DEPARTMENT OF HISTORY

Master List of all History Graduate modules
(Correct as at November 2016)

HY5207 Approaches To American History
Modular Credits: 4
Workload: 0-3-0-0-7
Prerequisite(s): Nil
Preclusion(s): Nil
Cross-listing(s): Nil
This graduate module examines the major themes in American History and historiography in recent years. The study of history has been influenced by new fields such as gender studies and environmental history, other disciplines, particularly anthropology, and cross disciplinary approaches such as American Studies. This module will critically evaluate selected approaches to American history. As an initial step students will undertake a bibliographical project to shape the module syllabus.

HY5208 Approaches to Modern European History
Modular Credits: 4
Workload: 0-3-0-0-7
Prerequisite(s): Nil
Preclusion(s): Nil
Cross-listing(s): Nil
This module will examine the major approaches to the study of modern European (nineteenth-twentieth-centuries) history in order to equip graduate students at the M.A. level with the major historiographic trends which have shaped research into the subject. To that end, the module will introduce students to the most significant approaches in political, economic, diplomatic, cultural, gender, social, religious and intellectual history which have shaped the existing scholarship.

HY5210 Approaches to Modern SE Asian History
Modular Credits: 4
Workload: 0-3-0-0-7
Prerequisite(s): Nil
Preclusion(s): Nil
Cross-listing(s): Nil
This module is designed to introduce graduate students to the major themes and issues that make up the chronological field of “modern Southeast Asian history”. A comprehensive study of secondary literature for the period as well as seminal works in Anthropology and Political Science will prepare students with the necessary training before embarking on their own research projects. Topics covered will include: modernity/ traditionalism, constructing chronologies, colonialism, nationalism, rebellion/resistance, nation-building, the Japanese in WWII, the role of the Army/Communists, post-colonial critiques, border tensions, migration, and religion.

HY5211 Approaches to Modern East Asian History
Modular Credits: 4
Workload: 0-3-0-0-7
Prerequisite(s): Accumulated 120 MCs. Admission is subject to the Department’s approval.
Preclusion(s): Nil
Cross-listing(s): Nil
This course examines the political, economic, social, cultural, racial, and military histories of China, Japan and Korea over the course of the twentieth and outset of the twenty first centuries. Special attention will be paid to the interaction among these different national histories, as well as the influence of other regional actors, such as the United States and Soviet Union.
HY5301 Internship in History
Modular Credits: 4
Workload: 0-3-0-0-7
Prerequisite(s): Nil
Preclusion(s): Nil
Cross-listing(s): Nil
It aims to provide students with practical professional experience involving at least ten weeks in an archive, museum, historical library, or the heritage business. The hosting institution in collaboration with the Department will define the work scope of students on internship. Students are required to submit a project, the topic of which must be approved in advance, together with a 3000-word report on the internship experience at the end of the work period. The student is required to spend three hours three days per week for a total of ten weeks at the hosting institution.

HY5302 Approaches to Military History
Modular Credits: 4
Workload: 0-3-0-0-7
Prerequisite(s): Nil
Preclusion(s): Nil
Cross-listing(s): Nil
Military history is one of the most dynamic fields in the subject, focal point for controversies ranging from what historians should be studying to how they should see history per se. The traditional focus on operations, command and strategy now co-exists with the no longer “new” military history that is more interested in the impact of warfare on society and culture, militarism and its effect on politics, the relationship between military institutions and economies, and issues of race and nationality in the military experience. This module will introduce graduate students to the methodologies and controversies of a field that crosses all regional and national boundaries in history. An important component will be the bibliographical project, training students to develop their own grasp of the literature that must be mastered.

HY5303 Problems in Cultural History
Modular Credits: 4
Workload: 0-3-0-7-0
Prerequisite(s): Nil
Preclusion(s): Nil
Cross-listing(s): Nil
This module aims to introduce graduate students to cultural history as a distinct sub-discipline within historical studies. In each session, the module will structured around a theme (e.g., ‘Culture and imperialism’, ‘Power, Status and Charisma’) to allow the student to both learn about the methodology of cultural historians and how this field fits into the broader study of history.

HY5304 Imperialism & Empires: Historical Approaches
Modular Credits: 4
Workload: 0-3-0-0-7
Prerequisite(s): Nil
Preclusion(s): Nil
Cross-listing(s): Nil
Imperialism and Empires are two historical developments that no scholars of modern world, political, international, cultural, social, economic and military history ever ignore. Imperialism remains one of the most hotly debated historical forces in the discipline and has been approached by nearly every different methodology and perspective that academic historians have explored in the last century. This module will introduce graduate students to the approaches to a field that crosses all boundaries in the study of history. An important component will be the bibliography project, training students to develop their own grasp of the literature they must master.
HY5305 Approaches to World History
Modular Credits: 4
Workload: 0-3-0-0-7
Prerequisite(s): Nil
Preclusion(s): Nil
Cross-listing(s): Nil
This module examines major themes, methodologies and scholarship in the rapidly developing field of world history. Depending on the instructor, the content of the module might focus on specific topics such as immigration, trans-imperial trade, or frontier studies. As special emphasis is placed on the integration of particular regions into global systems and networks, this course will be especially useful for helping students to locate the significance of their own research in a larger context.

HY5401 Historiography on China
Modular Credits: 4
Workload: 0-3-0-0-7
Prerequisite(s): Nil
Preclusion(s): Nil
Cross-listing(s): Nil
This graduate module examines the history of history writings on China, turning the pool of extant secondary publications into a primary source of analysis. Certain major authors and their works will be highlighted, with attention paid to inter-disciplinary approaches. Their selection is aimed at achieving a broad coverage of the various streams of traditional Chinese historiography, Chinese Marxist writings and Western historical analyses. The reading and writing of book reviews and literature surveys are integral parts of this module.

HY5402 Reconsidering the Cold War
Modular Credits: 4
Workload: 0-3-0-0-7
Prerequisite(s): Nil
Preclusion(s): Nil
Cross-listing(s): Nil
In recent decades, the Cold War has developed into an area of study not only in the fields of diplomatic history and international relations, but in social and cultural history, literature and film, design and art, and rhetoric and communications studies. This seminar introduces students to new developments, themes, and approaches in the study of the Cold War through exploring such diverse topics as colonialism and anti-colonialism, cultural diplomacy, Cold War culture, domestic purges, social protest, decolonization, developmentalism, and “neo-colonialism.” It aims to expose students to new arenas of research, helping them to prepare for their own research.

HY5403 Interpreters of Southeast Asian Pasts
Modular Credits: 4
Workload: 0-3-0-2-5
Prerequisite(s): Nil
Preclusion(s): Nil
Cross-listing(s): Nil
The notion of Southeast Asia continues to be a site of contestation. In this module, students will be encouraged to imaginatively wade into an ongoing conversation as the latest in a long line of interpreters — mythic, historical and contemporary — of Southeast Asian pasts. Students will encounter a wide range of texts and discover how differing contexts, worldviews, theories, methods and source materials have been creatively and imaginatively used to both question and enrich understandings of Southeast Asian pasts. Each iteration of this module will focus on a specific region in Southeast Asia, depending on the expertise of the instructor.
HY5660 Independent Study
Modular Credits: 4
Workload: 0-0-0-0-10
Prerequisite(s): Nil
Preclusion(s): Nil
Cross-listing(s): Nil

Independent research plays an important role in graduate education. The Independent Study Module is designed to enable the student to explore an approved topic in History in depth. The student should approach a lecturer to work out an agreed topic, readings, and assignments for the module. A formal, written agreement is to be drawn up, giving a clear account of the topic, number of contact hours, assignments, evaluation, and other pertinent details. Head’s and/or Graduate Coordinator’s approval is required. Regular meetings and reports are expected. Evaluation is based on 100% Continuous Assessment and must be worked out between the student and the lecturer prior to seeking departmental approval.

HY6101 Historiography: Theory & Archive
Modular Credits: 4
Workload: 0-3-0-0-7
Prerequisite(s): Nil
Preclusion(s): Nil
Cross-listing(s): Nil

This module will enable graduate students to make use of a wide range of contemporary historical methods. The focus will be on major historians, current debate about historical practice, theoretical history and historical interpretation. Students will be strongly encouraged to explore the challenges inherent in connecting archival study with theoretical methodologies.

HY6206 Community Formation in SE Asia
Modular Credits: 4
Workload: 0-3-0-0-7
Prerequisite(s): Nil
Preclusion(s): Nil
Cross-listing(s): Nil

The module will focus on different types of identity or community – different modes of belonging – which have operated, or are likely to operate, in Southeast Asia. Discussion will cover the nation state, diasporic, ethnic, family, religious, gender, security, trading and other ‘communities’ in the region. We will also give attention to regionalism – particularly the sentiment that underpins the ASEAN and East Asian regional project.

HY6401 Southeast Asian Historiography
Modular Credits: 4
Workload: 0-3-0-0-7
Prerequisite(s): Accumulated 120 MCs. Admission is subject to the Department’s approval.
Preclusion(s): Nil
Cross-listing(s): Nil

This module surveys the various approaches that were developed to study and conceptualise Southeast Asian history. It seeks to equip students with an awareness of the analytical frameworks within which history research on the region had been written up. In the process, the module will evaluate the validity of the different approaches. For illustration, samples from secondary literature and, where applicable, primary texts will be used.
HY6402 The Historian’s Craft
Modular Credits: 4
Workload: 0-3-0-0-7
Prerequisite(s): Accumulated 120 MCs. Admission is subject to the Department’s approval.
Preclusion(s): Nil
Cross-listing(s): Nil
This course will provide intensive training in research and writing of history. It will begin with methodological discussions on the writing of history and examples and critiques of different techniques and formats. During this time, each student will be composing a research paper of article length and publishable quality on a topic related to his or her own research. The final weeks of class will be dedicated to intense reading and critique of the student papers by their peers.

HY6660 Independent Study
Modular Credits: 4
Workload: 0-0-0-0-10
Prerequisite(s): Nil
Preclusion(s): Nil
Cross-listing(s): Nil
Independent research plays an important role in graduate education. The Independent Study Module is designed to enable the student to explore an approved topic in History in depth. The student should approach a lecturer to work out an agreed topic, readings, and assignments for the module. A formal, written agreement is to be drawn up, giving a clear account of the topic, number of contact hours, assignments, evaluation, and other pertinent details. Head’s and/or Graduate Coordinator’s approval is required. Regular meetings and reports are expected. Evaluation is based on 100% Continuous Assessment and must be worked out between the student and the lecturer prior to seeking departmental approval.

HY6770 Graduate Research Seminar
Modular Credits: 4
Workload: 0-3-0-0-7
Prerequisite(s): Nil
Preclusion(s): Nil
Cross-listing(s): Nil
This is a required module for all research Masters and Ph.D. students admitted from AY2004/05. The module provides a forum for students and faculty to share their research and to engage one another critically in discussion of their current research projects. The module will include presentations by faculty on research ethics and dissertation writing. Each student is required to present a formal research paper. Active participation in all research presentations is expected. The module may be spread over two semesters and will be graded “Satisfactory/Unsatisfactory” on the basis of student presentation and participation.

HY6880 Topics in East Asian History
Modular Credits: 4
Workload: 0-3-0-0-7
Prerequisite(s): Nil
Preclusion(s): Nil
Cross-listing(s): Nil
This module will evaluate specific topics in East Asian history depending on the specialty of the instructor. One of the main goals is to help the students develop a bibliography, from which they will develop research papers that will be related to dissertation topics. Thus, the goal is to provide doctoral candidates with the tools to conduct research in the region, while also introducing them to the current state of historical research in East Asia.
HY6881 Topics in Southeast Asian History
Modular Credits: 4
Workload: 0-3-0-0-7
Prerequisite(s): Nil
Preclusion(s): Nil
Cross-listing(s): Nil
This module will evaluate specific topics in Southeast Asian history depending on the specialty of the instructor. One of the main goals is to help the students develop a bibliography, from which they will develop research papers that will be related to dissertation topics. Thus, the goal is to provide doctoral candidates with the tools to conduct research in the region, while also introducing them to the current state of historical research in Southeast Asia.

HY6882 Topics in Chinese History
Modular Credits: 4
Workload: 0-3-0-0-7
Prerequisite(s): Nil
Preclusion(s): Nil
Cross-listing(s): Nil
This module is both a historiographic and research module to study specific themes and issues on Chinese history. The topics will depend on the specialty of the instructor and may vary from one semester to the other. Its goal is to familiarise the students with the current scholarship and primary sources on the selected topic so that they are able to discuss it critically. The students will write a short essay based on secondary literature, develop a bibliography and work on a research paper based on primary sources.

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