Advanced undergraduates are invited to inquire about enrolling in graduate courses. Such enrollment depends on the permission of individual instructors who should be contacted directly. Questions can also be directed to the Graduate Program Coordinator, Mary Lashway, at gradprogram@history.umass.edu.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Course</th>
<th>Title</th>
<th>Instructor</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>601</td>
<td>European Historiography</td>
<td>J. Olsen</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>602</td>
<td>American Historiography</td>
<td>A. Siddique</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>646</td>
<td>Indigenous Peoples in Early America</td>
<td>A. Nash</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>662</td>
<td>Museum and Historic Site Interp.</td>
<td>S. Redman</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>692P</td>
<td>US Culture and Conflicts in the Asian Pacific</td>
<td>G. Washington</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>692PS</td>
<td>Topics in Persian Historiography: The Shahnameh in Historical Perspective</td>
<td>H. Jorati</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>771</td>
<td>Art and Craft of Biography</td>
<td>M. Miller</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

The following courses are undergraduate courses in which seats have also been reserved for graduate students with an interest in this topic.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Course</th>
<th>Title</th>
<th>Instructor</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>692W</td>
<td>Witchcraft, Magic, and Science</td>
<td>B. Ogilvie</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>697CM.</td>
<td>History Communication</td>
<td>C. Appy</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>692L</td>
<td>The War for Palestine, 1948: New Interpretations….</td>
<td>A. Confino</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

You may take two courses outside the department for degree credit. Check Spire to see graduate course offerings beyond our department. Students often find relevant courses in Anthropology; English; the W.E. B. Du Bois Department of African American Studie; Landscape Architecture and Regional Planning; Public Policy; Women, Gender, Sexuality Studies, and other programs around campus.
**History 597**
Under the University Numbering System, M.A. students wishing to enroll in an upper-level undergraduate course (at UMass or on one of the Give College campuses) may do so under the special topics number, History 597, with permission from the instructor and also with the understanding that instructors will require additional work of graduate students in those courses signed by the faculty member teaching the course (turn this in to Mary Lashway in Herter 612). Check SPIRE for the listings of undergraduate courses.

There are forms available in Herter 612 describing the additional work to be performed for graduate credit; these must be signed by the instructor. Students will be responsible for discussing the course requirements with instructors. Please see the Graduate Program Assistant about registration to ensure that a grade will be submitted for you at the end of the semester. Only two 597 courses may count as topics courses towards completion of the M.A. degree.

**History 696 or 796 (Independent Study)**
Students may enroll in independent studies as either History 696 (reading independent study) or History 796 (research/writing independent study) with a faculty member overseeing the plan of study.

To enroll in History 696 or 796 pick up an independent study form from Mary Lashway in Herter 612. This form must be filled out including name, student number, course number (696 or 796), credits, a detailed description of the plan of work for the independent study (e.g. research paper, book reviews, historiography, essays, etc.), and signed by the professor overseeing the independent study. After it has been filled out and signed it needs to be returned to Mary Lashway to be entered on Spire. Only two independent studies may be counted towards completion of the M.A. degree.

**Scheduled Courses:**

**601** **European Historiography**
Jon Olsen
Tuesday, 2:30pm-5:00pm

This course is designed to introduce students to diverse trends in the twentieth century historiography of Europe. The course attempts to provide students an introduction to the wide varieties of ways of approaching European history and to cultivate in students an openness to different methodological and theoretical approaches as well as the necessary skills to read and evaluate such writing at the graduate level.

As an organizing theme, we will look at the relationship between individual, regional, and national identities within the context of broader historical processes and structures. At the heart of this exploration is the consideration of multiple narratives, perspectives, and interpretations.
that comprise any historical account. We will explore topics that range from the nature of the French Revolution to the German “Historians’ Debate” over whether or not Germany developed along a “special path.” To do so, we will examine competing models of social and cultural history, *microstoria*, consumer society, imperialism, gender, and culture.

### 602 American Historiography

Asheesh Siddique  
Wednesday, 2:30pm-5:00pm

**Expanding Early American Historiography: Time, Space, and Subject**

For much of the 20th century, historians defined "early America" in specific geographic, temporal, and subjective terms. Spatially, "early America" meant the thirteen North American colonies; chronologically, the field revolved on an axis that privileged the 1770s and 1780s period of revolutionary foment; and its normative subjects were white, male, and of British-descent. In the last three and a half decades, however, the field of early American history has experienced a scholarly revolution that has expanded its geographic, temporal, and subjective contours. 'Early America' now encompasses at least the entirety of the Atlantic Ocean basin and the whole of the 'American' continental landmass from the Arctic Circle to the tip of modern South America. The time scale of 'early America' now spans from "ancient pasts" long before the 'common era' until the revolutions of the 1830s. And historians now define 'early Americans' in far broader and more capacious terms. In this seminar, we will take stock of how the central themes, ideas, and historiographic problems in the field have developed since the 1960s by pairing 'classic' works of 'early American' scholarship with newer research. Students will emerge from the seminar with a grounding in current debates in the field; an understanding of how these debates developed; and a solid groundwork for preparing for a general examination field in either early American or Atlantic world history.

### 646 Indigenous Peoples in Early America

Alice Nash  
Wednesday, pm-

The emergence of Native American & Indigenous Studies as a field has particular challenges for historians of early America. This course will consider sources and methods used by historians in the past and controversies over the use of NAIS methods in recent scholarship. Course requirements include heavy reading, active participation in discussion, two short papers, and a longer historiographical essay or research paper. No prior knowledge is assumed but an open mind and a willingness to work hard are essential.
**662  Museum and Historical Site Interp.**  
Sam Redman  
Thursday, 2:30pm-5:00pm

The aim of this course is to introduce students to some of the many intangible issues surrounding museum and historic site interpretation. We will also be addressing some of these challenges through on-the-ground and digital collaborations with museums in Massachusetts and beyond. Seminar discussion will explore readings, including both theoretical and practical works. Writing assignments will be both practical (writing exhibit labels, digital history websites) and theoretical (analyzing meaning-making in museum exhibits and at historic sites). Students will expand their insights and develop their skills by undertaking a set of “field service” projects for community partners.

**692P  US Culture and Conflicts in the Asian Pacific**  
Garrett Washington  
Tuesday/Thursday, 10:00am-11:15pm

In this graduate seminar students will examine the relationship between the United States and their Asian Pacific neighbors since 1800. The course will begin by introducing students to key themes, theoretical frameworks, and chronologies relevant to the United States’ diplomatic relations with Japan, China, Korea, Hawaii, the Philippines, and Vietnam. We will then explore the transnational cultural histories of the US with each of these countries. Through the lenses of gender, race, religion, and education students will explore the important role that individual actors, organizations, and ideas have played in connecting the US and the Asia Pacific. This approach aims to complicate students’ understanding of what constitutes transnational history and familiarize them with less traditional categories of historical analysis. The last third of the course will be devoted to the composition of an original research paper that incorporates significant primary and secondary sources.

**692PS  Topics in Persian Historiography: The Shahnameh in Historical Perspective**  
Hadi Jorati  
Wednesday, 2:30pm-5:00pm

The genesis of The Book of Kings (Shahnameh) from its pre-Islamic origins as a repository of historical narrative and mythology, to its translation and reproduction in the Islamic period, expanding several centuries, takes center stage in this course. The seminar covers a variety of topics dealing with the Shahnameh as a literary and historiographical text alike. Those include the role of the Shahnameh in (Persian) Sasanian Imperial ideology, its reception in the (Islamic) Abbasid context, as well as the rising post-Islamic Iranian dynasties. Finally, we will deal with the adoption of the Shahnameh, either as a text or through artistic productions as a tool of propaganda and the idea of legitimate rule in the Persian context.
A 1942 article in the *William & Mary Quarterly* opened with the observation that, "[a]s a pleasant and harmless form of antiquarianism, the study of family history, biography, and the tracing of genealogy are tolerantly humored but certainly not seriously honored by historians and scientists." Yet one glance at the best-seller list or bookstore shelves shows how avidly the public today consumes biographies; meanwhile, recent scholarship has posited a "biographical turn" among academic researchers. This course will explore the career of biography as a form of writing, and consider its strengths and challenges both as scholarship and as popular history. Topics will include the history of biography as a genre, microhistory, joint biographies, biographers and their audiences, institutional biography, museum biography, and other manifestations of life writing. We will consider the unique challenges of writing about people who left tremendous amounts of documentation, and others who compel biographers (to quote a past guest speaker for the course) to “make something out of nothing.” A key component of the course will be a series of Workshop meetings where we will talk with biographers about emerging and/or recent work. Lastly, as this is a 700-level seminar in which students develop and cultivate skills necessary to generate insight and analysis from their original research, students will work over the course of the semester to produce article/chapter-length pieces of writing that engage biographical methods toward some larger end; students will also participate in in-class writing groups, and practice skills associated with giving and receiving supportive feedback.

The following courses are undergraduate courses in which seats have also been reserved for graduate students with an interest in this topic. Graduate enrollment is capped at 8 for these courses.

**692W Witchcraft, Magic, and Science**
Brian Ogilvie
Tuesday/Thursday, 10:00am-11:15am

The foundations of modern science and scientific method were laid in the Scientific Revolution of the late sixteenth and seventeenth century. This period would be seen as a golden age by the philosophes of the eighteenth-century Enlightenment and the founders of the history of science in the twentieth century. Yet the period from 1550 to 1650 also saw widespread interest in occult powers and natural magic, and it was the height of the "witch craze" in Europe, a period in which about fifty thousand Europeans, most of them women, were tried and executed for the crime of diabolical witchcraft.

Are these trends contradictory or complementary? Historians have disagreed vehemently about whether the Scientific Revolution, a triumph of rational thought, was opposed to the Renaissance interest in the occult, demonology, natural magic, and witchcraft, or whether these aspects were part and parcel of the intense study of the natural world that characterized early modern science.
For example, Isaac Newton was both the founder of modern physics and a dedicated alchemical adept. Were these aspects of his life compatible? Or did they coexist in an uneasy tension, reflected in the fact that Newton never published his alchemical writings?

This course will address these questions on the basis of intensive study of the primary sources and selected readings from modern historians of science, European culture, and occult knowledge. Though our focus will be on early modern Europe, we will look to the High Middle Ages for the origins of many European concepts of demonic and occult powers and the origins of modern notions of scientific explanation. On the most fundamental level, this course is about the history of reason and rationality: what did it mean to approach a problem reasonably, and what—if anything—did modern science add to the ways in which human beings justify their claims to know something?

This course is being offered as a joint undergraduate honors and graduate course. Graduate students will be expected to delve more deeply into the historiography of the subjects in essays and annotated bibliographies.

697CM History Communication
Christian Appy
Tuesday, 2:30pm-5:00pm

This course, limited to advanced undergraduate and graduate students, is a master class in the art of narrative non-fiction that explores Ellsberg’s remarkable conversion from war planner to peace activist by drawing on his personal papers, recently acquired by the UMass archives. With class visits by prominent journalists and historians, students will work as a team to develop skills in research, oral history, and the creation of podcasts. Additional work includes assigned reading and writing on the history of the Vietnam War and nuclear weapons, Ellsberg’s greatest concerns, and the legacy of dissent and whistleblowing exemplified by his decision to leak the top-secret Pentagon Papers in 1971. Permission of the instructor required.

692CL The War for Palestine, 1948: New Interpretations and Approaches
Alon Confino
Tuesday, 2:30pm-5:00pm

The war for Palestine in 1948 has been the subject of exciting new research in the last several years. At the center of this war stands the interdependence of Jewish independence and the Palestinian Nakba (the expulsion and dispossession of the Palestinians during the war). New studies have contributed to our knowledge of the war, as well as to its causes, going back to the British Mandate in 1917-1948, and to its consequences for Jews, Palestinians, and other Arabs after 1948. In this seminar we shall explore the local, regional, and global factors that gave meaning to this war, looking at the cultural and political history of Jewish and Palestinian societies, while placing it within a larger international context of the post-1945 period. Some of the topics to be discussed are the British Mandate, social studies on Jewish and Palestinian
society, decolonization, partitions, ethnic cleansing, and settler colonialism. An important goal of our endeavor is to capture the experience of Jews and Palestinians during the war; we shall therefore read primary sources, particularly diaries of contemporaries.

**Additional Course Options**

*enrollment requires instructor permission*

MA and MA/PhDs may take two courses outside the department that will count toward your degree. Below are several that may be of interest to you. As always, please refer to SPIRE for the most current class information, and contact the course instructor directly for permission to enroll. This is just a sampling of courses from outside the History Department that may be of interest to our graduate students. Please see Spire and/or departmental websites to see what other courses are available.