



HISTORY GRADUATE PROGRAM
PROVIDENCE COLLEGE

Each course fulfills
one (1) History
Graduate Program
degree requirement

FALL 2020 SEMESTER

August 31, 2020 – December 11, 2020

HIS 647: History of Arab-Israeli Conflict

Thursday 4:30-6:50pm – Dr. Margaret Manchester

This course will examine the origins and course of the Arab-Israeli conflict, a conflict that has had profound consequences for Muslims, Jews, and Christians and for the Middle East region as a whole. Readings, films, and case studies will focus class discussion on pivotal moments, key decision-makers, and the opportunities for peace and reconciliation in a seemingly intractable conflict.

HIS 630: Seminar: Life Writings: Narratives of Colonial America

Monday 4:30-6:50pm – Dr. Adrian Weimer

In this course we look at European settlement in the Americas and the cultural and political self-fashioning that emerged from that settlement. We will analyze a variety of autobiographical and biographical genres, including depositions, diaries, elegies, letters, and poetry. Special attention will be given to the relationship between colonists and larger empires, theories of identity, and how people – including indigenous peoples - understood themselves in relation to religion, geography and history.

HIS 630: Seminar: Federalist Papers & U.S. Constitution

Monday 7:00-9:30pm – Dr. Steven Smith

This graduate seminar will focus on the writing of the U.S. Constitution, the ratification debates in 1787 and 1788, and on The Federalist and Anti-Federalist essays. An important premise of this seminar is that contemporary political issues can be connected to the constitutional debates that took place in the late eighteenth-century. To this end, we'll consider the degree to which The Federalist remains a relevant political commentary in 2020's constantly shifting landscape, especially when we debate the relative merits of small vs. big government, executive power, states rights in opposition to federal authority, and the role of money in politics. Even the U.S. Supreme Court turns to The Federalist essays for how best to interpret the meaning of the U.S. Constitution. Ultimately, we'll examine how well the ideas proclaimed in The Federalist and Anti-Federalist essays hold up in an age of hyper partisanship, terrorism, economic turmoil, and civil unrest.

HIS 500: Historical Methodology

Wednesday 7:00-9:30pm – Vefa Erginbas

This course is a broad introduction to research methods and academic writing. Students will learn to think critically about, and participate in, the art of the professional historian. It will expose them to how the discipline developed professionally, to the many interpretations of the past developed by historians, as well as the many disagreements that emerge from these interpretations. Students will conduct research using primary and secondary sources that will culminate in an original research paper. In the process, students will learn new and easy-to-use research aids, such as bibliographic software. The class will work with archives and may use local research libraries. In the end, students will have been afforded the opportunity to work and think like a historian.