the French Revolution and Napoleon, the industrial revolution, the revolutions of 1848, nationalism and national unifications, Victorian Britain, the colonization of Africa and Asia, fin-de-siècle culture and society, the Great War, the Russian Revolution, the Europe of political extremes, and World War II.  HU

HIST 199b / AMST 230b / EVST 318b / HSHM 207b, American Energy History  Paul Sabin
The history of energy in the United States from early hydropower and coal to present-day hydraulic fracturing, deepwater oil, wind, and solar. Topics include energy transitions and technological change; energy and democracy; environmental justice and public health; corporate power and monopoly control; electricity and popular culture; labor struggles; the global quest for oil; changing national energy policies; the climate crisis.  HU

HIST 205a / CLCV 205a / HUMS 143a, Introduction to Ancient Greek History  François Gerardin
Introduction to Greek history, tracing the development of Greek civilization as manifested in the political, military, intellectual, and creative achievements from the Bronze Age through the end of the Classical period. Students read original sources in translation as well as secondary scholarship to better understand the rise and fall of the ancient Greeks— the civilization at the very heart of Western Civilization.  HU

HIST 215b / RLST 283b, Reformation Europe, 1450–1650  Carlos Eire
Examination of a series of religious revolutions in Europe between 1450 and 1650. The causes and nature of the reformations that changed the religious, political, social, and economic landscapes of early modern Europe and shaped the course of Western civilization as a whole.  HU

HIST 217a / CLCV 206a / HUMS 144a, The Roman Republic  François Gerardin
The origins, development, and expansion of Rome from the earliest times to the deaths of Caesar and Cicero. Cultural identity and interaction; slavery, class, and the family; politics, rhetoric, and propaganda; religion; imperialism; monumentality and memory; and the perception and writing of history. Application of literary and archaeological evidence.  HU

HIST 218b / CLCV 207b, The Roman Empire  François Gerardin
The history of the Roman Empire from its establishment by Augustus to the reign of Justinian. Attention to social, intellectual, and religious changes, as well as to the framework of historical events within which these changes took place, and to the processes by which the Roman Empire was replaced by the institutions of the Western Middle Ages and the Byzantine Empire.  HU

HIST 220b / JDST 201b / RLST 149b, Introduction to Modern Jewish History  Staff
A broad introduction to the history of Jewish culture from the late Middle Ages until the present. Emphasis on the changing interaction of Jews with the larger society as well as the transformation of Judaism in its encounter with modernity.  HU

HIST 221b / GLBL 281b, Military History of the West since 1500  Paul Kennedy
A study of the military history of the West since 1500, with emphasis on the relationship between armies and navies on the one hand, and technology, economics, geography, and the rise of the modern nation-state on the other. The coming of airpower in its varied manifestations. Also meets requirements for the Air Force and Naval ROTC programs.  HU

HIST 275a, Revolutionary France, 1789–1871  John Merriman
Dimensions of political, social, and economic change in France during its most turbulent period. The causes and impact of the revolutions of 1789, 1830, 1848, and 1871; demographic change and large-scale industrialization; shifting political elites, republican and socialist alternatives to monarchy, and urbanization.  HU

HIST 276b, France since 1871  John Merriman
The emergence of modern France since the Paris Commune of 1871 and the beginnings of the Third Republic. The social, economic, political, and cultural transformation of France; the impact of France’s revolutionary heritage, of industrialization, and of the dislocation wrought by two world wars and decolonialization; and the political response of the Left and the Right to changing French society, including the impact of immigration and the emergence and challenges of the European Union. One discussion section conducted in French; students in this section may count the course toward the French major.  HU

HIST 280a / ITAL 315a / RLST 160a, The Catholic Intellectual Tradition  Carlos Eire
Introductory survey of the interaction between Catholicism and Western culture from the first century to the present, with a focus on pivotal moments and crucial developments that defined both traditions. Key beliefs, rites, and customs of the Roman Catholic Church, and the ways in which they have found expression; interaction between Catholics and the institution of the Church; Catholicism in its cultural and sociopolitical matrices. Close reading of primary sources.  HU

HIST 290a / RSEE 225a, Russia from the Ninth Century to 1801  Paul Bushkovitch
The mainstream of Russian history from the Kievan state to 1801. Political, social, and economic institutions and the transition from Eastern Orthodoxy to the Enlightenment.  HU
HIST 300b / CLCV 204b, Alexander the Great and the Hellenistic World  Joseph Manning
The history and culture of the ancient world between the rise of Macedonian imperialism in the fourth century B.C.E. and the annexation of Egypt by Augustus in 30 B.C.E. Particular attention to Alexander, one of the most important figures in world history, and to the definition of “Hellenism.”  

HU

HIST 312b, China from Present to Past, 2015–600  Valerie Hansen
Underlying causes of current issues facing China traced back to their origins in the premodern period. Topics include economic development, corruption, environmental crises, gender, and Pacific island disputes. Selected primary-source readings in English, images, videos, and Web resources.  

HU

HIST 322a / AFST 333a, African Encounters with Colonialism  Daniel Magaziner
How African societies and peoples encountered, engaged, and endured the colonial and postcolonial world, from the arrival of Kiswaali-speaking traders at the shores of Lake Victoria in the 1840s through the rise and fall of European colonialism and the resulting forms of neocolonialism. Transformations and continuities in African religious life; gendered sociability; popular culture.  

HU

HIST 346a / MMES 144a, The Making of Modern Iran  Abbas Amanat
The political, socioreligious, and cultural history of modern Iran from the Shi’ite revolution and the rise of the Safavid Empire to the present. Discussion of Shi’ism and the state, relations with neighboring countries (the Ottoman Empire and India), Russia and Britain in Qajar Iran, the Babi-Baha’i religion, the constitutional revolution, the Pahlavi dynasty, oil, nationalism and relations with the United States, the causes and the consequences of the Islamic revolution, and Iran in the contemporary Middle East.  

HU

HIST 361a / LAST 361a, History of Brazil  Stuart Schwartz
Brazilian history from European contact to the reestablishment of civilian government in the 1990s. Focus on the multiethnic nature of Brazilian society, the formation of social and political patterns, and the relationships of people to the environment.  

HU

HIST 396b / SAST 224b, India and Pakistan since 1947  Staff
Introduction to the history of the Indian subcontinent from 1947 to the present. Focus on the emergence of modern forms of life and thought, the impact of the partition on state and society, and the challenges of democracy and development. Transformations of society, economy, and culture; state building; economic policy.  

HU

Departmental Seminars

All History majors must take at least two departmental seminars. Seminars on the history of the United States or Canada are numbered 100J to 199J; seminars on Britain and Europe are 200J to 299J; and seminars on Africa, Asia, Latin America, and the Middle East are 300J to 399J. Seminars numbered in the 400s address global topics; students must apply to the director of undergraduate studies in History to count a 400-level seminar toward a particular geographical distribution category. Each departmental seminar aims to acquaint students in a substantial and professional way with the literature of a period in history; to train them as far as possible in the use of primary source materials; to introduce them to problems of bibliography, historiography, and historical method; and to give them training in the writing of history. The relative importance of these objectives in any particular seminar depends on its subject matter, the previous preparation of its students, and the availability of materials.

Each term declared History majors should apply for departmental seminars for the following term using the online seminar preregistration site. Preregistration begins after midterm in the fall for seminars offered in the spring term, and after spring recess for seminars offered in the subsequent fall term. All students who wish to preregister must declare their major beforehand.

During the course selection period, application for admission should be made directly to the instructors of the seminars, who will admit students to remaining vacancies in their seminars. Priority is given to applications from juniors, then seniors, majoring in History, but applications are also accepted from qualified sophomores and from students majoring in other disciplines or programs. The department seeks wherever possible to accommodate students’ preferences; for their part, students should recognize that limitations imposed by the size of seminars (normally fifteen students) make accommodation impossible in some instances. HIST 494 and residential college seminars offered in the subsequent fall term. All students who wish to preregister must declare the major beforehand.

During the course selection period, application for admission should be made directly to the instructors of the seminars, who will admit students to remaining vacancies in their seminars. Priority is given to applications from juniors, then seniors, majoring in History, but applications are also accepted from qualified sophomores and from students majoring in other disciplines or programs. The department seeks wherever possible to accommodate students’ preferences; for their part, students should recognize that limitations imposed by the size of seminars (normally fifteen students) make accommodation impossible in some instances. HIST 494 and residential college seminars offered in the subsequent fall term.

* HIST 127Jb / WGSS 427b, Witchcraft in Colonial America  Rebecca Tannenbaum
The social, religious, economic, and gender history of British North America as manifested through witchcraft beliefs and trials.  

WR, HU

* HIST 133Jb, The Creation of the American Politician, 1789–1820  Joanne Freeman
The creation of an American style of politics: ideas, political practices, and self-perceptions of America’s first national politicians. Topics include national identity, the birth of national political parties, methods of political combat, early American journalism, changing conceptions of leadership and citizenship, and the evolving political culture of the early republic.  

WR, HU

* HIST 134Jb, Yale and America: Selected Topics in Social and Cultural History  Jay Gitlin
Relations between Yale and Yale people—from Ezra Stiles and Noah Webster to Cole Porter, Henry Roe Cloud, and Maya Lin—and American society and culture. Elihu Yale and the global eighteenth century; Benjamin Silliman and the emergence of American science; Walter Camp, Dink Stover, and the all-American boy; Henry Luce and the information age; faith and ideology in postwar Yale and America.  

WR, HU RP
* HIST 135Ja, The Age of Hamilton and Jefferson  Joanne Freeman
The culture and politics of the revolutionary and early national periods of American history, using the lives, ideas, and writings of Thomas Jefferson and Alexander Hamilton as a starting point. Topics include partisan conflict, political culture, nation building, the American character, and domestic life.  WR, HU

* HIST 142Ja / HSHM 445a / WGSS 453a, Women and Medicine in America from the Colonial Era to the Present  Naomi Rogers
American women from the colonial era to the present as midwives, patients, healers, reformers, revolutionaries, innovators, and entrepreneurs. Ways that women have shaped American health care and medical research.  WR, HU

* HIST 143Jb, Cultural History of Mental Illness in America  Staff
Exploration of the meanings attributed to black-white differences in health from the late-nineteenth century to the present with an emphasis on the mutual construction of race and health/disease. Topics include specific diseases, (cancer, heart disease, tuberculosis, HIV) as well as health activism, 'health disparities' research, and genomics.  HU

* HIST 150Ja / HSHM 406a, Healthcare for the Urban Poor  Sakena Abedin
Exploration of the institutions, movements, and policies that have attempted to provide healthcare for the urban poor in America from the late nineteenth century to the present, with emphasis on the ideas (about health, cities, neighborhoods, poverty, race, gender, difference, etc) that shaped them. Topics include hospitals, health centers, public health programs, the medical civil rights movement, the women's health movement, and national healthcare policies such as Medicare and Medicaid.  WR, HU

* HIST 151Ja / AMST 422a / ER&M 435a, Writing Tribal Histories  Staff
Historical overview of American Indian tribal communities, particularly since the creation of the United States. Challenges of working with oral histories, government documents, and missionary records.  WR, HU

* HIST 158Jb / AMST 398b / ER&M 308b, American Indian Law and Policy  Ned Blackhawk
Survey of the origins, history, and legacies of federal Indian law and policy during two hundred years of United States history. The evolution of U.S. constitutional law and political achievements of American Indian communities over the past four decades.  WR, HU

* HIST 164Ja, Foxes, Hedgehogs, and History  John Gaddis
Application of Isaiah Berlin's distinction between foxes and hedgehogs to selected historical case studies extending from the classical age through the recent past.  WR, HU

* HIST 168Jb, Quebec and Canada from 1791 to the Present  Jay Gitlin
The history of Quebec and its place within Canada from the Constitutional Act of 1791 to the present. Topics include the Rebellion of 1837, confederation, the Riel Affair, industrialization and emigration to New England, French-Canadian nationalism and culture from Abbé Groulx to the Parti Québécois and Céline Dion, and the politics of language. Readings include plays by Michel Tremblay and Antonine Maillet in translation.  WR, HU

* HIST 174Ja / AMST 451a / RLST 260a, Religion, War, and the Meaning of America  Harry Stout
The relationship between religion and war in American history from colonial beginnings through Vietnam. The religious meanings of Americans at war; the mutually reinforcing influences of nationalism and religion; war as the norm of American national life; the concept of civil religion; biblical and messianic contexts of key U.S. conflicts.  HU

* HIST 179Jb / HSHM 415b, Historical Perspectives on Science and Religion  Ivano Dal Prete
The engagement between science and religion from a historical standpoint and a multicultural perspective. The Islamic, Jewish, Buddhist, and Christian traditions; the roots of modern creationism; salvation expectations and the rise of modern science and technology. General knowledge of western and world history is expected.  WR, HU

* HIST 190Jb / AFAM 447b / AMST 423b, New Directions in Caribbean History  Edward Rugemer
An exploration of recent scholarship on the history of the Caribbean, a region defined by the islands of the Caribbean Sea, the Caribbean coastal region of Central America, and the northern littoral of the South American mainland north of Brazil. The course focuses on the establishment of European colonies in the 17th century through the emergence of independent states in the region today. Key themes include the operation of racial slavery; the abolition of slavery and the process of emancipation; the systems of forced labor that followed abolition; migration; and the persistence of race, religion, and imperialism in the formation of Caribbean societies. Enrollment priority given to upper-level students.  HU

* HIST 203Jb / BRST 153b, Anglo-Saxons and Vikings  Anders Winroth
The intertwined history of the Vikings and the Anglo-Saxons in the period between the first raids in c. 790 and the Norman conquest of 1066. Study of the almost constant warfare between the two groups, as well as the ways in which they negotiated peaceful interactions leading to large groups of Scandinavians being integrated into English society and culture. Examination of the culture that flourished in this period in literature, languages, and art.  WR, HU

* HIST 215Jb, The Art of Biography  John Gaddis
A comparative examination of successful as well as unsuccessful biographies, intended to identify both principles and pitfalls.  WR, HU

* HIST 221Ja / RSEE 231a, Russia in the Age of Tolstoy and Dostoevsky, 1850-1905  Sergei Antonov
Russian politics, culture, and society ca. 1850 to 1905. Tsars' personalities and ruling styles, political culture under autocracy. Reform from above and revolutionary terror. Serfdom and its abolition, problem of “traditional” Russian culture. Growth of industrial and financial capitalism, middle-class culture, and daily life. Foreign policy and imperial conquest, including the Caucasus and the Crimean War
(1853–56). Readings combine key scholarly articles, book chapters, and representative primary sources. All readings and discussions in English. WR, HU

* HIST 220Jb, Grand Strategy and the Origins of the Second World War  Paul Kennedy
A survey of the most important literature and debates concerning the coming of the Second World War in both Europe and the Pacific. Emphasis on the comparative approach to international history and on the interplay of domestic politics, economics, and strategy. Counts toward only European distributional credit within the History major. WR, HU RP

* HIST 222Jb / RSEE 222b, Russia and the Eurasian Steppe  Paul Bushkovitch
A study of Russia's interaction with the nomads of the Eurasian steppe. Topics include the Mongol invasion, the Mongol Empire in Asia and the Golden Horde, Islam, nomadic society, and the Russian state. Focus on conquest and settlement. May count toward either European or Asian distributional credit within the History major, upon application to the director of undergraduate studies. WR, HU

* HIST 229Ja, London, 1560–1760  Keith Wrightson
A study of London's growth between 1560 and 1760 from a modest city of perhaps 50,000 people to a metropolis with over 700,000 inhabitants. Themes include the dynamics of growth; birth and death, with particular reference to the plague; migration; household life; villages within the city; London as the center of print culture; the royal court; polite society in the late seventeenth and early eighteenth centuries; the "middle sort of people" and consumerism; the world of the poor; and vice and criminality. In September and in January, application for admission should be made directly to the instructors of the seminars, who will admit students to remaining vacancies in their seminars. Priority is given to applications from juniors, then seniors, majoring in History, but applications are also accepted from qualified sophomores and from students majoring in other disciplines or programs. Seminars on the history of the United States or Canada are numbered 101 to 199; seminars on Britain and Europe are 201 to 299; and seminars numbered 301 to 399 cover the rest of the world. Seminars numbered in the 400s address global topics; students must apply to the director of undergraduate studies in History to count a 400-level seminar toward a particular geographical distribution category. WR, HU

* HIST 231Jb, The Dark Years: Collaboration and Resistance in Vichy France  John Merriman
The concomitants of collaboration and resistance during Vichy France, 1940–44. Topics include the fall of France in 1940; the return of Pétain's "National Revolution" and its continuities with the French Right during the Third Republic; the extent and nature of resistance (in the context of pre–World War II politics); and the memory of the Vichy years and its influence on subsequent French political life. WR, HU

* HIST 232Ja / HUMS 443a / JDST 270a / MMES 342a / RLST 201a, Medieval Jews, Christians, and Muslims In Conversation  Ivan Marcus
How members of Jewish, Christian, and Muslim communities thought of and interacted with members of the other two cultures during the Middle Ages. Cultural grids and expectations each imposed on the other; the rhetoric of otherness—humans or devils, purity or impurity, and animal imagery; and models of religious community and power in dealing with the other when confronted with cultural differences. Counts toward either European or Middle Eastern distributional credit within the History major, upon application to the director of undergraduate studies. WR, HU RP

* HIST 242Jb / CLCV 219b / MGRK 300b / WGSS 293b, The Olympic Games, Ancient and Modern  George Syrimis
Introduction to the history of the Olympic Games from antiquity to the present. The mythology of athletic events in ancient Greece and the ritual, political, and social ramifications of the actual competitions. The revival of the modern Olympic movement in 1896, the political investment of the Greek state at the time, and specific games as they illustrate the convergence of athletic cultures and sociopolitical transformations in the twentieth century. HU

* HIST 260Ja / HSHM 468a, Sex, Life, and Generation  Ivano Dal Prete
Theories and practices of life, sex, and generation in Western civilization. Politics and policies of conception and birth; social control of abortion and infanticide in premodern societies; theories of life and gender; the changing status of the embryo; the lure of artificial life. HU

* HIST 262Ja / ENGL 262a / HUMS 410a, Modernities: Nineteenth-Century Historical Narratives  Stefanie Markovits and Stuart Semmel
British historical narratives in the nineteenth century, an age often cited as the crucible of modern historical consciousness. How a period of industrialization and democratization grounded itself in imagined pasts—whether recent or distant, domestic or foreign—in both historical novels and works by historians who presented programmatic statements about the nature of historical development. WR, HU

* HIST 267Jb, War at Sea in the Age of Sail  Evan Wilson
A study of European warfare at sea from 1500 to 1815. Themes include: the relationship between navies and societies; the experience of life at sea; the role of navies in the development of science, industry, and the state; the nature and limitations of sea power; theories of sea power; the emergence of British naval supremacy. Examination of different approaches to naval and military history. WR, HU

* HIST 269Ja, History and Holocaust Testimony  Carolyn Dean
The history and memoirs of Holocaust testimony. How victims' experiences are narrated and assessed by historians. Questions regarding memory and history. WR, HU
Examination of ethnicity and nationalism in Latin America through the political lens of social knowledge. Comparative analysis of the evolution of symbolic, economic, and political perspectives on indigenous peoples, peasants, and people of African descent from the nineteenth century to the present. Consideration of the links between making ethnic categories in the social sciences and literature and the rise of political mechanisms of participation and representation that have characterized the emergence of cultural politics. **WR, HU, RP**

* HIST 342Jb / MMES 345b, The Middle East and the West: A Cultural Encounter  
  Abbas Amanat  

Cultural dialogues and confrontation between the modern Middle East and the West (Europe and North America) and their significance for our time. Western images of the Orient and discourse of Orientalism, Middle East as a modern construct, Muslim knowledge of Western modernity, impact of colonialism and territorial conflicts, and cultural roots of Islamic Jihadism and nonstate terrorist entities. **WR, HU**

* HIST 372Ja / ER&M 342a / LAST 372a, Revolutionary Change and Cold War in Latin America  
  Gilbert Joseph  

Analysis of revolutionary movements in Latin America against the backdrop of the Cold War. Critical examination of popular images and orthodox interpretations. An interdisciplinary study of the process of revolutionary change and cold war at the grassroots level. **WR, HU**

* HIST 382Ja, Vietnamese History from Earliest Times to 1920  
  Benedict Kiernan  

Evolution of a Vietnamese national identity, from Chinese colonization to medieval statehood, to French conquest and capitalist development. The roles of Confucianism, Buddhism, gender, and ethnicity in the Southeast Asian context. **WR, HU**

* HIST 387Ja / AFST 487a, West African Islam: Jihad Tradition and Its Pacifist Opponents  
  Staff  

The influence of Islam on state and society, and the encounters of Muslim Africans first with non-Muslim societies in Africa and then with the modern West in the colonial and postcolonial periods. Focus on Muslim religious attitudes and responses to the secular national state and to the Western tradition of the separation of church and state. **WR, HU**

* HIST 388Ja / AFST 486a, Slavery and the Slave Trade in Africa  
  Robert Harms  

The slave trade from the African perspective. Analysis of why slavery developed in Africa and how it operated. The long-term social, political, and economic effects of the Atlantic slave trade. **WR, HU**

* HIST 429Jb / HSHM 412b, Laboratory Life  
  Chitra Ramalingam  

The laboratory is the iconic space of modern science, where unruly nature is tamed and controlled, and scientific facts are made. Through historical, ethnographic, and sociological approaches to lab science, this course explores how an obscure, secretive site for managing alchemical labor in medieval Europe became the globally dominant mode of producing universal experimental knowledge across the modern sciences. We consider issues of labor, skill and class; gender and race; pedagogy and the politics of profession; state, industrial, and corporate laboratories; secrecy and openness; place and geography; and the implication of labs in geopolitical webs of power, inequality, and exploitation. Undergraduate enrollment limited to juniors and seniors. **WR, HU**

* HIST 482Jb / PLSC 321b, Studies in Grand Strategy I  
  Beverly Gage  

The study of grand strategy, of how individuals and groups can accomplish large ends with limited means. The spring term focuses on key moments in history that illustrate strategic thinking in action. During the summer, students undertake research projects or internships analyzing strategic problems or aspects of strategy. The following fall, students put their ideas into action by applying concepts of grand strategy to present day issues. Admission is by application only; the cycle for the current year is closed. This course does not fulfill the history seminar requirement, but may count toward geographical distributional credit within the History major for any region studied, upon application to the director of undergraduate studies. Previous study courses in political science, history, global affairs, or subjects with broad interdisciplinary relevance encouraged. **HU**

* HIST 483Ja / PLSC 161a, Studies in Grand Strategy II  
  Beverly Gage  

The study of grand strategy, of how individuals and groups can accomplish large ends with limited means. During the fall term, students put into action the ideas studied in the spring term by applying concepts of grand strategy to present day issues. Admission is by application only; the cycle for the current year is closed. This course does not fulfill the history seminar requirement, but may count toward geographical distributional credit within the History major for any region studied, upon application to the director of undergraduate studies. Prerequisite: PLSC 321. Previous study courses in political science, history, global affairs, or subjects with broad interdisciplinary relevance encouraged. **HU**

## Writing Tutorial and Senior Essay Courses

* HIST 494A or b, Individual Writing Tutorial  
  Edward Rugemer  

For students who wish, under the supervision of a member of the faculty, to investigate an area of history not covered by regular departmental offerings. The course may be used for research or for directed reading. It is normally taken only once. The emphasis of the tutorial is on writing a long essay or several short ones. To apply for admission, a student should present the following materials to the director of undergraduate studies on the Friday before schedules are due: a prospectus of the work proposed, a bibliography, and a letter of support from a member of the History department faculty who will direct the tutorial. A form to simplify this process is available from the office of the director of undergraduate studies.
* HIST 495 or b and HIST 496 or b, The Senior Essay  Carolyn Dean

All senior History majors should attend the mandatory senior essay meeting in early September at a time and location to be announced in the online Senior Essay Handbook. The senior essay is a required one- or two-term independent research project conducted under the guidance of a faculty adviser. As a significant work of primary-source research, it serves as the capstone project of the History major. Students writing the one-term senior essay enroll in HIST 497 (see description), not HIST 495 and 496. The two-term essay takes the form of a substantial article, not longer than 12,500 words (approximately forty to fifty double-spaced typewritten pages). This is a maximum limit; there is no minimum requirement. Length will vary according to the topic and the historical techniques employed. Students writing the two-term senior essay who expect to graduate in May enroll in HIST 495 during the fall term and complete their essays in HIST 496 in the spring term. December graduates enroll in HIST 495 in the spring term and complete their essays in HIST 496 during the following fall term; students planning to begin their essay in the spring term should notify the senior essay director by early December. Each student majoring in History must present a completed Statement of Intention, signed by a department member who has agreed to serve as adviser, to the History Department Undergraduate Registrar by the dates indicated in the Senior Essay Handbook. Blank statement forms are available from the History Undergraduate Registrar and in the Senior Essay handbook. Students enrolled in HIST 495 submit to the administrator in 237 HGS a two-to-three-page analysis of a single primary source, a draft bibliographic essay, and at least ten pages of the essay by the deadlines listed in the Senior Essay Handbook. Those who meet these requirements receive a temporary grade of SAT for the fall term, which will be changed to the grade received by the essay upon its completion. Failure to meet any requirement may result in the student’s being asked to withdraw from HIST 495. Students enrolled in HIST 496 must submit a completed essay to 211 HGS no later than 5 p.m. on the dates indicated in the Senior Essay Handbook. Essays submitted after 5 p.m. will be considered as having been turned in on the following day. If the essay is submitted late without an excuse from the student’s residential college dean, the penalty is one letter grade for the first day and one-half letter grade for each of the next two days past the deadline. No essay that would otherwise pass will be failed because it is late, but late essays will not be considered for departmental or Yale College prizes. All senior departmental essays will be judged by members of the faculty other than the adviser. In order to graduate from Yale College, a student majoring in History must achieve a passing grade on the departmental essay.

* HIST 497a or b, One-Term Senior Essay  Carolyn Dean

All senior History majors should attend the mandatory senior essay meeting in early September at a time and location to be announced in the online Senior Essay Handbook. The senior essay is a required one- or two-term independent research project conducted under the guidance of a faculty adviser. As a significant work of primary-source research, it serves as the capstone project of the History major. Seniors writing a two-term senior essay do not register for HIST 497; instead, they register for HIST 495 and HIST 496 (see description). History majors may choose to write a one-term independent senior essay in the first term of their senior year and register for HIST 497; however, students who choose the one-term senior essay option are not eligible for Distinction in the Major. The one-term essay must include a substantial research paper of no more than 6,250 words (approximately twenty-five pages) based on primary sources, along with a bibliographic essay and bibliography. Seniors enroll during the fall term of senior year; only History majors graduating in December may enroll during the spring term (or seventh term of enrollment). In rare circumstances, with the permission of the adviser and the Senior Essay Director, a student enrolled in HIST 497 during the fall term may withdraw from the course according to Yale College regulations on course withdrawal and enroll in the spring term. Each student enrolled in HIST 497 must present a completed Statement of Intention, signed by a department member who has agreed to serve as adviser, to the History Department Undergraduate Registrar by the dates indicated in the Senior Essay Handbook. Blank statement forms are available from the History Undergraduate Registrar and in the Senior Essay Handbook, available on the History department Web site. Additional details about the senior essay, including the submission deadlines are included in the Senior Essay Handbook. Essays submitted after 5 p.m. on the due date will be considered as having been turned in on the following day. If the essay is submitted late without an excuse from the student’s residential college dean, the penalty is one letter grade for the first day and one-half letter grade for each of the next two days past the deadline. No essay that would otherwise pass will be failed because it is late. All senior departmental essays will be judged by members of the faculty other than the adviser. In order to graduate from Yale College, a student majoring in History must achieve a passing grade on the departmental essay. Permission of the departmental Senior Essay Director and of the student’s faculty adviser is required for enrollment.