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History Program and Course Changes

[History, B.A. \(Core\) - Change Core Requirements - 23-2312](#). Add HIST 209 to required LD courses.

Remove HIST 110 and HIST 111 from required LD courses. Remove geographical "Areas". Add newly proposed UD Area D/Area 4 +1 courses to approved electives list: HIST 303/303R, HIST 304/304R, HIST 307A/307B/307R, HIST 308/308R, HIST 309/309R. Add RS 105 to list of survey courses, and also add seven upper-division RS courses to "History Areas" options to incorporate new History of Religions Concentration.

[23-2348 - History Minor - Change Minor Requirements](#) - In alignment with the changes to the History B.A. core and concentration, adding HIST 209 to minor requirements and moving away from geographic categories with the addition of several new UD history courses.

[History, B.A. - Change Concentration/Emphasis Requirements - 23-2293](#). 1) Change subprogram name to "History, General History Concentration B.A." to distinguish it from the History Education and (new) History of Religions concentrations. 2) Change the existing "geographic" requirements (US vs. Europe vs. World) and focus instead on "coursework" requirements (Research/Writing courses). 3) Add HIST 209 (Critical History) as a core requirement. Rationale: Updates will make the program both more rigorous and simpler, by increasing the research/writing requirements and simultaneously deleting the increasingly arcane geographic requirements. The latter have become more and more tenuous as the department shrinks. The requirement of HIST 209 should have no effect on History majors' time-to-graduation, because it will double-count as a GEAR course. PLOs have been updated pursuant to conversations with the Director of Assessment.

[History, B.A. - New Concentration - History of Religions - 24-2525](#) - **Please note Resolution to approve new concentration alongside proposal package.** Religious Studies is becoming a third History concentration in response to enrollment pressures, Chancellor's Office pressure on low-degree-conferring majors, and college-level reorganization. The Religious Studies, B.A. will be discontinued. As part of both History's and Religious Studies' most recent program reviews, students expressed a desire for a larger variety of courses; this combination will provide more options for History majors within any of the three concentrations. Enrollment is expected to remain in line with recent RS enrollment trends; modest growth in RS course enrollment is anticipated, as HIST majors are permitted to count those courses toward their HIST degree, and, in turn, a modest increase in HIST course enrollment is anticipated, with students who would have been RS majors joining the HIST major cohort. RS courses are also being incorporated into the History, B.A. Core as part of this change.

[History, Education Concentration, B.A. - Change Core Requirements - 24-2588](#). Change to Core (increasing units from 28-31) and removal of GEOG 365 as a concentration course option.

[HIST - 209 - 22-1939 - New Course - Critical History: Theory and Historiography](#). (3 units) Requesting 1B (Critical Thinking) Certification. History already has a wildly successful sophomore seminar (HIST

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210, Historical Methods) that serves as an introduction to the major. However, there is simply too much material to cover in one 4-unit course (as witnessed by high DFW rates and general apprehension by students). Therefore, we propose to split off the historiography/theory parts into a separate course, while leaving the research methodology (and hands-on research project) to HIST 210. Program requirement change to the History, B.A. Core.

[HIST - 303 - New Course - Three Revolutions: Haiti, Mexico, Cuba - 24-2342](#) - Course description:

Explore and compare revolutionary contexts, processes, and outcomes. Examine the ways in which these events shaped gender and sexuality, artistic expression, and national identities. Rationale: This course has been offered 3 times with good enrollments. It will flesh out the Latin American offerings in the department and provide an upper division, GE Area 4 elective for History majors, minors, and students from other majors as well. The topic is compelling and the thematic approach was recommended by our last program review.

[HIST - 303R - New Course - Three Revolutions: Depth Experience - 24-2349](#) - Course Description:

Provides a research component for History majors enrolled in History 303, as well as exposure to the scholarship of Digital Humanities; HIST 303 required corequisite for History majors. Rationale: This 1 unit add-on is required of History majors so that they earn their required 4 units for each upper division history class. It provides a research experience in the topic.

[HIST 304 - New Course - Drinking and Drunkenness in the Early Modern Atlantic World - 23-2345](#) -

Description: This seminar explores the social, cultural, medical/body, gender, economic, racial, material, colonial, and political histories of drinking in the Atlantic world from the Renaissance to the turn of the nineteenth century. Special emphasis is placed on the economic history of producing and distributing alcohol, the social history of the alehouse/tavern/public house, the history of the body and drunkenness, drinking and gender, drinking and violence/disorder, the introduction of tobacco in Europe, the caffeine revolution, the gin craze, rum and the slave trade, alcohol and Native Americans, the politics and taxation of alcohol, and early temperance movements. Rationale: Drinking is a terrific way to explore various aspects of cultural history. Course success as Special Topics offering. Course is another good UD Area D option.

[HIST - 304R - New Course - Drinking and Drunkenness Research Seminar - 23-2346](#) - Description and

rationale: This research seminar is designed to offer a fourth unit of credit for History 304, which is three units and a co-requisite. History 304 satisfies university general education requirements for "Area D" (for 3 units), and History 304 and 304R together also fulfill History major "R" requirements (for 4 units). In addition to the coursework requirements of History 304, students in History 304R must also carry out a research project based on primary sources. Students must locate and read at least two book-length primary sources beyond the assigned readings as evidence for their research papers.

[HIST - 307A - New Course - History of Science from the Renaissance to Alexander von Humboldt - 23-1947](#) - Description:

This course surveys the history and historiography of science, medicine, ideas, and scholarship (intellectual history) from the Renaissance until the turn of the nineteenth century: Renaissance classical humanism, the scientific revolution, and Enlightenment. Special emphasis is placed on witchcraft/demonology, alchemy, the patronage of scholarship, intellectual infrastructure (the invention of the scholarly journal and the research university), the history of the

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body, and the pseudo-science of race in the eighteenth century. This course satisfies History Department major requirements and either Area 5 or Area 4 General Education requirements. Rationale: This new GE course will support the Cal Poly transition, offer a relevant Area 4 course for STEM majors, and offer a relevant Area B course for social science majors. This course has been offered as a "special topics" course.

[HIST - 307B - New Course - History of Science Since Alexander von Humboldt - 23-2343](#) - Description: his course introduces students to modern environmental and economic history through an examination of changing modes of energy production, distribution, and consumption over the last 200 years. It focuses on the initial advent of hydrocarbon power in the coal-fired era of the nineteenth century, and the transition to petroleum and natural gas as the primary fuels of global industrial civilization in the twentieth. In addition, we will examine the history of concepts of "nature", "society", "the ecology", "the environment" and "energy" through the reading of primary scientific sources and popular cultural ones. While I take ecological and climatological ideas (and the methods used to generate them) seriously and afford them the epistemological respect they deserve, it is important to study the social causes behind changing models of the natural world, and models of the human species' interactions with it. Rationale: This new GE course will support the Cal Poly transition, offer a relevant Area D course for STEM majors, and offer a relevant Area B course for social science majors. This course has been offered as a "special topics" course.

[HIST - 307R - New Course - History of Science: Research Seminar - 23-2344](#) - Description: Research seminar designed to offer a fourth unit of credit for History 307A or 307B, which is three units and a co-requisite. History 307 satisfies university general education requirements for "Area B" or "Area D" (for 3 units), and History 307A/B and 300R together also fulfill History major requirements (for 4 units). In addition to the coursework requirements of History 307A/B, students in History 307R must also carry out a research project based on primary sources. Students must locate and read at least two book-length primary sources beyond the assigned readings as evidence for their research papers.

[HIST - 308 - New Course - History of Women in the United States - 24-2317](#) - Description: Examines the history of women in the United States from the era of European colonization to the present. Considers intersections of historical constructs of femininity with racial, ideological, and socioeconomic forces. Rationale: 1. There is no history of women in the U.S. course anywhere in the catalog. It would add depth and breadth to the learning experience for all students, particularly the following programs: History, CRGS, WS, and perhaps English, Psychology, Political Science. It offers an opportunity for GE Area D and DCG-Domestic credit. 2. Together with HIST-308R (1 unit research seminar), this course would help History majors fulfil their requirement to take "R" courses and Area Courses. 3. Students are very interested in the history of women and gender in the U.S. 4. Currently, issues of gender and sexuality are of high importance in public discourse, especially since the Supreme Court's historic overturn of Roe v. Wade in 2022. History Ed students in particular would benefit from a solid background in the history of women in the U.S. as they prepare to educate young people about issues that matter to them. 5. The context of laws censoring what can be taught about history in other states heightens the need for courses like this in California.

[HIST - 308R - New Course - History of Women in the United States, Research Seminar - 24-2318](#) -

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Description: Embedded writing workshop. Students write a 10-12 page research paper. Includes: primary and secondary literature review, library research methods, analysis, organization, and peer editing. Rationale: History majors who concurrently enroll in HIST 308 and HIST 308 R are able to count HIST 308 toward the History major requirement to take 8 units of "R" courses and 28 units of Area Courses.

[HIST - 309 - New Course - Environmental History of Latin America - 23-2363](#) - Description: Explore how peoples have thought about, lived with, utilized, and transformed the environment in Latin America. Examine the impact of history on the environment and the environment on history, within a variety of contexts and countries. UD GE Area D certification. Rationale: Part of programmatic re-imagining of the History major to provide more thematic options, and to create regular offerings attractive to other majors via GE credit, which will in turn facilitate progress toward graduation.

[HIST - 309R - New Course - Environmental History of Latin America Depth Experience - 23-2380](#) - Description: Research seminar for History majors enrolled in History 309: Environmental History of Latin America. Rationale: History majors must take UD electives for 4 credits. This 1 unit add-on provides that via a research seminar. The topic is proposed in response to the last program review and the recommendation for more thematic courses.

[AHSS - 201 - 24-2635 - Course Change - Technology: Evolution, Robots and A.I.](#) - Proposed Changes: Change Area E course AHSS 201: Evolution, Creation, and the Robot Apocalypse to LD GE Humanities (3B) RS 102: Evolution, Creation, and the Robot Apocalypse. Change course description to: Are science and religion enemies, partners, or strangers? Galileo, Newton, Darwin, and Einstein encourage critical thinking about human relationships with animals and machines. College success skills will be developed in this course.

Religious Studies Program Changes

[Religious Studies, B.A. - Discontinue Program - 24-2685](#). Religious Studies has joined forces with History, and has proposed a History of Religions concentration under the History major (including the entire RS curriculum). In addition, all RS courses will be included in the proposed Applied Humanities major program. There is no need for a teach-out plan, as all existing RS courses will continue to be offered. Students who have already declared the RS major under the existing BA will have no obstacles to completing their degree. Therefore, we are proposing here to discontinue the Religious Studies BA program.

[24-2686 - Religious Studies Minor - Change Minor Requirements](#) - Proposed Changes: Removing AHSS 201 (Evolution, Creation, and the Robot Apocalypse, Area E GE) from minor requirements; adding RS 102 (Evolution, Creation, and the Robot Apocalypse, Area 3B GE) in its place (RS 102 is the new version of AHSS 201) as a lower-division elective from a "choose two" bin.