

HISTORY

HI*E299*53

A General Education Curriculum for Global or World History: From the Big Bang to the Present Matt Levey

Prerequisites: None
Open To: All Students
Grading System: Letter
Max. Enrollment: 15
Meeting Times: M Tu W 11:00am-12:30pm

In this project we will explore Global or World History, from the Big Bang to the emergence of European imperialism in the late 15th and early 16th centuries. The project will be comprehensive in terms of time (from the Big Bang to approximately 1500) and space (all over the world), and will proceed in four phases: (1) an overview of *cosmological* or *universal history*—the story of the Big Bang and the ever-expanding universe it created, because without it, there would have been no possibility of life as we know it on earth; (2) *geological history*—the story of earth and how it helped shape the processes of the evolution of all plants and animals in general; (3) the *evolutionary history* of mankind—the evolution of hominids to the emergence of humankind (the species *homo sapien*); and, finally, (4) the *history of civilization*—beginning with the pre-civilized condition, the transition from that to civilization, and the history of all civilizations up to 1500.

Because this involves a wide range of academic disciplines, the final project will be for each student to design a liberal arts general education curriculum that (1) integrates academic disciplines from the three areas of the Humanities, the Social Sciences, and Mathematics and the Natural Sciences; (2) has global reach, which is to say, is not confined to one or two civilizations.

HI*E299*54

Internships for Historians Will Hustwit

Prerequisites: At Least One History Course
Open To: Sophomores, Juniors, Seniors
Grading System: S/U
Max. Enrollment: 10
Meeting Times: Tu W Th 10:00am-12:30pm

“Except for teaching, what’s a history major good for?” Sign up for this project and find out! Students will learn about the field of public history as they serve as interns in libraries, archives, museums, living history sites, and other facilities, all in the Birmingham area. Students will be individually placed according to talent, interest, and availability – but all will have the opportunity to apply the skills and knowledge they’ve learned as historians at BSC, and all will get the chance to explore career possibilities for those who want to engage with history outside of the classroom. S/U grade will be based on intern mentor’s evaluation and a five-page reflective essay.

HI*E299*55

“A Night to Remember”: The RMS *Titanic* as an Icon of Edwardian Britain V. Markham Lester

Prerequisites: None
Open To: All Students
Grading System: Letter
Max. Enrollment: 15
Meeting Times: M W 9:30am-11:30am, Tu Th 2:00pm-4:00pm

In April 1912 the RMS *Titanic* sank with the loss of over 1,500 passengers and crew. It was the deadliest commercial peacetime maritime disaster in modern history. This project examines the *Titanic* as an icon of Edwardian society and culture. What insights can the ship provide about mental attitudes, class structure, and technology of the period? Attention will be given to the ship’s construction, crew, passengers, sinking, and cultural legacy. There will be out-of-class reading and film viewing, and evaluation will be based on class participation, projects, and short essays.

HUMAN RIGHTS

HRC*E299*56

Black, Green, and Between: Human Rights Study in Alabama and Ireland Sandra Sprayberry and Erica Brown

Prerequisites: None
Open To: All Students
Grading System: Letter
Max. Enrollment: 10 (FULL)
Meeting Times: On campus meetings Jan 3-4 and at pre-arranged times throughout Fall semester, Travel Jan 5-17



Fifty years after the Birmingham and Derry civil rights movements, scholars are drawing substantive historical connections between the two movements in Alabama and Ireland. Writers, artists, and musicians at the time of each movement (and still today) called and responded. This project is a cultural immersion in some of these commonalities. In this interdisciplinary and international human rights project, students will study the historical foundations of both movements and will experience—through study-travel in some of the border counties of the Republic of Ireland and Northern Ireland—contemporary efforts towards peace and reconciliation.

Students will research the 1950s–60s movement in Birmingham and the 1960s–70s movement in Derry. Students will then travel to Dublin, Donegal, and Sligo, Republic of Ireland, and to Derry, Northern Ireland. While there, students will travel to important cultural heritage sites and will meet with community activists. A focal part of the experience will be Drew University’s fourth annual Transatlantic Connections conference; the 2017 theme is “Equality Emerging.” BSC students will present and attend panels and workshops that bring together BSC and Ulster University (Magee campus) students. The conference theme promises to attract international scholars and leaders to discuss human rights from a variety of interdisciplinary approaches.

Estimated Student Fee: \$3500