



**Spring 2024**  
**Courses for UNIFI and students needing university electives without prereqs**  
**Department of History**


Greetings from the Department of History! In addition to our UNIFI sections of US History (HIST 1110 and 1120, Human Condition Domestic) and Making the Modern World (HIST 1210, Human Condition Global), History is offering multiple sections of **Topics** courses in the Responsibility, Human Expression, and Human Condition Global categories. To help you guide students to courses of interest, topics and brief course descriptions for individual sections are provided below.

Note: HIST 2011, 3110, and 3210 are repeatable with different topics and have no prerequisites, making them ideal for students who have completed or are close to completing UNIFI but who cannot yet enroll in courses requiring junior standing. Even if they've satisfied these UNIFI categories, they can use these courses as university electives.

Please contact Jen McNabb, Head of History, with any questions: [jennifer.mcnabb@uni.edu](mailto:jennifer.mcnabb@uni.edu)

**HIST 2011 Engaging Sources**     **UNIFI: Human Expression**

-  **Section 01 Topic: Protest Songs of the Modern Era**
  - How have songs been used to demand change and promote social justice? We'll look at a variety of topics and periods while showcasing music that expressed the frustration, sorrow, and dreams of reform movements committed to progress. Explore the soundtrack created by groups who mobilized to create a more just society. Students will research and present on historical protest songs, and write lyrics for a protest song of their own.
  - Professor Tom Connors
  - 11:00 – 12:15 pm T TH, Seerley 212
  
-  **Section 02 Topic: The Hero's Journey**
  - This interactive course focuses on historical and artistic sources documenting the stories of heroes and their deeds in various societies and faith traditions, from the ancient world to the Marvelverse. It examines these sources as artistic and historical materials and shows students how to identify common elements in the visual and literary sources that record the lives, deeds, and deaths of heroes as well as how to distinguish their unique features. The course concludes with students drawing on their knowledge of historical heroes to create their own source, using a media format of their own selection.
  - Professor Lou Fenech
  - 11:00 – 11:50 am MWF, Seerley 14

-  ➤ Section **03 Topic: Propaganda and Media in History** **HONORS ONLY**
- This course explores the historical usages of different forms of mass propaganda since the late 19th century. Students will examine the artistic theories behind its production and use those theories in conjunction with the history of modern ideologies to create their own examples of propagandist art.
  - Professor Fernando Calderón
  - 1:00 – 1:50 pm MWF, Bartlett 3021

**HIST 3110 Conflict and Justice in History** **UNIFI: Responsibility**

- Section **01 Topic: Imperialism and Colonialism**
- A survey of the history of imperialism and colonialism since 1800 CE that includes consideration of issues of morality and ethics
  - Professor Louis Fenech
  - 8:00 – 8:50 am MWF, Seerley 14
- Section **02 Topic: Imperialism and Colonialism**
- A survey of the history of imperialism and colonialism since 1800 CE that includes consideration of issues of morality and ethics
  - Professor Louis Fenech
  - 9:00 – 9:50 am MWF, Seerley 14
- Section **03 Topic: Terrorism**
- A survey of global conflicts and justice focusing on the history of terrorism from antiquity to the present. Topics to be examined include the origins, morality, and ethics of terrorism worldwide and efforts to combat it.
  - Taught by Professor Kenneth Atkinson
  - 10:00 – 10:50 am MWF, *Online*
- Section **04 Topic: Terrorism**
- A survey of global conflicts and justice focusing on the history of terrorism from antiquity to the present. Topics to be examined include the origins, morality, and ethics of terrorism worldwide and efforts to combat it.
  - Taught by Professor Kenneth Atkinson
  - 11:00 – 11:50 am MWF, *Online*
- Section **05 Topic: Climate Change**
- This course examines how climate shapes history, how changing climates have driven conflict, and societal understandings of justice in relation to climatic change. It examines the ethical questions raised by responses to climatic change across place and time. The course will also survey how humans' understanding of climatic shifts have changed over time.
  - Professor Brian Rumsey
  - 12 – 12:50 pm MWF, Seerley 14
- Section **06 Topic: Contextualizing the Little Big Horn** **HONORS ONLY**
- Contextualizing the Little Bighorn: Plains Indian Peoples, the Army, Railroads, and Gold, 1865-1877. This course explores the broader context as well as the events of the

conflicts between advancing white civilization and the native peoples of the Plains in the years after the Civil War.

- Professor Robert Dise
- 2:00 – 2:50 pm MWF, Seerley 220
- Section **07 Topic: Perspectives on Animal-Human Relations**
  - This class will examine animal-human relationships in historical and analytical context, focusing mostly on the period from the 1600s-present. It will use this historical perspective to allow students to explore the origins of modern ideas, beliefs and values about non-human animals, to examine how those ideas have shaped the current world, and to analyze the ethical implications of these beliefs and what their consequences have been, for non-human animals, humans, and the world as a whole. Students will be asked to reflect on both the origins and consequences of current ideas, values and beliefs about non-human animals, as well as their own personal values on the topic.
  - Professor Barbara Cutter
  - 9:30-10:45 am T TH, Seerley 120
- Section **08 Topic: Perspectives on Animal-Human Relations**
  - This class will examine animal-human relationships in historical and analytical context, focusing mostly on the period from the 1600s-present. It will use this historical perspective to allow students to explore the origins of modern ideas, beliefs and values about non-human animals, to examine how those ideas have shaped the current world, and to analyze the ethical implications of these beliefs and what their consequences have been, for non-human animals, humans, and the world as a whole. Students will be asked to reflect on both the origins and consequences of current ideas, values and beliefs about non-human animals, as well as their own personal values on the topic.
  - Professor Barbara Cutter
  - 11:00-12:15 pm T TH, Seerley 120
- Section **09 Topic: People & Revolutions**
  - This course explores modern European political, social, cultural, and economic revolutions and the competing ethical and moral visions which created, sustained and, sometimes, defeated them. The course covers a variety of political, social, cultural, and economic upheavals such as the Scientific Revolution, the English Revolutions, the Industrial Revolution, the French Revolutions, and the Russian Revolutions.
  - Professor Gregory Bruess
  - 11:00 – 12:15 pm T TH, Seerley 220
- Section **10 Topic: Russia and Its Indigenous Peoples**
  - The Indigenous Peoples of Russia have experienced hardships both environmental and political in origin, including the abolition of several Indigenous autonomous territories. This course explores the experiences of the Indigenous peoples of Russia during the 19<sup>th</sup> and 20<sup>th</sup> centuries, providing historical and critical perspectives.
  - Professor Alicja Boruta-Sadkowski
  - Online, asynchronous

**HIST 3210 Problems and Perspectives in Global History UNIFI: Human Condition, Global**

- Section **01 Topic: Identity, Diversity, and Commonality in East Asia**
  - A thematic exploration of global history, emphasizing diversity and the comparative study of the human condition in historical perspective. This section will examine the origins (both mythical and historical) and historical development of the major national identities of East Asia (Chinese, Japanese, Korean, and Vietnamese). The course will also look at the spread of shared civilizational elements (such as Confucianism and the Sinitic writing system) across the region, leaving an East Asia that has both considerable overarching cultural commonality as well as significant national (and sub-national) differences. We will also see how East Asian cultures and identities have been sweepingly reshaped, yet still endure, by the recent forces of Modernization and Globalization.
  - Professor Charles Holcombe
  - 9:30 – 10:45 am T TH, Seerley 220
  - East Asia UNIFI certificate course
  
- Section **02 Topic: 1000 Years of Samurai**
  - This course will survey the history of Japanese warriors starting with the influence exerted by mainland East Asia (i.e. what is now Korea and China) on the military technology of those living on the Japanese islands. 945 CE – 1945 CE
  - Professor Reinier Hesselink
  - Online, asynchronous
  - East Asia UNIFI certificate course
  - **NOTE: Second 8-week course**

**New Experimental Course – no prereqs**



**HIST 2059, Section 01, The Modern West: Technology, Science, & Culture**

- An exploration of the development of modern Europe, with emphases on industry, science, and technology and their impact on culture, religion, social relations, politics, governmental institutions, and warfare.
- Professor Robert Dise
- 12:00-12:50 pm MWF, Seerley 220

Note: Students looking for leadership opportunities in global issues could also consider the following:

**HIST 4198 Independent Study, Section 01 Iowa High School Model United Nations**

- IHSMUN works with high schoolers participating in Model United Nations. This 1 – 3 credit course enhances oral and written communication skills, as well as knowledge about global affairs and concerns. In Spring semesters, participants will help coordinate the Model United Nations conference at UNI.
- Professor Konrad Sadkowski (instructor consent required; [Konrad.Sadkowski@uni.edu](mailto:Konrad.Sadkowski@uni.edu) )
- Arranged meetings TBD