

Spring 2010
Course Descriptions for Topical 4000-level HIST courses

HIST 4020 Comparative History: Comparative Revolutions - France 1789 & Russia 1917

Professors Barbara Engel and Martha Hanna

This course will use a comparative methodology to examine the causes, character, and internal dynamics of revolution. Focusing on the French Revolution of 1789 and the Russian Revolution of 1917 (and the aftermath of each), we will analyze the role ideas, social forces, and politics played in bringing revolution and its attendant upheaval to each country. Lectures will be nationally focused, but comparatively and thematically oriented. In recitation sections students will be encouraged to think about how and why the two revolutions resembled - and differed from - one another.

RESTRICTED TO SENIOR HISTORY MAJORS

HIST 4348 Topics in Jewish History - History of the Modern State of Israel

Visiting Jewish Studies Professor

This will count as a WORLD AREAS class in the major or minor and a POST-1800 class in the major.

RESTRICTED TO SOPHOMORES, JUNIORS & SENIORS

HIST 4803 Special Topics in European History - The Origins of Christianity from Christ to Constantine

Professor Scott Bruce

This upper-division course surveys the sources for the development of ancient Christianity from the ministry of Jesus Christ to the conversion of the emperor Constantine in the early fourth century. Through lectures and a close reading of primary source materials in translation, students will examine the social activity and theological development of early Christians in their Roman and Jewish context, with special attention to the plurality of understanding about the significance of Jesus Christ, the development of the church as an institution, and the formulation of orthodoxy and heresy, particularly with regard to the creation of a "canon" of authoritative texts.

This will count as an EUROPE class in the major or minor and as a PRE-1800 class in the major.

The published prerequisite is either HIST 1010 or 1020, but for this topic HIST 1020 is not really going to provide you with adequate historical background.

RESTRICTED TO SOPHOMORES, JUNIORS & SENIORS