The Department of History offers courses in U.S. and world history and major degrees in both the liberal arts and secondary education. A history minor is also available to nonhistory majors. The department’s program in secondary education provides teaching certification. Academic counseling is available for students choosing careers in history.

A degree in history may be an end in itself. It is, however, an excellent choice for anyone who wishes to pursue entry into a wide variety of careers. Many recent graduates have gone on to graduate study in history, law, archaeology, museum studies, library studies, and other fields. The BA degree in History requires 120 credits, with 42 of those in History. Required courses include surveys of US and World History, skills courses early and late in the major, and electives in three categories (European, US, Asian/African/Latin American). At least three courses must be 300-level or higher.

the programs

- History Minor (https://catalog.millersville.edu/undergraduate/college-arts-humanities-social-sciences/history/history-minor/)
- History, B.A. (https://catalog.millersville.edu/undergraduate/college-arts-humanities-social-sciences/history/history-ba/)
- Social Studies, B.S.Ed. (https://catalog.millersville.edu/undergraduate/college-arts-humanities-social-sciences/social-studies/social-studies-bsed/)

the faculty

Davis Robyn; Associate Professor
College of Arts, Humanities and Social Sciences
B.A., Columbia University, 1993; M.A., University of Oklahoma, 2001; Ph.D., Ibid., 2009

Frankum Ronald; Professor
College of Arts, Humanities and Social Sciences
B.A., Syracuse University, 1988, M.A., University of Kentucky, 1991; Ph.D., Syracuse University, 1997

Kevorkian Tanya; Associate Professor
College of Arts, Humanities and Social Sciences
B.A., Mount Holyoke College, 1987; M.A., Johns Hopkins University, 1993; Ph.D., Ibid., 1997

Khiterer Victoria; Professor
College of Arts, Humanities and Social Sciences
B.S., Kiev State Pedagogical Institute (Ukraine), 1992; M.A., Russian State University for Humanities, 1996; Ph.D., Ibid., 1996; Brandeis University, 2008

Maxwell Clarence; Assistant Professor
College of Arts, Humanities and Social Sciences
B.A., St. Leo University (United Kingdom), 1985; B. A., University of Keelee (United Kingdom), 1990; M.A., University of Hull (United Kingdom), 1995; Ph.D., University of Warwick (United Kingdom), 1999

Onek Curthberth; Associate Professor
College of Arts, Humanities and Social Sciences

Shelor Erin; Associate Professor
College of Arts, Humanities and Social Sciences
B.A., Furman University, 1992; M.A., East Tennessee State University, 1996; Ph.D., University of Kentucky, 2003

Sommar Mary; Assistant Professor
College of Arts, Humanities and Social Sciences
B.A., Temple University, 1975; M.Div., Yale University, 1990; Ph.D., Syracuse University, 1998

the courses

HIST 101: 3 s.h.
Europe and the World 1350-1789 (G3)
Europe and its world relationships during the centuries of the Reformation, the scientific revolution, overseas expansion and revolution. Offered in fall, spring.

HIST 102: 3 s.h.
Europe and World 1789-Present (G3)
Europe and its world relationships in the age of industrialization and democratization. Offered in fall, spring.

HIST 105: 3 s.h.
The Craft of History (W)
This course introduces students to the philosophy of history, major schools of historiography and skills of research and writing history. This course does not count for general education, G3 requirements. Offered in fall, spring. Prereq: ENGL 110.

HIST 106: 3 s.h.
Contours of US History (G3)
A survey of United States history from the peopling of the Americas to the present. Identifies and examines the key themes in the creation and transformation of the nation and its peoples. Offered in fall, spring.

HIST 107: 3 s.h.
Pre-Modern World Cultures (G3)
General survey of world history and culture from known beginnings to 1500. Intended for nonmajors. Offered periodically. Equivalent course HIST 206: No credit given if credit earned for HIST 206. Offered annually.

HIST 179: 3 s.h.
Experimental
Experimental

HIST 206: 3 s.h.
World Culture & Religion to 1500 (D, G3, W)
Survey of world history from known beginnings to 1500. Offered annually. Equivalent course HIST 107: No credit given if credit earned for HIST 107. Prereq: ENGL 110.

HIST 213: 3 s.h.
Greeks and Romans (G3)
This course considers the social, political and economic history of Ancient Greece and Rome. No prior knowledge of history is necessary.

HIST 214: 3 s.h.
History of Christianity (D, G3)
Examines the formation of early Christianity, the spread of Christianity from the Roman Mediterranean through Asia, Africa, and Europe, and the major issues of European Reformation.

HIST 215: 3 s.h.
Slaves & Masters Ancient World (G3)
Considers the social, political and economic factors concerning the practice of slavery in ancient world cultures. No prior knowledge of history is necessary.
HIST 215H: 3 s.h.
Hon: Slaves/Master Ancient Wrl (G3)
HIST 216: 3 s.h.
Vikings (G3)
Considers the social, political and economic history of the Viking explorers and their society. No prior knowledge of history is necessary.

HIST 216H: 3 s.h.
Hon: Vikings (G3)

HIST 218: 3 s.h.
People and the Environment (G3, W)
This course offers an introduction to the methods and insights of environmental history in Europe and the Americas from 1500 to the present. It examines developments in Europe, with background in medieval dynamics and a focus on the period from 1500 onward, through 18th-century projects that cleared land and drained swamps, 19th and 20th century industrialization, World Wars I and II, and the post-World War II era. It also discuss the European colonization of the Americas, with background on Indian use of the land before contact with colonists.

HIST 222: 3 s.h.
Modern Britain (G3)
Modern England: the political, social, economic and cultural evolution of England from 1688 to the present. Offered annually.

HIST 222H: 3 s.h.
Hnrs: Modern Britain (G3)

HIST 223: 3 s.h.
Traditional Germany (G3, W)
The evolution of the German people and their political, cultural and socio-economic institutions from Roman times to 1806. Offered annually. Prereq: ENGL 110.

HIST 224: 3 s.h.
Modern Germany (G3, W)
German history from 1806 to the present. Offered annually. Prereq: ENGL 110.

HIST 225: 3 s.h.
Germany, 1945-Present (G3, W)
This course examines the transformation of Germany from 1945, when, at the end of World War II, there were four occupational zones and no German state, through the era of two German states, East and West, from 1949 to 1990, to the present post-reunification Germany. The events of the Third Reich, World War II, and the Holocaust will form a backdrop to much of this history, and we will quickly review them. Then, the course focuses on the activities of the four occupying powers (the United States, the Soviet Union, Great Britain, and France) in the post-war years, the emerging Cold War, the formation of East and West Germany, developments from the 1950s to the 1980s, the collapse of East Germany and reunification, and post-reunification developments. Prerequisites: ENGL 110 or ENGL 110H

HIST 230: 3 s.h.
Modern Jewish History (G3, W)
Survey of the history of Jews in the mid 18th-20th centuries. Course designed to enrich students' historical and cultural knowledge and improve students' understanding of Gentile-Jewish relations in the modern world. Offered periodically. Prereq: ENGL 110.

HIST 241: 3 s.h.
Imperial Russia (G3, W)
Political, cultural, economic and social history from Peter the Great to the Russian Revolution. Offered annually. Prereq: ENGL 110.

HIST 241H: 3 s.h.
Hon: Imperial Russia (G3, W)

HIST 242: 3 s.h.
Soviet Union (G3)
Political, cultural, economic and social history from the Russian Revolution to the present. Offered annually.

HIST 250: 3 s.h.
Women in American History (G3, W)
History of women in the United States from the early 16th century through the late 20th century, with a particular emphasis on the significance of race, class, religion and region in the shaping of women's experiences. Offered periodically. Prereq: ENGL 110.

HIST 250H: 3 s.h.
H:Women in American History (G3, W)
Honors Course - History of women in the United States from the early 16th century through the late 20th century, with a particular emphasis on the significance of race, class, religion and region in the shaping of women's experiences.

HIST 272: 3 s.h.
Afro-American History 1 (G3, W)
History of African Americans from their first arrival in the Americas through the Civil War, with a particular emphasis on the process of enslavement, the formation of African-American communities and institutions, and the evolution of Black abolitionism. Offered annually. Prereq: ENGL 110.

HIST 273: 3 s.h.
Afro-American History 2 (G3, W)
History of African Americans from the Civil War through the present, with a particular emphasis on the processes of emancipation, urbanization and enfranchisement. Offered annually. Prereq: ENGL 110.

HIST 276: 3 s.h.
Am Foreign Rltns, 1890 to Pres (G3)
With the rise of the United States as an international power in the 1890s through its current foreign policy initiatives, it has acted as a leader in the world community. This course examines the rise, decline and resurrection of the United States as a world power through its foreign relations. Offered annually. Prereq: ENGL 110.

HIST 276H: 3 s.h.
Hon: Am For Rltns, 1890-Presen (G3)

HIST 279: 3 s.h.
Experimental

HIST 280: 3 s.h.
Pre-Colonial Africa (G3)
Examines major social, economic and political developments in pre-colonial African societies. It begins with an overview of historiographical debates of African history, the peopling of Africa, early migration, agricultural innovation, climatic changes to the development of civilizations and cross-cultural contacts. Offered annually.

HIST 281: 3 s.h.
African History (G3)
A survey of African history; special emphasis on the period since 1500. Offered annually. Prereq: ENGL 110.
HIST 282: 3 s.h.
Transatlantic Slave Trade (G3)
This course examines the Transatlantic slave trade as a transcontinental episode that was responsible for the forced migration of millions of Africans to the Americas and Europe. It critically analyzes the various dimensions of the global forces that created the Atlantic World, experienced by tens of millions of enslaved African people. It illuminates the origins and continuing legacy of inequality based in European expansion, enslavement and economic supremacy. As an exploration of human history in the Atlantic World, this course discusses in depth the historiography of the slave trade and slavery in contemporary political, economic and social interactions of Africa, Americas and Europe.

HIST 283: 3 s.h.
Colonial Latin America (G3)
From pre-Columbian America to the independence of Latin America (1825). Offered periodically. Prereq: ENGL 110.

HIST 284: 3 s.h.
Modern Latin America (G3)
Continuation of HIST 283 from 1826 to the present. Offered annually. Prereq: ENGL 110.

HIST 285: 3 s.h.
Decolonizatn EU Emp in Africa (G3)
This course examines the process of the fall and dissolution of European Empires in the decades following the ending of the Second World War. It discusses the historiographical debate of factors that precipitated decolonization in the international, metropolitan, and national arenas. The course explores colonial insurgency and counterinsurgency programs as well as negotiated, non-violent struggles that culminated in the transfer of power to African nationalists.

HIST 286: 3 s.h.
War, Revolution and Terrorism (G3)
Examines causes, conducts, and consequences of modern wars, revolutions, and terrorism in our contemporary world. Offers students a critical understanding of the concepts and competing theories associated with the study of war. Also explores the social, political, and economic predicaments of modern states confronting the various forms of warfare.

HIST 286H: 3 s.h.
Hon: War, Revolution & Terrori (G3)

HIST 300: 3-12 s.h.
Co-Op Ed Experience in History
Co-Op Ed Experience in History

HIST 308: 3 s.h.
Topics in History (G3)
A thematic investigation of a significant historical topic with course structure and topic determined by the instructor prior to the preregistration period. Offered periodically.

HIST 308H: 3 s.h.
H Topics:
H Topics:

HIST 313: 3 s.h.
History of Middle Ages (G3, W)
Major political, cultural and socioeconomic developments in Europe, c. 500-1300 A.D. Offered annually. Prereq: ENGL 110.

HIST 313H: 3 s.h.
Hon: Hist of Middle Ages (G3, W)

HIST 314: 3 s.h.
The Crusades (D, G3)
The history of the European Crusade movement to the Levant, as it was then called. The course will not concentrate on military history, but rather on the social, cultural and political factors that led to and resulted from these expeditions. The course will consider these issues from the point of view of the several groups of people, European and West Asian, who were involved in these events. Offered annually.

HIST 320: 3 s.h.
Renaissance and Reformation (G3, W)
Cultural, social and political history of Europe, 1300-1650, with emphasis on Renaissance arts and literature and 16th century religious upheaval. Offered periodically. Prereq: ENGL 110.

HIST 330: 3 s.h.
Nineteenth-Century Europe (G3, W)
The history of 19th-century Europe, including social, political, intellectual, cultural, religious and economic history. Offered periodically. Prereq: ENGL 110.

HIST 330H: 3 s.h.
Hnrs:Nineteenth-Century Europe (G3, W)

HIST 334: 3 s.h.
Victorian England (G3, W)
The political, social, economic and intellectual development of England and the British Empire from the end of the Napoleonic wars to the outbreak of World War I. Offered periodically. Prereq: ENGL 110.

HIST 334H: 3 s.h.
H:Victorian England (G3, W)
Honors Course - The political, social, economic and intellectual development of England and the British Empire from the end of the Napoleonic wars to the outbreak of World War I.

HIST 340: 3 s.h.
Twentieth Century Europe (G3, W)
The political, socio-economic, cultural and diplomatic transformation of Europe, 1900 to the present. Offered periodically. Prereq: ENGL 110.

HIST 342: 3 s.h.
Hitler and Nazism (G3, W)
The origins, development and impact upon Germany and the rest of the world of National Socialist theory and practice. Offered annually. Prereq: ENGL 110.

HIST 351: 3 s.h.
17th Century British America (G3, W)
The founding and growth of the British Colonies to the Glorious Revolution of 1688, with particular attention devoted to society, beliefs and government. Offered annually. Prereq: ENGL 110.

HIST 352: 3 s.h.
Provincial and Revolutionary America (G3, W)
America from the Glorious Revolution to the completion of the American Revolution, with particular attention to social, cultural and political developments such as the Enlightenment, the Great Awakening and the War for Independence. Offered annually. Prereq: ENGL 110.

HIST 354: 3 s.h.
The New Nation (G3)
The United States 1789-1850: The formation of a national vision and culture; the development of political parties; the market revolution and social turmoil; westward movement, sectionalism and reform, including abolitionism and the women's movement. Offered annually. Prereq: ENGL 110.
HIST 355: 3 s.h.
Civil War and Reconstruction (G3)
The social, political and economic causes of the Civil War, the military and social events of the war, and the postwar developments of Reconstruction, with particular emphasis on the place of African Americans in U.S. society. Offered annually. Prereq: ENGL 110.

HIST 356: 3 s.h.
New Era, 1876-1919 (G3)
Responses to industrialization from populism through the progressive era. Changes in thought and culture. World War I and American society. The rise of America as a world power. Offered annually. Prereq: ENGL 110.

HIST 356H: 3 s.h.
H:New Era, 1876-1919 (G3)
Honors Course - Responses to industrialization from populism through the progressive era. Changes in thought and culture. World War I and American society. The rise of America as a world power.

HIST 357: 3 s.h.
Modern U.S. History (G3)
The United States from 1900 to the present. Focus is on political and social, not military, history. Offered periodically

HIST 359: 3 s.h.
First World War (G3)
This course focuses on the military strategy and tactics employed by the combatants during the First World War (1914-1918). Offered annually.

HIST 360: 3 s.h.
The Second World War (G3)
The course focuses on the military strategy and tactics employed by the combatants during the Second World War (1939-1945). Offered annually.

HIST 379: 3 s.h.
Experimental

HIST 383: 3 s.h.
Eur Imprlsm in Af 1870-1914 (G3, W)
Provides an informed understanding of major themes in late 19th- and early 20th-century Africa, with a particular focus on the impact of British, French, Belgian and German imperialism. Special attention will be given to the discussion of the historiography of imperialism related to Africa. Contemporary Africa will be used to provide a background for assessing the effect of imperialism on African society, politics and economies. Offered annually. Prereq: ENGL 110/H.

HIST 388: 3 s.h.
Twentieth-Century Africa (G3, W)
Course surveys major developments in 20th-century Africa by situating them in their respective historical contexts. It examines the idea of race, cultural representation of others, colonial economic relations, decolonization, national liberation movements, debts, structural adjustment programs, democracy, post-apartheid South Africa, the emergence of U.S. Africa Command (AFRICOM) and Human Rights and Development. Offered periodically. Prereq: ENGL 110.

HIST 400: 3-12 s.h.
Co-Op Ed Experience in History
Co-Op Ed Experience in History

HIST 401: 3 s.h.
Cultural Interactions across the Atlantic World, 1450-1820 (P)
This perspectives course will compare the social, economic, political and religious relations of three areas: Africa, Europe and the Native Societies of the Americas in and during the period of the formation of the Atlantic World. Offered periodically. Prereq: COMM 100, ENGL 110 and junior status.

HIST 401H: 3 s.h.
H:Atlantic World, 1450-1820
Honors Course - This perspectives course will compare the social, economic, political and religious relations of three areas: Africa, Europe and the Native Societies of the Americas in and during the period of the formation of the Atlantic World.

HIST 406: 3 s.h.
Senior Seminar
Students will prepare and defend a seminar paper of approximately 25 pages. Prereq: HIST 105 with a grade of C- or higher; junior or senior standing or permission of instructor. Satisfies advance writing (AW) requirement if a grade of B or higher is attained.

HIST 453: 3 s.h.
Indians & Colonists in PA (P)
Early Pennsylvania became home to a variety of groups in the course of the 18th century. This course takes a transatlantic approach as it explores the diverse backgrounds of European settlers and the Native Americans whom they encountered, and interactions following the establishment of the colony. Offered periodically. Prereq: COMM 100, ENGL 110 and junior status.

HIST 453H: 3 s.h.
H:Colonial PA German Society (P)

HIST 470: 3 s.h.
The Vietnam War (P)
The Vietnam War continues to be one of the more controversial moments in the history of the United States. Course examines the war with the objective of achieving a greater understanding of why the United States entered into the conflict and how the war was fought on the military battlefields in Vietnam and political battlefields in Washington, D.C., Saigon, Hanoi and around the world. Offered annually. Prereq: COMM 100, ENGL 110 and junior status.

HIST 470H: 3 s.h.
H:Colonial PA German Society (P)

HIST 479: 3 s.h.
Experimental

HIST 480: 3 s.h.
History of Medicine (G3)
The history of medicine, health and disease, including political, social, cultural, religious and economic factors from the ancient world to the present. The course includes material from European, American and world perspectives. Offered periodically.
HIST 480H: 3 s.h.
Hnr: History of Medicine (G3)
Honors Section. The history of medicine, health and disease, including political, social, cultural, religious and economic factors from the ancient world to the present. The course includes material from European, American and world perspectives. Offered periodically.

HIST 489: 1-6 s.h.
Honors Course

HIST 489H: 1-4 s.h.
Honors Course

HIST 490: 3 s.h.
17th Century Anglo-America (P)
This perspectives course introduces students to the use of anthropological methods in studying past societies through examinations of small communities in England and America. Offered annually. Prereq: COMM 100, ENGL 110 and junior status.

HIST 498: 1-6 s.h.
Independent Study
For further information on independent study, see the Special Academic Opportunities section.

HIST 499: 1-4 s.h.
Departmental Honors

HIST 500: 3-12 s.h.
Co-Op Ed Experience in History

HIST 480H: 3 s.h.
Hnr: History of Medicine (G3)
Honors Section. The history of medicine, health and disease, including political, social, cultural, religious and economic factors from the ancient world to the present. The course includes material from European, American and world perspectives. Offered periodically.

HIST 489: 1-6 s.h.
Honors Course

HIST 489H: 1-4 s.h.
Honors Course

HIST 490: 3 s.h.
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Departmental Honors

HIST 500: 3-12 s.h.
Co-Op Ed Experience in History