THE LUBAR LIST

77 UW–Madison Spring 2016 courses
with a component of religion, spirituality, or mythology

Throughout human history, societies and cultures have been influenced by systems of belief and spirit. Many instructors at the University of Wisconsin–Madison, understanding how people consider religion to be a significant motivator in decision-making, have developed courses to explore how these belief systems affect our world.

Some courses are entirely devoted to the in-depth study of religion itself; others just touch upon religion as one of many factors related to their topic area. Together, this list of courses for the coming semester gives us a sense of how broadly—across more than 35 departments and programs—the study of religion and spirituality is integrated into this campus’s academics. That is the goal of the Lubar List: to appreciate the value of religious literacy in preparing for life in the global community after college.

Course information taken from the UW Course Guide in November 2015. Information on each class may not be complete, or may have changed. This list may have missed courses which fit the criteria, and does not include many “senior thesis,” “directed study,” or graduate-level course numbers. Cross-listed courses are indexed here by the alphabetically first department sponsoring a course, which is not necessarily the main department of the instructor. Please check the UW Course Guide for the most current information, including prerequisites.

Click on the title of each course to be linked to its entry in the UW Course Guide.

Please talk to your advisor about which of these courses are the right fit for your academic path.

The UW–Madison Religious Studies Program offers both a major and a certificate; learn more at religiousstudies.lss.wisc.edu

RELIG ST 101
Religion in Global Perspective
Foundational and thematic approaches in the academic study of religion applied across global religious systems.

Mon•Wed 11:00–11:50 am
5206 SEWELL SOCIAL SCIENCES
Credits: 3
Instructor: Jordan Rosenblum
Level: Elementary • Breadth: Humanities

ANTHRO 104
Cultural Anthropology and Human Diversity
Introduction to cultural anthropology for non-majors; comparative cross-cultural consideration of social organization, economics, politics, language, religion, ecology, gender, and cultural change. Includes 25% coverage of U.S. ethnic and racial minorities.

Tue•Thu 9:55–10:45 am or
Tue•Thu 11:00–11:50 am
6210 SEWELL SOCIAL SCIENCES
Credits: 3
Level: Elementary • Breadth: Social Science

HEBR-BIB 104/304
Elementary Biblical Hebrew II

Mon•Tue•Wed•Thu 9:55–10:45 am
591 VAN HISE HALL
Credits: 4
Level: Elementary

The Spring 2016 Lubar List was produced by the UW Lubar Institute for the Study of the Abrahamic Religions
lubar.wisc.edu
PHILOS 104

**Science and Religion**

**Tue•Thu 1:00–2:15 pm**

L155 EDUCATION BUILDING  
Instructor: Lawrence Shapiro  
level: Elementary • breadth: Humanities Social Science  
credits: 3

---

HISTORY 119

**The Making of Modern Europe 1500–1815**

Spanning European history from the Italian Renaissance to the French Revolution and Napoleon, this course examines culture, politics, and everyday life. We look at major cultural movements, such as the Italian Renaissance; the Reformation; European encounters with the New World; the Scientific Revolution; the Enlightenment; and the French Revolution. We explore politics and culture in tandem. To give one example, for the Renaissance, we look not only at art and intellectual trends, but also at the politics of the city-state and the political thought of Machiavelli. The course also asks how ordinary people experienced these movements: women as well as men; peasants, slaves, and workers as well as kings, queens, and nobles.

**Tue•Thu 11:00 am–12:15 pm**

1121 MOSSE HUMANITIES BUILDING  
Instructor: Suzanne Desan  
level: Elementary • breadth: Humanities Social Science  
credits: 4

---

HISTORY 130

**An Introduction to World History**

Major themes in world history: empire and imperialism, environmental impacts, global trade and globalization, war, migration, gender, race, religion, nationalism, and class. This course focuses on three large questions: What are the origins of human civilization? How did human civilization become diverse and differentiated in the various (sub)continents of the world? How can we understand the emergence of the modern world?

**Tue•Thu 4:00–5:15 pm**

1121 MOSSE HUMANITIES BUILDING  
Instructor: Andre Wink  
level: Elementary • breadth: Humanities Social Science  
credits: 4

---

CNSR SCI/RELIG ST 173

**Consuming Happiness**

The self-improvement industry is a more-than $12 billion business each year, and nearly half of all Americans will purchase a self-help book in their lifetime. Often derided as frivolous, these texts are invaluable windows into the social history and social psychology of our country. This course will provide an overview of the study of happiness and well-being, examine how consumers engage in consumption in pursuit of happiness, as well as explore the emergence of the experience economy, and the intersection of money and wellbeing.

Students will read a range of self-help advice, from *The Power of Positive Thinking* and *How to Win Friends and Influence People* to *Men Are from Mars, Women Are from Venus* and *The Secret*. By reading these fascinating, culturally powerful books and academic and popular critiques surrounding them, students will engage in thought-provoking discussions about the quest to purchase happiness. Students will read academic and popular pieces on positive psychology, prosocial spending and explore the psychology of persuasion in the promises associated with this industry. In addition to integrating visual media, students will have the opportunity to experience first-hand whether the advice works in their own lives.

**Tue•Thu 8:50–9:40 am**

168 NOLAND ZOOLOGY BUILDING  
Instructor: Christine Whelan  
level: Elementary  
credits: 3

---

HISTORY 200

**Gender and the Modern Middle East**

In this course, we will study histories of the modern Middle East and North Africa and examine the ways that issues relating to gender have affected the politics and social worlds of the region. This course begins with the late medieval Islamicate Empires—Mughal, Safavid, and
Ottoman—and then moves through the end of empire, the colonial era, the establishment of the nation state, and the emergence of modern cultural, political, and religious movements. In doing so, we will situate the histories and social worlds of the region in a global frame.

At the same time that we attend closely to these histories, we will also examine the ways in which the category of “woman” has been mobilized in popular and political discourses in the modern era, paying particular attention to how Muslim and Middle Eastern women have been represented in various political discourses, as well as how they have represented themselves. Through close readings of both primary and secondary sources—including historiographical, theoretical, and literary texts as well as film—we will also tackle the questions, controversies, and stereotypes that have animated debates in both scholarly and popular literature on such topics as the veil, feminism, human rights, war, and terrorism.

**Tue 8:50 am–10:45 am**

**5245 MOSSE HUMANITIES BUILDING**

**Instructor:** Golnar Nikpour  
**level:** Intermediate

---

**LCA/RELIG ST 206**

**Introduction to the Qur’an**

An introduction to the Qur’an, the sacred scripture of the Islamic religious tradition, focused on Muslim approaches to reading the text, its themes and history, and its use as a source of law, theology, aesthetics, politics, and practices of piety.

**Wed•Fri 2:30–3:45 pm**

**L196 EDUCATION BUILDING**

**Instructor:** Anna Gade  
**level:** Elementary  
**breadth:** Humanities

---

**HISTORY/RELIG ST 208**

**Western Intellectual and Religious History to 1500**

This course explores how a variety of thinkers from classical antiquity to Renaissance Europe grappled with some of the central questions of human existence: Who are we? Why are we here? How should we live? Does the divine exist? If so, what is its nature and what are the implications for humans? Is it even possible to find answers to such questions? We will read some defining works in Western intellectual history, starting with a selection of philosophical writings from the Greco-Roman world. We then turn to ancient Judaism and early Christianity and consider some central themes in the Jewish and Christian scriptures. In the last section of the course we analyze various ways in which medieval and Renaissance thinkers drew on biblical and classical sources to deal with questions of existence as they confronted them in their diverse historical settings.

The course has two main goals. The first to familiarize you with some key thinkers, texts, and movements that have profoundly shaped how people in the West have thought about themselves, the world, and the divine. The second goal is to hone your skills as a historical thinker and interpreter of writings from the past.

**Tue•Thu 1:00–2:15 pm**

**120 INGRAHAM HALL**

**Instructor:** Eric Carlsson  
**level:** Elementary  
**breadth:** Humanities, Social Science

---

**HISTORY/JEWISH 213**

**Jews and American Popular Culture**

Explores the interplay between Jews and U.S. popular culture, covering such subjects as early twentieth-century vaudeville, the “golden age” of Hollywood, rhythm and blues music, television, and stand-up comedy.

**Mon•Wed 4:00–5:15 pm**

**1641 MOSSE HUMANITIES BUILDING**

**Instructor:** Tony Michels  
**level:** Elementary  
**breadth:** Humanities

---

**HISTORY 224**

**The Holocaust**

**Mon•Wed•Fri 11:00 am–11:50 am**

**1217 MOSSE HUMANITIES BUILDING**

**Instructor:** Amos Bitzan  
**level:** Intermediate  
**breadth:** Social Science

---

The Spring 2016 Lubar List was produced by the UW Lubar Institute for the Study of the Abrahamic Religions  
lubar.wisc.edu
FOLKLORE 230

Introduction to American Folklore

Folklore of ethnic, regional, religious, and occupational cultures, emphasizing how diverse peoples (African Americans, American Indians, Appalachians, Chicanos, Germans, Irish, Jews, Mormons, miners, service workers, etc.) use traditional festivals, artifacts, songs and stories to express their experiences within American life.

Tue  9:30–10:45 am
1339 STERLING HALL/ONLINE
Instructor: Ruth Olson
level: Elementary • breadth: Humanities

JEWISH 230

Representing the Holocaust in Poland

Tue•Thu  4:00–5:15 pm
494 VAN HISE HALL
Instructor: Halina Filipowicz
level: Elementary • breadth: Literature

CHICLA/POLISCI 231

Politics in Multi-Cultural Societies

This course will first seek to understand race, ethnicity, and religion as political phenomena. Doctrines and ideologies of incorporation and solidarity normally associated with states (or communities claiming the right to form states) will then be considered, in particular the powerful creed of nationalism. Cultural identities are not static, unchanging patterns of solidarity; they are dynamic, changing orientations whose processes of formation and activation require examination.

We will consider in detail the United States as a multi-cultural polity. The formation of a national society will be reviewed as an historical process, and the various sources of the American population explored. Particular attention will be given to the situation of racial minorities, who, in various ways at different periods, have experienced discriminatory or unequal treatment at the hands of the state or the dominant society.

We will conclude with a review of various policy issues arising in multi-cultural societies. Accommoda-

JEWISH 231

Israel: History of a Nation-State

Tue•Thu  4:00–5:15 pm
225 INGRAHAM HALL
Instructor: Tal Elmaliach
level: Elementary • breadth: Humanities

JEWISH 231

Religion and Sexuality

Mon•Wed  11:00–11:50 am
5206 SEWELL SOCIAL SCIENCES
Instructor: Jordan Rosenblum
level: Elementary • breadth: Humanities

ILS/RELIG ST 234

Genres of Western Religious Writing

Writing-intensive course based on the conventions in which Western writers have expressed religious ideas. Readings from Jewish, Christian, and other spiritualities.

Tue•Thu  1:00–2:15 pm
2335 STERLING HALL
Instructor: Ulrich Rosenhagen
level: Intermediate • breadth: Humanities
ENGL 241

Literature and Culture I: To the Eighteenth Century

This course provides an introduction to literature in English from the Middle Ages to the early eighteenth century. Together with English 242, it provides an introduction to British literary history, and its primary goals include familiarizing students with the canon of English literature and preparing students for more specialized study in advanced courses in the major. The course spans roughly 1000 years, from the origins of English literature to the rise of the novel. Along the way, we will examine how literature engaged with topics as disparate as love, religion, and science, and we will read everything from elegant descriptions of angelic beings to 600-year-old fart jokes.

To focus our discussions, we will concentrate on questions of form and genre, including the epic, fabliau, romance, sonnet, lyric, and novel. Emphasis will be on close reading and literary analysis, but we will also pay close attention to the social, cultural, and political contexts from which each text emerged. Texts may include Beowulf; Chaucer's Canterbury Tales; Paradise Lost; Oroonoko; and poetry by Shakespeare, Spenser, and Donne.

Tue•Thu 8:50–9:40 am
5208 SEWELL SOCIAL SCIENCES
Instructor: Jordan Zweck
level: Intermediate • breadth: Literature

LITTRANS/MEDIEVAL/RELIG ST 253

Literature in Translation: Dante's Divine Comedy

Through readings, videos, and original images, we explore the most significant episodes from one of the greatest world literary classics, Dante's Divine Comedy. From Hell, through Purgatory to Paradise, we travel together with Dante in a universal tale of the journey of the human soul. The course is based on a discussion of specific themes, characters, phenomena, that define and contextualize Dante’s work.

This course consists of a detailed and guided close reading and discussion of Dante’s Divine Comedy. During the semester, students learn about Dante, his life and his works, development of literary history, historical, and socio-political context of medieval and early-modern Europe. Furthermore, students are invited to ponder universal concepts and patterns in the development of Western civilization that had repercussions on centuries of world history and that can still be observed today. Students make connections that cross geographic and cultural lines in an exploration of literary topics, the history of ideas, and shared history.

Tue•Thu 1:00–2:15 pm
22 INGRAHAM HALL
Instructor: Jelena Todorovic
level: Intermediate • breadth: Literature

HISTORY/LCA 265

An Introduction to Central Asia: From the Silk Route to Afghanistan

Examination of human geography, ethnicity, nomadism and pastoralism, oases cultures, religion and international politics of the silk routes of central Asia.

Mon•Wed 4:00–5:15 pm
594 VAN HISE HALL
Instructor: Uli Schamiloglu
level: Intermediate • breadth: Humanities

LCA 266

Introduction to the Middle East

An interdisciplinary introduction to the diverse cultures, geography, history, modern states, politics, societies, and economies of the Middle East. Since the Middle East is predominantly Muslim, there will be a special emphasis on Islam as a religion and Muslim peoples.

Tue•Thu 1:00–2:15 pm
114 VAN HISE HALL
Instructor: Uli Schamiloglu
level: Intermediate • breadth: Humanities, Social Science
GERMAN 267/JEWISH 319

**Yiddish Song and the Jewish Experience**

Explores Yiddish song as an expression of the modern Jewish experience from Eastern Europe to the United States. Covers folk song, popular and art music. Music and readings together provide an analytical framework to examine cultural and historical issues.

**Mon 12:05–12:55 pm**

3250 HELEN C. WHITE HALL/ONLINE  
**Instructor:** Pamela Potter  
**level:** Intermediate, Advanced • **breadth:** Humanities

---

ENVIR ST/RELIG ST 270

**Environment and Religion**

The study of religions help us understand how “the environment” is made up of both visible and unseen phenomena. These include the ethics, values, and expressions that shape responses to environmental change, challenge, and crisis, as religious commitments can lead to cooperation or conflict about resources. We will answer questions such as: Why have some environmentalists claimed that worldviews that are “anthropocentric” (human-centered) are root causes of environmental problems? and, how is it that many people, religious and non-religious, expect that religions can provide awareness, and even hope, to confront today’s environmental challenges? Course draws on diverse case studies from religious traditions, including forms of Christianity (Roman Catholic, Protestant, and Orthodox), Islam, Hinduism and other southern Asian systems, and those of native tribes of Wisconsin.

**Mon-Wed 12:05–12:55 pm**

180 SCIENCE HALL  
**Instructor:** Anna Gade  
**level:** Intermediate • **breadth:** Humanities

---

HISTORY 278

**Africans in the Americas: 1492–1808**

Topics include demography and structure of the slave trade, but major focus on continuities and transformations of African cultures and social structures in the Americas: ethnicity, religion, kinship, gender, oral tradition, creolization, etc.

**Tue-Thu 9:30–10:45 am**

1641 MOSSE HUMANITIES BUILDING  
**Instructor:** James Sweet  
**level:** Intermediate • **breadth:** Humanities

---

JEWISH/RELIG ST 278

**Food in Rabbinic Judaism**

Rabbinic literature frames the fundamental attitudes for how Judaism relates to food. Students will examine the history of food in rabbinic Judaism. In addition, theories from the field of food studies will be applied to rabbinic texts.

**Mon-Wed 2:30–3:45 pm**

22 INGRAHAM HALL  
**Instructor:** Jordan Rosenblum  
**level:** Elementary

---

GERMAN/JEWISH/LITTRANS 279

**Yiddish Literature and Culture in America**

At the turn of the twentieth century, millions of Yiddish-speaking East European Jews arrived in America. Through study of the Yiddish literature and culture they produced, this course will give students insight into these immigrants’ experience and their efforts to find a comfortable perch in the American landscape. The course will be subdivided into four sections covering different aspects of these Yiddish-speaking immigrants experience and efforts: The immigration process and arrival in America; immigrant entry into the workplace; encounter with urban modernity and America’s racial and ethnic diversity; the tension between assimilatory pressures and the desire for a transnational identity. Although turn-of-the-century Jewish immigrants produced an unprecedented Yiddish cultural blossoming worthy of concentrated study, this course strives to employ this rich culture as a jumping-off point for achievement of greater understanding and appreciation of the experience of contemporary ethnic/racial minorities with origins abroad who have become a growing element of
American society since the expansion of immigration to the United States in the 1960s.

**E ASIAN/HISTORY/LCA/RELIG ST 308**

**Introduction to Buddhism**

The basic thought, practices and history of Buddhism, including selflessness and relativity, practices of meditation, merit-making and compassion from both local and translocal perspectives. Includes discussion of Buddhism as a contemporary, North American religion.

**Mon•Wed 1:05–2:10 pm**

3650 MOSSE HUMANITIES BUILDING  
Credits: 3

Instructor: Anne Hansen  
Level: Intermediate • Breadth: Humanities, Social Science

**COM ARTS 310**

**Discourse of Dictators, Demagogues, and Extremists**

This course will examine the speech of demagogues, dictators and extremists from medieval Europe to present-day religious fanaticism and campaign politics. For the past 500 years, religious demagogues, often inspired by messianic visions, have emerged at times of acute crisis to condemn the current order and, by their words alone, win a fervent following. Some of the more successful demagogues, such as Benito Mussolini and Ferdinand Marcos, combine rhetorical skill with mass followings to seize state power and forge authoritarian regimes that eventually plunge headlong toward self-destruction. By contrast, spurning state power, extremist leaders, such as Jim Jones and Cinque Mtume of the Symbionese Liberation Army, cultivate a fanatic following and seek to smash the social order or retreat from it into dystopian communities inclined toward violent extinction. The course will use in-class discussion, research, and presentations on such leaders and groups to make sense of their origins and rhetoric.

**Tue•Thu 1:00–2:15 pm**

2321 ENGINEERING HALL  
Credits: 3

Instructor: M McCoy  
Level: Intermediate

The Spring 2016 Lubar List was produced by the UW Lubar Institute for the Study of the Abrahamic Religions  
lubar.wisc.edu
representations of knighthood and masculinity, and the macabre arts of late medieval funerary culture.

In addition, particular emphasis will be placed on the interaction of Western Europe with the cultures of the Eastern Mediterranean through trade, pilgrimage, conquest and crusade.

**Tue•Thu** 11:00 am–12:15 pm
L140 CONRAD A. ELVEHJEM BUILDING  
**Instructor:** Thomas Dale  
**level:** Intermediate • breadth: Humanities

**JEWISH/LITTRANS 318**

**Modern Jewish Literature**

This course will provide students with a conceptual framework for understanding Modern Jewish Literature and deriving greater aesthetic pleasure and cultural understanding from its varied works. Alongside discussion of Benjamin Harshav's theory of Modern Jewish Culture, students will gain exposure to fictional and poetic works originally written in Hebrew, Yiddish, German, Russian, and English by eighteen prominent modern Jewish writers, including Nobel Laureates Shmuel Yosef Agnon and Isaac Bashevis Singer. Through their study, students will learn how the breakdown of pre-Modern Jewish society, immigration, the challenges of Jewish integration and exclusion, and the establishment of new Jewish communities, influenced the creation of literature during what Harshav refers to as the "Modern Jewish Revolution."

**Mon•Wed 1:00–2:15 pm**
1295 GRAINGER HALL  
**Instructor:** Philip Hollander  
**level:** Intermediate • breadth: Literature

**GEN BUS/INTL BUS 320**

**Intercultural Communication in Business**

Develops awareness and knowledge of cultural influences on business. Focuses on various attitudes toward work, time, material possession, business, and the relationship of these attitudes to different social, religious, philosophical, and educational backgrounds of business people from cultures around the world.

**Tue•Thu** 2:30–3:45 pm
1195 GRAINGER HALL  
**Instructor:** David Ward  
**credits:** 3

**HIST SCI/HISTORY 324**

**Science in the Enlightenment**

The eighteenth-century Enlightenment was a cultural movement that took the seventeenth-century Scientific Revolution as the foundation for a new vision of humanity and society. Scientific knowledge, according to the proponents of the Enlightenment, could provide the basis of social and economic progress. Yet the Enlightenment was far more than the mere “application” or “diffusion” of scientific ideas into new areas of European culture. Much more fundamentally, it was during the Enlightenment that science acquired the widespread authority that it still possesses today in our culture. This course will discuss these developments and examine the world created by the Enlightenment, a world that in many ways is still the one we inhabit today. The course opens with an extended review of the social and cultural developments that gave rise to the Enlightenment. After this discussion, we will examine a range of scientific disciplines, including the relationship between force and matter in Newtonian mechanics and phenomena such as electricity and magnetism; the role of travel and colonization in natural history and the comparative study of human societies; the basis of human perception and knowledge; race and gender in Enlightenment thinking; and the forces of living organisms.

**Thu 9:55–10:45 am; Wed 3:30–5:30 pm**
B231 VAN VLECK HALL  
**Instructor:** Thomas Broman  
**level:** Intermediate • breadth: Humanities

**FOLKLORE/LITTRANS/MEDIEVAL/RELIG ST 342**

**SCAND ST 429**

**Mythology of Scandinavia**

First: an introduction to the pagan religion of Scandinavia, with readings in some of the primary sources (eddaic and skaldic poetry, Snorri Sturluson’s Prose Edda, etc.)

Second: broadens the definition of mythology to embrace
The Spring 2016 Lubar List was produced by the UW Lubar Institute for the Study of the Abrahamic Religions
lubar.wisc.edu

concepts applicable to more recent literature and literary criticism.

**Anthropology of Religion**

**Tue•Thu 2:30–3:45 pm**

494 VAN HISE HALL

**Instructor:** Scott Mellor

**level:** Advanced • breadth: Literature

**credits:** 3–4

**ANTHRO/RELG ST 343**

**Jewish Literature of the Greco-Roman Period**

Jewish literature from 350 BCE to 150 CE. The Greek and Hebrew sources include stories, religious poetry, wisdom books and apocalyptic texts. Readings (in translation) from the Apocrypha, Pseudepigrapha, and the Dead Sea Scrolls in their historical, cultural, and literary setting.

**Tue•Thu 11:00 am–12:15 pm**

594 VAN HISE HALL

**Instructor:** Ronald Troxel

**level:** Intermediate • breadth: Literature

**credits:** 3

**CLASSICS/JEWISH/RELG ST 346**

**Contemporary France: 1914 to the Present**

This course analyzes key issues in contemporary French history from the outbreak of World War I to the twenty-first century. Particular attention will be placed on the interplay between political, social and cultural developments. Topics to be studied include the Great War, the Depression and Popular Front, the German occupation and the Vichy Regime, the Liberation and the Fourth Republic, Decolonization and the end of Empire, De Gaulle and the Fifth Republic, and France and the European Union. We will pay close attention to broader themes such as the changing nature of French society, the disappearance of the peasantry, immigration and citizenship, transformations in gender roles, the challenges facing the Muslim community, and France’s place in a globalized world.

**Tue•Thu 1:00–2:15 pm**

3534 ENGINEERING HALL

**Instructor:** Laird Boswell

**level:** Advanced • breadth: Social Science

**credits:** 3

**COMP LIT 350**

**Literature and Buddhism**

**Mon•Wed 8:00–9:15 am**

1335 STERLING HALL

**Instructor:** Christopher Livanos

**level:** Intermediate • breadth: Literature

**credits:** 3

**JEWISH 356**

**Jerusalem, Holy City of Conflict and Desire**

Jerusalem, the Holy City for Judaism, Christianity, and Islam, has become the center of religious, political, and national contention. This course explores the sources of the conflict and its development over the centuries, with the aim of illuminating the complex situation of the region and its implications for the world.

**Mon•Wed•Fri 9:55–10:45 am**

575 VAN HISE HALL

**Instructor:** Rachel Brenner

**level:** Intermediate, Advanced • breadth: Humanities

**credits:** 3

**FOLKLORE/RELG ST 359**

**Myth**

The relationship between myth and tale, history, culture. Myth research: methodological approaches; world mythologies; myth and modern times.

**Tue•Thu 1:00–2:15 pm**

4308 SEWELL SOCIAL SCIENCES

**Instructor:** Ernesto Livorni

**level:** Intermediate, Advanced • breadth: Humanities

**credits:** 3
ART HIST 360

**Early Modern Art of Northern Europe: Renaissances and Reformations**

This course critically reexamines concepts traditionally associated with the Renaissance by focusing on the exchange of artistic ideas throughout the Holy Roman Empire and across different media, such as altarpiece paintings, carved portraits, stained glass narratives, innovative uses of print, reappropriations of metalwork, and expressive uses of drawing. The course is organized thematically around four topics: religious art as piety and politics; antiquity as a source of tradition and imagination; the formulation of a public discourse that exposed social threats; and the distinctiveness of artistic claims of individual achievement. A motif throughout the course is the question of how the survival of fragments may be presented in museum contexts as parts standing in for an absent whole. Special topics address collecting, conservation, and technical research. We will also consider how historians approach designs for works of art now lost or never completed.

**Mon-Wed 2:30–3:45 9m**

L140 CONRAD A. ELVEHJEM BUILDING

**Instructor:** Shira Brisman

**credits:** 3

**level:** Intermediate • breadth: Humanities

ENGL/HISTORY/RELIG ST 360

**The Anglo-Saxons**

What was life like in England, over 1,000 years ago, and why should we care today? This course proposes to find out. Over the semester, we will learn about how Anglo-Saxon England came into existence, how it became Christian, how it fought and assimilated with Vikings, and how it all ended with the Norman Conquest. As a framework for the class, we will study the literature of the period (in modern translation), but we will also explore the period’s history, art, religion, architecture and everyday culture. We will study surprising and unexpected materials: a manual for medieval sign language, an illustrated manuscript depicting the monstrous races thought to inhabit the far east, the deviant funeral rites for burying zombies, an embroidery almost as long as a football field that depicts the conquest of England, holy saints’ lives that seem to delight in the number of ways you can torture somebody, clever riddles that are as profane as they are profound. Most importantly, we will explore ways in which we explore the past to understand it: theories of how to interpret literature, how archaeology destroys as much as it preserves, how a single coin buried in the ground can tell us a story. At stake is nothing less than how we are to understand so many of the ideas that are the origin of our own identity today.

**Tue-Thu 9:30–10:45 am**

2637 MOSSE HUMANITIES BUILDING

**Instructor:** Martin Foys

**level:** Intermediate • breadth: Literature

HISTORY 361

**The Emergence of Modern Britain: England 1485–1660**

This course will explore a decisive period in the making of modern Britain, and of the western world today. Though the social, economic and intellectual aspects of the period will not be neglected, the main focus of the course will be on political and constitutional change. The course will begin with a broad introduction to early-modern Britain. Then we will examine how the turbulent period of the Wars of the Roses was ended, and how the Tudor monarchy broke the independence of the “over-mighty magnates” of late-medieval England.

The Tudors succeeded in introducing far greater unity and centralization than had existed earlier, and this will be the main theme of the first half of the course. Topics discussed will include the Reformation, the so-called “Tudor Revolution in Government,” the bitter factional politics of the court of Henry VIII, the Marian Reaction and the “mid-Tudor crisis,” and the re-establishment of royal power in the reign of Elizabeth—when an unprecedented flowering of English culture took place, and when English sea-power staved off conquest by Catholic Spain.

The succession of James, King of Scots to the English throne in 1603, united the Scottish and English monarchies but the new Stuart dynasty was soon faced with grave problems. The second half of the course will examine the ways in which financial, constitutional and religious issues combined to lead to civil war and to the execution of the King and the introduction of a republic.
in England in 1649. We will also see how the advent of a military despotism and the proliferation of radical ideas led the English to reintroduce monarchy in 1660.

**Mon•Wed•Fri 11:00–11:50 am**

1651 MOSSE HUMANITIES BUILDING

Instructor: **Johann Sommerville**

*level: Advanced • breadth: Social Science*

---

**CLASSICS 370**

**Classical Mythology**

We study the stories from Greece and Rome that tell us about gods and humans, the world they lived in, and how they got along. In addition to becoming familiar with the myths of many famous (and some not-so-famous) characters, such as Zeus, Aphrodite, Hercules, Odysseus, and Achilles, we will explore how succeeding generations of Greeks and Romans continually reinterpreted their traditional stories to wrestle with complex “modern” problems. Primary texts include Homer’s *Odyssey*, tragedies by Sophocles and Euripides, and Ovid’s *Metamorphoses*.

**Tue•Thu 9:55–10:45 am**

B102 VAN VLECK HALL

Instructor: **Jeffrey Beneker**

*level: Elementary • breadth: Literature*

---

**COMP LIT 371**

**Myth and Literature**

**Tue•Thu 9:55–10:45 am**

B102 VAN VLECK HALL

Instructor: **Max Statkiewicz**

*level: Intermediate • breadth: Literature*

---

**ART HIST 372**

**Arts of Japan**

This course introduces students to the history and aesthetics of Japanese art from some of the world’s earliest pottery to examples of the anime-inspired art of today. It explores the forms, contexts, and meanings of works of painting, sculpture, architecture, ceramics, prints, and other selected media. It looks at the social, religious, and other functions of art works in various social and aesthetic environments, including early tombs, the ancient imperial court, early medieval Zen monasteries, tea ceremony circles, the floating world of visual and erotic pleasure found in early modern cities, and the global spaces of contemporary art.

**Mon•Wed•Fri 11:00–11:50 am**

1651 MOSSE HUMANITIES BUILDING

Instructor: **Johann Sommerville**

*level: Advanced • breadth: Social Science*

---

**RELIG ST 400**

**Mindfulness in Theory and Practice**

**Tue 4:15–6:45 pm**

1116 DELUCA BIOCHEMISTRY BUILDING

Instructor: **John Dunne**

*level: Intermediate • breadth: Humanities*

---

**RELIG ST 400**

**Ritual and the Body in South Asian Religions**

**Mon 1:00–3:20 pm**

1339 STERLING HALL

Instructor: **Elaine Fisher**

*level: Intermediate • breadth: Humanities*

---

**POLI SCI 401**

**Social Identities**

This course is an introduction to theories and empirical work on social identities and politics. We will examine various definitions and types of social identities: race, ethnicity, nationality, gender, class, and religion. In addition, we will explore empirical work on identity and politics from a variety of geographical areas and methodological perspectives. Case studies will include, for example, discussion of race in the Americas and Africa, migration in Europe, nationalism in Eurasia, ethnicity in South Asia, gender and the welfare state, and religion in the Middle East.

**Tue•Thu 11:00 am–12:15 pm**

222 INGRAHAM HALL

Instructor: **Yoshiko Herrera**

*level: Intermediate • breadth: Humanities*
RELIG ST 403/FOLKLORE 430

American Indian Religion
This course examines the traditional knowledge and practices of the indigenous peoples of North America, as well as post-contact developments such as revitalization movements and the influence of Christianity.

Tue•Thu 11:00 am–12:15 pm
1313 STERLING HALL
Instructor: Theresa Schenck
level: Intermediate • breadth: Humanities Social Science

SPANISH 417
Literatura del Siglo de Oro
This course will focus on Spanish drama and theatrical life in the early seventeenth century, when Spain’s empire was beginning to lose influence in the world. We will study several full-length plays (from full-fledged tragedies to light comedies), plus a one-act farce and an allegorical religious play. We will also look at the spaces where theater was performed in Spain and the life of actors and troupe managers.

Mon•Wed•Fri 9:55–10:45 am
223 INGRAHAM HALL
Instructor: David Hildner
level: Advanced • breadth: Literature

ENGLISH 422
Christopher Marlowe
Christopher Marlowe burst onto the Elizabethan theater scene while still a college student, dazzling audiences with heroes who dreamed of world conquest and defied the limits that confine mere mortals. His poems and plays inspired a generation of English writers, including William Shakespeare, his sometime friend and rival.

Despite success as a playwright, Marlowe graduated from college facing the worst possible job market. With limited prospects, he cobbled together a life as a poet and a spy, a heretic and a counterfeiter, a gentleman and a rogue. He died before his 30th birthday, stabbed in a bar under mysterious circumstances, over “the reckoning.” (Was it a dispute over the bar tab? A lovers’ quarrel? Assassination? No one knows, though books have been written on the subject.) In between, Marlowe wrote classics that addressed themes as important today as they were four hundred years ago: personal ambition and intellectual overreach, religious conflict and civil unrest, power and sexual identity.

In the class we will read everything Marlowe wrote in his too-brief life: seven plays, two translations from the Latin classics, and a handful of poems. Many, such as “The Passionate Shepherd to His Love” and “Doctor Faustus,” are familiar still. “The Jew of Malta” anticipates contemporary religious conflicts in the Middle East and Africa. “Edward II” concerns itself with homosexuality and power, while “Hero and Leander” recounts the tragic tale of a long-distance relationship between two young lovers. “Tamburlaine the Great” rises from lowly shepherd to conquer the world, yet he cannot save his beloved wife from dying of illness. There’s more, much more. We will read his works chronologically in their Elizabethan context, but we will consider too how Marlowe’s writings continue to speak to us today about important problems in our own world.

Mon•Wed•Fri 9:55–10:45 am
223 INGRAHAM HALL
Instructor: David Hildner
level: Advanced • breadth: Literature

ENGL/MEDIEVAL 423
Medieval Marvels and Monstrosities
We will explore what it is that we have feared, and why it is that we so enjoy, and even desire, to confront evil. From green men, to werewolves, to dragons, medieval literature was filled with monstrous beings who challenged the division between human and non-human, and between society and the mysterious world that existed outside it. Like monsters, marvels occupied a space beyond the boundaries of the normal human world. One reincarnated being with excessive strength might be seen as a ferocious heathen zombie, while another reincarnated being who lives in the trees might be worshipped as a Christian saint. With readings drawn from a wide variety of medieval genres and contexts, including Old and Middle English as well as Scandinavian literature, topics will include race, gender, animals, and the nature
of belief. No previous experience with medieval literature is required.

**Jewish 432**

**Holocaust: Literature, Music, Memory, and Representation**

Wed 3:30–6:00 pm
Instructor: Rachel Brenner, Teryl Dobbs
level: Intermediate • breadth: Humanities

**ECON 451**

**The Economic Approach to Human Behavior**

This course applies the traditional economic approach—human behavior is viewed as the result of utility maximization—to “sociological” topics such as family, crime, politics, and religion. While the topics may be somewhat novel, the course is an upper-level economic theory course, requiring intermediate microeconomics and calculus.

Tue•Thu 8:25–9:40 pm
6203 Sewell Social Sciences
Instructor: James Montgomery
level: Advanced

**HISTORY/RELIG ST 439**

**Islamic History From the Origin of Islam to the Ottoman Empire**

This course is about the formation of Islamic civilization and its historical development until the early modern era. The course is divided into three parts.

In part one we examine the physical environment and human ecology of the region, long-term social and political continuities of the ancient Middle East, the foundation of Islam, and the establishment of the early Islamic empire.

In part two we cover the political collapse of the empire, its replacement by regional courts, and the development of medieval Islamic political, social, and cultural institutions and practices.

In part three we will examine the place of the medieval Middle East within the wider history of Eurasia and ask how Middle Eastern peoples both shaped and experienced the ever-accelerating integration of the Old World.

**HISTORY/LCA 457**

**History of Southeast Asia to 1800**

Formation and development of classical Indian and Chinese influenced societies in the area comprising present-day Burma, Thailand, Cambodia, Laos, Vietnam, Malaysia, Indonesia, and the Philippines, and their meeting with Islam and the early Europeans.

Tue•Thu 11:00–12:15 pm
1641 Mosse Humanities Building
Instructor: Thongchai Winichakul
level: Intermediate • breadth: Social Science

**E Asian/LCA/Relig ST 466**

**Buddhist Thought**

Survey of the fundamental trends in Buddhist thought through the works of major philosophers. Themes include the concept of “selflessness” and concomitant theories of essencelessness, perception, language, and rationality.

Mon•Wed 9:55–10:45 am
B302 Birge Hall
Instructor: John Dunne
level: Intermediate • breadth: Humanities
HISTORY 475

European Social History: 1914 to the Present

In twentieth century Europe politics and society became intertwined as never before. Not only did war and political conflict shape daily life throughout the century; but social and economic issues, from mass unemployment and commercialization to gender relations and urban transformation, also called forth state action. The study of social history in the past century therefore demands close attention to the scope and nature of political power, and to the ideologies that envisioned how power was to be distributed, and how societies were to be remade. What were the major ideologies of twentieth century Europe? How did they imagine the societies over which they laid claim? To what social conflicts and trends did they respond? How did identities based on class, nation, gender, race, religion, generation, and locale relate to ideological reflection, society, and political practice?

Tue•Thu 4:00–5:15 pm
1217 MOSSE HUMANITIES BUILDING
credits: 3
Instructor: Rudy Koshar
level: Intermediate • breadth: Social Science

PHILOS 481/501

Philosophy of Religion

Tue•Thu 11:00 am–12:15 pm
5181 HELEN C. WHITE HALL
credits: 3
Instructor: Jesse Steinberg
level: Advanced • breadth: Humanities Social Science

COMP LIT 500

The First Murder: The Myth of Cain and Abel

Tue•Thu 1:00–2:15 pm
4308 SEWELL SOCIAL SCIENCES
credits: 3
Instructor: Ernesto Livorni
level: Advanced • breadth: Literature

HISTORY 500/705/JEWISH 631

Anti-Judaism: A Global History

Fears of a global resurgence of antisemitic speech and violence have made international headlines over the past decade. In 2015, the New York Times reported on these fears in the wake of a hostage-taking at a Paris kosher supermarket by a terrorist who targeted Jewish shoppers in order to express support for the Charlie Hebdo killings. Closer to home, some students and outside observers have expressed alarm about antisemitism on college campuses, which they link to a rise in activism targeted at the state of Israel. Others have denied that antisemitism is on the rise.

Unfortunately, contemporary debates rarely define the term or consider the history of antisemitism. Our seminar will pursue the following questions:

What have been the origins, causes, and motivations of antisemitism in history?
What are its connections to religion and to secular ideologies?
How (if at all) does antisemitism differ from racism or other forms of prejudice?

Mon 3:30–5:35 pm
5245 MOSSE HUMANITIES BUILDING
credits: 3
Instructor: Amos Bitzan
level: Advanced

ART HIST 515

Pilgrimage, Mapping, and Cultural Exchange

This seminar/pro-seminar explores the forces that contributed to the globalization of art, architecture and visual culture in medieval Europe and the Mediterranean basin from the fourth to fifteenth centuries. Topics to be addressed include: global pilgrimage and the cult of the saints; trade and the circulation of luxury objects throughout the Mediterranean; conquest, colonialism and crusade; mappaemundi (world maps) and medieval cartography; representations of ethnic identity and cultural/religious identity. In our class discussions we will look at specific sites of globalization such as the Crusader Kingdom in the Middle East, the Palatine Chapel of Norman Sicily, and Islamic-rule Spain, as well as broader
thematic groupings that connect the far reaches of Europe and the Mediterranean, such as portable objects of the decorative arts, textiles and reliquaries.

The course will critique conventional notions of cultural “influence” and explore more recent constructs such as appropriation, alterity, gift exchange, postcolonial theory and cultural hybridity to interpret underlying assumptions and motivations for cultural borrowing and transformation within specific historical contexts.

This course focuses on key aspects of these fascinating changes. We will devote much of our attention to the Enlightenment, the age’s cutting-edge movement in thought and culture. We will consider its origins and spread and the diverse ways in which some of its proponents construed the world and called for change. But the Enlightenment was not the only vital movement of the period, and we will also look at how some contemporaries challenged and rejected its stances and values. Our aim is to equip you to think in more informed and probing ways about what it means to be modern. In the process you will gain practice in the skills of historical reasoning, critical analysis of texts and arguments, and effective writing.

Thu 4:30–6:30 pm
L170 CONRAD A. ELVEHJEM BUILDING  credits: 3
Instructor: Thomas Dale
level: Intermediate, Advanced • breadth: Humanities

CURRIC/HISTORY 515
Holocaust: History, Memory, and Education

This course explores the ways in which Holocaust history, memory, and education are mutually entangled, politically charged, and morally complex. Using primarily American sites of memory, students will critically analyze a variety of representations of the Shoah—in literature, films, memoirs, monuments, museums, and classrooms.

Tue•Thu 9:30–10:45 am
101 AGRICULTURAL ENGINEERING  credits: 3
level: Intermediate • breadth: Humanities Social Science

CURRIC/ED POL/RELIG ST 516
Religion and Public Education

Examines theories and practices related to the role of religion in public schooling and its accompanying tensions: political and philosophical, practical and personal.

Mon 2:30–5:00 pm
215 TEACHER EDUCATION  credits: 3
Instructor: Simone Schweber
level: Intermediate, Advanced • breadth: Social Science

HIST SCI/HISTORY/MED HIST/MEDEIVAL/S&A PHM 562
Byzantine Medicine and Pharmacy

Byzantine and Islamic medicine and drug lore from Oribasius to the beginnings of the Italian Renaissance (c. 350 to c. 1400 A.D.).

Tue•Thu 2:30–3:45 pm
2002 RENNEBOHM HALL  credits: 3
Instructor: John Scarborough
level: Intermediate, Advanced • breadth: Humanities

ART HIST 579
Carnival Arts of the African Diaspora

African Diaspora art history is the story of resistance, subversion, accommodation, and transformation. This course explores the arts of Carnival, a specific pre-Lenten Christian festival that has served as a vehicle for the agency of African peoples and their descendants in the Americas. We will consider how and why African Diaspora peoples have shaped and been shaped by historical factors and cultural values (social, political, religious, philosophical, and aesthetic) in the face of hegemonic forces that attempted to suppress or eradicate them. The specific sites will include: Puerto Rico, Panama, New Orleans, Trinidad and its diasporas (Toronto/Brooklyn), and Brazil.

From the fifteenth century, European expansion greatly intensified the global encounters of cultures with radically different forms and concepts of art and artistic production. In the Americas such encounters involved primarily Europeans, Africans, and indigenous peoples. The interactions of these three groups contributed to the
formulation of distinctive arts—visual and performance cultures.

In the Americas, Africans had to devise new strategies and tactics to ensure the survival, continuity, and vitality of their cultural and artistic heritages in the face of hegemonic forces—slavery, conversion, and oppression. In this course, the central hypothesis to be examined and tested is that the arts (carnival arts in particular) have been and continue to be vehicles for self and social assertion and agency—that the arts can and do shape society and history. Our central questions are: What is the nature of the agency of such carnival arts? Do they create something new or simply accommodate and reinforce existing power relations?

**Wed 4:30–6:30 pm**
L166 CONRAD A. ELVEHJEM BUILDING  
credits: 3
Instructor: Henry Drewal  
level: Advanced • breadth: Humanities

**HISTORY 600**

**Islam and Politics in the Twentieth Century**

This seminar will look at the recent historical development of Islamist politics in two dimensions. The first will be to survey and critique scholarship on specific movements, from nineteenth-century reformist thinkers to the Islamic revolution of Iran and the Muslim Brotherhood. The second will attempt to come to grips with a more vexing issue: is there anything intrinsically or specifically Islamic about Islamist politics? That is to say, can we look at Islamist social, political, or intellectual movements using the same approaches that have worked for such developments elsewhere? Rather than focus in depth on specific cases—though you will learn more about some than others—we will discuss the most influential recent scholarship on major problems in the field.

**Thu 3:30–5:25 pm**
5255 MOSSE HUMANITIES BUILDING  
credits: 3
Instructor: Michael Chamberlain  
level: Advanced • breadth: Humanities Social Science

**HISTORY 600**

**Jerusalem and the Crusades**

The seminar will revolve around three moments in the history of medieval Jerusalem when the possession of the city changed hands: July 15, 1099; July 4, 1187; and March 17, 1229. The new rulers were, correspondingly, crusaders, Saladin and Emperor Frederick II. We will analyze primary sources, both Christian and Muslim, that make it possible for us to learn about these three events. We will also inscribe the events in the broader context of encounters between Christians, Muslims, and Jews during the crusading era, both on and off the battlefield. Some of the topics that we will discuss include sacred sites, development of military technology, diplomacy and everyday interactions.

**Tue 8:50–10:45 am**
5257 MOSSE HUMANITIES BUILDING  
credits: 3
Instructor: Elizabeth Lapina  
level: Advanced • breadth: Humanities Social Science

**HISTORY 600**

**Political Thought: Europe 1500–1700**

This course will survey the development of European political and social ideas from the end of the Middle Ages to the Enlightenment in the eighteenth century. These centuries were a crucial period in the evolution of attitudes that have shaped the modern world, and that still exercise a profound influence on our lives. Amongst the broad themes which the course surveys are the development of the idea of state sovereignty, the growth of the notion of international law, the links between attitudes towards the family and gender on the one hand and state power on the other, the history of the notion that individuals or groups may legitimately resist or even depose tyrannical rulers, and the arguments used for and against toleration in an age of bitter religious disputes. We shall discuss ideas that were commonplace amongst large numbers of people as well as the more abstruse theories of philosophers. The views of famous political thinkers will be located against the background of the wider social, economic, intellectual and political history of their times. Amongst the theorists whose ideas we will
examine are Thomas More, Machiavelli, Hobbes, Locke, and Pufendorf.

**RELIG ST 600**

**Religion in Critical Perspective**
Readings in the analysis of religion as a human phenomenon from various perspectives, such as: skeptical and sympathetic views toward religion; theories of religion's origins and functions; and examinations of religious awe.

**Mon** 1:20–3:15 pm
5257 MOSSE HUMANITIES BUILDING
Instructor: Johann Sommerville
level: Advanced • breadth: Humanities

**Wed** 4:00–6:00 pm
5257 MOSSE HUMANITIES BUILDING
Instructor: Anne Hansen
level: Advanced

**LCA/RELIG ST 623**

**Yoga: Methods and Goals**
Explores Yoga techniques propagated in the ancient Indian texts, as well as their adaptations in the Western world.

**Tue•Thu** 1:00 am–2:15 pm
119 VAN HISE HALL
Instructor: Gudrun Buhnemann
level: Advanced • breadth: Humanities

**LAW 740**

**Constitutional Law II**
Rights of citizens against state and federal governments; the nature of due process and the equal protection of the law; the protection of freedom from invidious discrimination; the Civil Rights Acts; freedoms of expression, association, and religion.

**Mon•Wed** 2:40–4:00 pm or
**Tue•Thu** 9:50–11:50 am
3260 LAW BUILDING; 5240 LAW BUILDING
Instructor: Ann Althouse; Brad Snyder

**HEBR-BIB 754**

**Wisdom Literature: Job**

**Thu** 3:30–5:30 pm
5229 LAW BUILDING
Instructor: Asifa Quraishi-Landes

**LAW 940**

**L&CP: Introduction to Islamic Law**

**Thu** 3:30–5:30 pm
5229 LAW BUILDING
Instructor: Asifa Quraishi-Landes

Credits: 3

---

The Spring 2016 Lubar List was produced by the UW Lubar Institute for the Study of the Abrahamic Religions

lubar.wisc.edu