

### Spring 2019 Course List

- HIST 460: Urban America
- HIST 481: Management of Historical Resources
- HIST 487: Management of History Museums
- HIST 555: Seminar: US Social and Intellectual History
- HIST 561: Seminar: Gender and Women's History

### Spring 2019 Course Descriptions

#### **HIST 460: Urban America**

**Wednesday 4:15 pm-6:45 pm**

[Dr. Timothy Gilfoyle](#)

The "United States was born in the country and has moved to the city." Richard Hofstadter, *The Age of Reform* (1955), 23.

This course examines the evolution of the United States from a rural and small-town society to an urban and suburban nation. Cities, and especially Chicago, have long offered some of the best laboratories for the study of American history, social structure, economic development and cultural change. Certain problems and themes recur throughout the course of American urban and cultural history which will be focal points of this seminar: the interaction of private commerce with cultural change; the rise of distinctive working and middle classes; the segregation of public and private space; the formation of new and distinctive urban subcultures organized by gender, work, race, religion, ethnicity, and sexuality; problems of health and housing resulting from congestion; and blatant social divisions between the rich and poor, the native-born and immigrant, and blacks and whites. This colloquium will thus provide a historiographical introduction to the major questions and issues in the culture and social life of American cities.

#### **HIST 481: Management of Historical Resources**

**Monday 6:00 pm - 8:30 pm**

[Dr. Theodore Karamanski](#)

This class is an introduction to historic preservation. The class will review the way public historians work to protect the material culture of the built environment on a local, state, and national level. The class will consist of lectures on aspects of historic preservation, the discussion of weekly readings, and the execution of a preservation project. The project will be to prepare a National Register of Historic Places nomination on a single property or historic district.

**HIST 487: Management of History Museums**

**Thursday 2:30 pm - 5:00 pm**

[Dr. Elizabeth Fraterrigo](#)

This course will introduce graduate students to the issues involved in the management and operation of history museums while considering many questions about the role and function of museums in American society. What does it mean to say that museums serve the public? Why do museums preserve some objects and not others? How do they care for the objects they collect and how do they make them available to the public? How do museums tell stories and who gets to decide what stories to tell? Why do people come to museums? What do they experience there and what do those visits mean to them? What does success look like and how does one measure it? What financial, administrative, and ethical issues do museums face today? Finally, how is the past preserved and interpreted in museums and what role do historians play in these efforts?

**HIST 555: Seminar: US Social and Intellectual History**

**Tuesday 6:00 pm - 8:30 pm**

[Dr. Patricia Mooney-Melvin](#)

This course is a research seminar in which students will use primary sources to write an original work focusing on commemoration and historical memory. Since the early 2000s, an increasing number of historians have focused on the ways in which examinations of commemoration and memory inform our understanding of both the past and present. We will explore examples of this type of research and analysis and discuss some of the methodologies important in using commemoration or memory as the lens through which to understand the past. Early on each student will meet with the instructor to formulate a topic for her or his semester's work. By the end of the term, each student will produce a draft of an article that is publishable, perhaps with some revision, in a scholarly journal. While the focus of this course is on the United States, it is not the preserve of US historians. If students with a non-US area of study wish to take this course and work on a topic in her or his field, they are welcome to enroll.

**HIST 561: Seminar: Gender and Women's History**

**Tuesday 6:00 pm - 8:30 pm**

[Dr. Michelle Nickerson](#)

This seminar focuses on the use of gender as a category of analysis in history and is particularly appropriate for those who have taken courses in Women's and Gender History or Women's Studies. Students will produce a major research paper; they may choose any topic relevant to issues of gender or women for any time period or society, as long as adequate primary sources are available. During the first month, class meetings focus on a variety of approaches to the study of women and gender history based on common readings. The rest of the semester will be spent engaged in individual research projects. Students will read and comment on each others' papers. The goal of the course is to produce an article-length (25-30 pages) research paper. It is expected that students can read the appropriate foreign languages needed to do

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their research. Once enrolled in this class, it is imperative that students speak to Professor Nickerson in office hours before the end of the Fall '18 semester about the: 1.) topic or theme for the research paper and 2.) the base of sources that will be used.