

PROVIDENCE COLLEGE GRADUATE HISTORY PROGRAM

SPRING 2022 COURSE OFFERINGS

HIS 630: Reading and Writing in Early America Dr. S. Smith, Thursday, 4:30-6:50PM

This graduate seminar will introduce students to major developments in the history of print, publishing, writing, and reading practices in the age of the American Revolution and the early republic. Our interdisciplinary approach to studying this formative period of the nation's history will examine the role of material texts in everyday life and thus how political, cultural, and literary texts were produced, disseminated, and consumed. We will think critically about several interrelated questions. For instance, how did Americans interact with different material forms of print, ranging from newspapers, to single-issue broadsides, pamphlets, political magazines, and books? What was the role of the printer in Revolutionary, and early national politics and society? In what ways did printers and other members of the publishing trade set the terms of political debate and cultural exchange? How did print contribute to the rise of national identity in the early republic?

HIS770_001: Special Topics: Henry VI, King of England and France: Heritage, Life and Legacy Dr. T. Grzebien, Wednesday, 7-9:30

A look at the life and reign of the much-maligned monarch who was crowned king of two countries and who is infamous for burning of Joan of Arc and losing the Hundred Years War. This course examines what young Henry inherited from his heroic father who won the legendary victory of Agincourt, the political and military crises which marked his long minority, the challenges of his adult life, including his rivalry with Charles VII of France, the feuds among the magnates of England and civil unrest which marred his reign, and finally the bold gambits of his formidable Queen, Margaret of Anjou, Shakespeare's "She Wolf of France" who battled to restore her husband's lost throne. The course will consider issues in English domestic politics, the twilight of the Hundred Years War, and internecine battles of the infamous "Wars of the Roses" between Lancaster and York. Attention will be paid to the myths enshrined in Shakespeare's history plays, and by the different perceptions of the king in both formal history and popular culture. Henry has been dismissed by many modern scholars as a man woefully unfit for his royal destiny. A smaller cultic group of admirers remembers him as a sort of tragic victim saint.

HIS770_002: Special Topics: Civil Rights and Black Power in the United States Dr. A. Lopez, Wednesday, 4:30-6:50PM

The Civil Rights Movement is, arguably, the most significant force of social and political change in the twentieth century. The period saw widespread demonstrations, from sit-ins to marches, massive resistance, the dismantling of Jim Crow and the institutionalization of the Civil and Voting Rights Acts. This course traces the history of the "long civil rights movement" from the 1930s into the 1970s, while also exploring the impact of the movement on the modern struggle for civil rights. Texts will consider the various strategies, demands and philosophies employed by activists; the shift from civil rights to black power; the impact of gender, sexuality, and class on the movement; and the intersections between the civil rights struggle and feminists, queer, and anti-war movements.

HIS 573: The Reformation Fr. J. Vidmar, Tuesday, 4:30-6:50PM

This course is designed to familiarize the student with the historical events leading up to the Reformation of the 16th century, the political and philosophical causes of the Reformation, and the theological issues which emerged during the Reformation, using lectures and original sources. The course will also examine the results of the Reformation: the Catholic response known as the Counter-Reformation; the effects of the Reformation and Counter-Reformation on art, architecture, literature, and music; denominationalism; and political, economic, societal ramifications of the Reformation – the "unintended Reformation". A research project will require the student to choose a character or event of the Reformation and examine how it has been treated over the last few centuries by a variety of authors, coming to conclusions about the authors' veracity, bias, insight, etc., especially as opposed to the latest research.

Registration begins on November 22, 2020

Register via Cyberfriar