COURSE DESCRIPTIONS 科目簡介

COURSES FOR 4-YEAR UNDERGRADUATE PROGRAMMES

HST1001 Historian's Craft (3 credits)
This course enables students to acquire skills in critical historical thinking, reading, and writing, thereby providing foundational the training needed for all advanced coursework in the field of History.

HST1002 Ideas in Modern History (3 credits)
(Prerequisite(s): HST1001 Historian's Craft, or by instructor approval)
This course constitutes the second required course in the History programme. It builds on the foundation laid by HST1001 Historian's Craft by furthering developing disciplinary knowledge and skills. The course trains intellectual fluency in the vocabulary of modern world history by introducing students to its key ideas and their multiple applications and interpretations. The course also advances historical thinking and reading by prompting students to compare and contrast modern ideas, to critically evaluate select primary and secondary sources, and to situate ideas in their historical context. The course takes a twofold approach to the role of ideas in history. First, we will examine how ideas have been mobilised by diverse historical actors. Second, we will consider how, as scholars, we may use them to conceptualize historical change.

HST1005 History of Early China: From Prehistory to the Han Dynasty (3 credits) (recoded from HST2003 from 2026-27)
In ancient China, we have one of the oldest civilisations in all of world history. From the beginning of agriculture to the creation of empires more than two millennia ago, it gave rise to a diverse set of socio-political, economic, and cultural institutions that would come to have great impact on the history of East Asia and the world at large. This course is an introduction to this history of ancient China. Specifically, we will focus on the rise of empires in the long first millennium BCE from the collapse of the Zhou aristocratic order to the rise of the Qin and Han empires. Why did the earlier Bronze Age aristocratic kingdoms of the Zhou collapse, and what motivated the creation of these new imperial regimes? What were the arguments for or against empires? We will study the complex historical process that led to the rise of empires in early China.

HST1006 Art and Society in China (3 credits) (from 2027-28)
(Restriction(s): Students are not allowed to take both this course and HST3398p Special Topics in History: Art and Society in China.)
This course surveys Chinese society from the prehistoric period to contemporary times through the lens of art as primary sources. Students will interpret art pieces as historical texts and contextualize these works within broader themes and developments of Chinese society by engaging with secondary literature. The course is organised chronologically with a thematic focus, covering areas such as life and death, court cultures, religious influences, the production and consumption of art, class, gender, patronage, and the impact of foreign influences and local responses.

HST1007 Twentieth Century China in Film (3 credits) (from 2027-28)
This course surveys China in the twentieth century through the lens of films as primary sources. Students will interpret films as historical texts and contextualize these works within broader themes and developments of China by engaging with secondary literature. Key themes explored in the course include the New Culture Movement, the War of Resistance against Japanese Aggression, China under Mao Zedong's rule, and reflections on the Mao era in the early post-Mao period.

HST1008 Introduction to Oral History (3 credits) (from 2027-28)
This course provides a comprehensive introduction to the theory and practices of oral history applicable both on local and international scales. Through addressing theoretical frameworks and methodological issues in oral history, the course traces the historiographical emergence and emphasises the various uses of oral history, particularly in making reference to voices from ordinary people in society and stories that are not commonly accessible through other historical approaches.

HST1113 Introduction to the History of the USA (3 credits) (recoded from HST3113 from 2015-16)
This course is an introduction to the history of the United States from earliest times to the present.

HST1114 Introduction to European History (3 credits) (recoded from HST3114 from 2015-16)
This course is an introduction to the history of Europe from the earliest times to the present.

HST1115 Introduction to Chinese History (3 credits) (recoded from HST3115 from 2015-16) (deleted from 2027-28)
(Language of Instruction: Chinese (Cantonese/Putonghua) from 2017-18)
This course is an introduction to the history of China from the earliest time to the present, with emphasis on topics chosen from political, social, cultural, and intellectual aspects of China's historical development.

HST1151 History of Modern East Asia (3 credits) (recoded from HST3151 from 2015-16)
This course introduces the history of modern East Asia. While focusing principally on China, Japan, and Korea, we will also address Taiwan, Macau, and Hong Kong in relation to the major themes of the course. These themes include the evolution of East Asia's relationship with the Western world, intellectually and politically; the Chinese-Japanese relationship; contrasting pathways of change; transformation and conservatism in cultural identity and social values; and tensions between colonialism, nationalism, and independence. Analysis of these themes will occur at three levels: dynamics of continuity and change within individual East Asian societies; intra-regional interactions and formation of East Asia as a region and an identity; and East Asia's role in the world as a player and as an idea.

HST1194 East-West Value Clashes in Modern History (from 2019-20)/
"Clashes of Civilisations" in Modern History: Value Confrontations between Asia and the West (in 2018-19 or before) **(3 credits)**
(recoded from HST3194 from 2015-16)
This course examines the interaction between Asian and Western value systems in modern history. Analysis will focus on particular historical moments when the interfacing of Asian and Western cultures caused conflict. By probing the reasons behind and perceptions of such conflict, the historical processes by which values are created, chosen, and maintained both within and between cultures will be explored.

HST1196 Human-Animal Relationship in History (3 credits)
This course examines the changing cultural and social positions of animals in the human world from the ancient to present time. Animals have served as food, working companions, pets, and totems, and some of them are the source of deadly diseases like

Ebola and AIDS. In recent years, animals have also found themselves at the center of political controversies, when attitudes towards animals have increasingly become a yardstick to measure a country's standard of civilization and morality. For example, Chinese and Korean people's practice of eating dogs and Japanese people's tradition of whaling have been subject to much criticism in the West. The changing human-animal relationship is therefore a useful lens to understand not only the important role animals have played in human life, but also the changes in people's ethical system over time.

HST1365 History of Russia and Central Asia (from 2019-20)/
History of Russia and Inner Asia (in 2018-19 or before) **(3 credits)**
(recoded from HST3365 from 2019-20) (deleted from 2027-28)

This course examines the history of Russia, the Soviet Union and Inner Asia (Russian/Soviet Central Asia, Xinjiang and Outer Mongolia) from the middle eighteenth century to the end of the twentieth century. The political, social, economic and cultural dynamics of interaction between the Tsarist and Soviet states with their Muslin and Buddhist populations will be explored. Qing and Republican rule over Xinjiang will be also taken into the picture. The focus will be on the cultural and religious diversity inside the empire and the Soviet Union, and on the different policies and strategies adopted by the state in dealing with such diversity. A special attention will be devoted on Central Asian Muslim populations.

HST2001 Modern Revolutions and Musical Performance (from 2019-20)/
Changing the World through Music: Modern Revolutions and Musical Performance (in 2018-19 or before) **(3 credits)** (deleted from 2027-28)

This course analyzes how the music has contributed to key moments of change in modern history. It explores how political, social, religious, and economic revolutions have been accompanied by, and even spurred by, music. The course will examine musical forms both with and without lyrics in order to investigate why pure sound, on the one hand, and a union of sound and word, on the other, can incite emotions and actions which lead to large-scale change. In considering a variety of revolutions throughout the modern world, the course asks if, how and why music has played an integral role in the inception, process, and outcomes of revolutionary change.

HST2002 Aerial Technologies in History (3 credits)
(recoded from HST3001 from 2019-20) (deleted from 2027-28)

This course explores the history of aerial technologies from the hot-air balloon through the airplane and the satellite to the drone. Since the first balloons carrying humans took flight in the late 18th century, these technologies have shaped societies in war and in peace, fundamentally altering the nature of armed conflict and travel. They have also functioned as a stimulus to the imagination, inspiring new aesthetic and cartographic representations of the world—as well as producing unrealistic expectations and unintended consequences that reveal tensions between technophile discourses and technology in practice. We will investigate these developments from interdisciplinary and international perspectives, integrating the history of technology with political and cultural history as well as epistemological and ethical considerations.

HST2003 History of Early China: From Prehistory to the Han Dynasty (3 credits) (recoded to HST1005 from 2026-27)

HST2004 Russia and Eastern Europe: History through the Arts (3 credits)
(recoded from HST3004 from 2019-20) (deleted from 2027-28)

This course will introduce students to the modern history of Eastern Europe, focusing

mostly on Russia and Ukraine, the region's biggest countries. It will use artistic creations as sources for the history of the region, in order to highlight broader historical topics. We will watch films, read literary texts (in Chinese or English translation at the student's choice), appreciate paintings, and listen to the music created by one of the world's richest cultural traditions. The period covered will be from the 18th to the 21st centuries.

HST2005 History of Macau (3 credits) (from 2027-28)
(Restriction(s): Students are not allowed to take both this course and HST3399z History of Macau.)
This course introduces and examines the historical development of Macau from the 14th century onwards, covering its history as a Chinese territory, a city under Portuguese administration, and a Special Administrative Region integrated into the Greater Bay Area. Apart from tracing its long history spanning five centuries or so, students will delve into existing narratives of Macau's past through a critical reappraisal of its political, social, economic, and cultural developments.

HST2006 Safeguarding Cultural Heritage (3 credits) (from 2027-28)
(Restriction(s): Students are not allowed to take both this course and HST3399n Safeguarding Cultural and Historical Heritage.)
In today's world, old buildings are often pulled down to make way for new developments. Machines gradually replace traditional craftsmanship, and fewer and fewer people speak local dialects. Will rapid development and technological advancement destroy our local communities and cultures? Will globalisation turn us into a homogeneous world culture? How can we safeguard our cultural and historical heritage, ensuring it can be passed on to future generations? This course introduces the concepts and values of cultural and historical heritage and explores the key issues facing heritage conservation today. It discusses different ways of protecting and managing both tangible and intangible heritage. Field trips to historic sites in Hong Kong will be arranged, and students will have the chance to engage in conversations with local conservation professionals.

HST2007 Cities Across Civilisations (3 credits)
(recoded from HST3268 from 2026-27)
Comparative in thrust, the course explores the economic, social, and cultural life of major cities across the globe from the prehistoric period to the 20th century. A selection of historic cities are included with the intent of exploring commonalities across civilizations as well as the traits that make for uniqueness.

HST2153 Ancient Civilisations (3 credits) (recoded from HST3153 from 2019-20)
This course provides an introduction to the world of antiquity from the origins of humanity to the end of classical civilisations. Though the case studies across various regions and over different periods of time, we will seek out both the linkages and forces molding the contemporary human community, particularly in the context of culture and belief systems.

HST2191 Hong Kong's Heritage (3 credits)
In a thematic and summary form, this course introduces the various aspects, particularly the unique ones, of Hong Kong's long and colourful heritage.

HST2203 History of China in the Twentieth Century (3 credits)
(recoded from HST3203 from 2015-16)
This course introduces students to the major trends in the history of China since 1900. Topics are organized chronologically and thematically.

HST2251 History of Hong Kong before 1841 (3 credits)
(recoded from HST3251 from 2019-20)
(Language of instruction: either Cantonese or Putonghua. The language of instruction for each term will be published in the course offering list.)
The rich cultural heritage of pre-colonial Hong Kong and the complexity of the historical events related to this region are the two focal areas of this course.

HST2252 History of Hong Kong from 1841 to 1941 (3 credits)
(recoded from HST3252 from 2019-20)
This course examines the first section of Hong Kong's colonial history in terms of major events and key aspects.

HST2258 Introduction to Japanese History (3 credits)
(recoded from HST3258 from 2019-20)
This course gives an overview of Japanese history from its origins through contemporary developments. The founding cultural and political dynamics of pre-modern Japan will be explored, while particular emphasis will be given to changes in Japan in the modern era and her contemporary regional and global relations.

HST2259 Introduction to Korean History (3 credits)
(recoded from HST3259 from 2019-20)
This course will survey the history of Korea from pre-history to the modern time. Apart from political history, developments in social, economic, intellectual, cultural, and diplomatic affairs will also be discussed. The primary emphasis of the course will be on the modern period, from the breakdown of the traditional order to Japanese colonial rule, and from the Korean War to the rise of Communism in north Korea and bureaucratic capitalism in South Korea.

HST2260 Introduction to Southeast Asian History (3 credits)
(recoded from HST3260 from 2019-20)
An introduction to the history of Southeast Asia, this course covers the full range of historical development from antiquity to the present.

HST2261 World Environmental History (3 credits)
This course addresses the fundamental issues in world environmental history. We will consider three areas: human interaction with the natural world, the shifting attitudes toward nature, and the impact of human perceptions and actions on the world landscape.

HST2262 The Historical Experience in Film (3 credits)
(Restriction(s): History major students cannot take the course.)
This course is designed to provide an understanding of specific historical events and the values and ideologies which helped to bring them about. The indicative content will change from semester to semester, and may include: The Individual in Ages of Crisis; Early Modern Europe: The World Turned Upside Down; The Individual in the Age of Totalitarianism; Selling the Mystique of Empire; Society and Art in Europe's Long Nineteenth Century; and Great Empires of the Early Modern Age: Ottoman, Mughal and Qing Society.

HST2263 History of the Modern Middle East (3 credits)
(recoded from HST3263 from 2019-20) (deleted from 2027-28)
This course will introduce students to the modern history of the Middle East. The class will take a thematic approach and place Middle Eastern history within a framework to discuss the rise and fall of empires, the presence of colonialism, the emergence of

nationalism, the importance of oil and the development of Islamism. With the intention of making connections between local concerns and global issues, the course will also focus on particular places in the region such as Egypt, Iran and Israel/Palestine.

HST2264 Introduction to South Asian History (from 2019-20)/
Introduction to Indian History (in 2018-19 or before) **(3 credits)**
(recoded from HST3264 from 2019-20) (deleted from 2027-28)

India is the world's largest democracy and a major player in the international software industry. It is also home to one of the oldest living civilisations in the world. This course introduces students to the pattern of Indian history from the earliest times to the present. It will focus on: 1. the development of distinctively Indian forms of socio-economic, political, and religious patterns; 2. Hindu-Muslim syncretism and conflict; 3. the ordeal of colonialism and the rise of nationalism; and 4. independent India and its future prospects.

HST2265 History of Modern Islamic Societies (3 credits)
(recoded from HST3265 from 2019-20) (deleted from 2027-28)

This course will introduce students to the modern history of the Islamic world. The class will take a broad approach and place the history of the Islamic world within a framework to discuss the diversity of Islamic peoples, the nature of Islamic empires, the encroachment of the West, the emergence of nationalism and the rise of Islamism. Places central to Islamic history such as Egypt, Turkey, Iran, India and Indonesia will receive a significant amount of attention and will be studied from a comparative perspective. Islam in China will also be covered and background will be given on early Islamic civilisation.

HST2270 Tibet: History, Culture and Politics (3 credits) (recoded to HST3270 from 2015-16)

HST2353 Chinese Social and Economic History (from 2019-20)/
Social and Economic History of South China (in 2018-19 or before)
(3 credits) (recoded from HST4353 from 2019-20)

This course examines the social and economic forces that shape the historical development of South China, and the lives of various social groups, including peasants, workers, merchants, and women.

HST2354 History of Science and Technology in China (3 credits)
(recoded from HST4354 from 2019-20)

This course demonstrates China's long heritage of science and technology in its amazing variety and achievement.

HST2356 History of Nineteenth Century Europe (3 credits)
(recoded from HST4356 from 2019-20)

This course will survey the history of Europe from 1815-1914. We will cover such themes as industrialization, state- and nation building, social upheavals and transformation, and the emergence of liberalism, conservatism, and socialism as the predominant political ideologies.

HST2357 History of Twentieth Century Europe (3 credits)
(recoded from HST4357 from 2019-20)

This course will focus on the political, economic, social, and cultural changes of Europe during the twentieth century. The main topics are two world wars, the decline of European political and economic supremacy, the Cold War, the rise and collapse of Communism, and the notion of "A Common European House".

HST2363 History of Modern Germany (3 credits)
(recoded from HST4363 from 2019-20)
This course will survey the course of German history since unification. In particular, it will discuss unification, industrialization, the two World Wars, the Cold War, re-unification, and Germany's role in the European Union. It will discuss political, social, and cultural developments, including the experience of totalitarianism and the emergence of democracy; the post-1945 critical engagement with the Holocaust; and the development of consumer society.

HST2364 History of Modern Britain (3 credits)
(recoded from HST4364 from 2019-20)
This course will survey the course of British history since 1688. In particular, we will discuss the creation of parliamentary government, the development of Britain as an industrial nation, and the rise and fall of Britain as a Great Power. It will focus on both domestic and global/imperial aspects of British history.

HST3001 Aerial Technologies in History (3 credits)
(recoded to HST2002 from 2019-20)

HST3002 The 'long 1970s': Britain, Hong Kong, and the United States (3 credits)
This course will examine the main contours of the 'long 1970s', focusing on Britain, Hong Kong, and the United States. It will concentrate on each of these territories both separately and in their interactions with each other: by the 1970s, Hong Kong was Britain's last major colony; Britain was the closest Cold War ally of the United States and leaned heavily on it for defense and the projection of global power; Hong Kong was the site of the USA's largest consulate, an outpost for American 'China-watching', and a key recreation spot for American soldiers. The course will examine such themes as youth culture, protest politics, economic history, political reform, and race and immigration as they developed in three different societies.

HST3003 History of Central Asia: From the Silk Road to the Belt and Road (3 credits) (deleted from 2027-28)
The course is a survey of Central Asian history from the Mongol Empire to the present, with a particular focus on the last two centuries. The course will focus on historical events on the territory of Xinjiang and of the present-day states of Kazakhstan, Uzbekistan, Tajikistan, Kyrgyzstan, and Turkmenistan, connecting them to contemporary global developments, and especially to China, Russia, and Mongolia. The course will analyze political, economic, cultural and social developments in the region.

HST3004 Russia and Eastern Europe: History through the Arts (3 credits)
(recoded to HST2004 from 2019-20)

HST3005 Early Chinese Political and Ethical Thought (3 credits)
In ancient China, we have one of the most significant intellectual traditions in all of world history. In the first millennium BCE, the violent transition from the old hereditary aristocracy to a centralised bureaucratic empire prompted a very lively and contentious intellectual debate. This course is an introduction to this great tradition of thought. We will read some of its earliest and most foundational texts, including the Confucian Analects and the Daodejing (aka Tao te ching). The focus will be on the ethical and political questions that these texts raised and debated with one another, such as: What does it mean to be a good individual? What is a state and how can it ensure proper order for all? and What is the proper relationship between a state and individuals? We will learn about how

the ancient Chinese thought about their world, and at the same time, we will also discover for ourselves a rich and powerful intellectual resource for reflecting on our own.

HST3006 Late Imperial and Modern China: Issues and Approaches (3 credits)
(Restriction(s): Students are not allowed to take both this course and HST4399f Special Topics in History: Late Imperial and Modern China: Issues and Approaches.)
This course introduces students to Chinese historiography, with emphasis on issues that are particularly pertinent to the study of Late imperial China and modern China. Topics are organised chronologically and thematically.

HST3007 Global History of History (from Term 2, 2025-26)/
Varieties of History: Global History of Historical Writings (in Term 1, 2025-26 or before) **(3 credits)**
This course is an advanced-level introduction to the global history of history from antiquity to the present day. The first half will be devoted to a survey of pre-modern traditions of historical writings, including the East Asian tradition (China, Japan, and Korea), the classical tradition (Greece and Rome), and the major religious historiographical traditions (Christian, Islamic, and Buddhist). The second half of the course will cover the modern history of the historical discipline, from the Enlightenment period around the globe through the rise of nationalist historiography in the 19th century to the diverse types of history practiced in the twentieth century.

HST3008 Gender and Sexuality in History (3 credits)
This course introduces students to gender and sexuality as categories of historical analysis across a range of temporal and geographical settings. It also presents students with a variety of approaches to the intertwined histories of gender and sexuality.

HST3009 History of Human Rights (3 credits) (deleted from 2027-28)
This course introduces students to the history of human rights, considered not as natural or unchanging principles but as a set of ideas whose meaning has changed across time and space. We will first explore the emergence of rights concepts and their role in the American, French, and Haitian revolutions; and will interrogate whether and how these concepts related to subsequent humanitarian efforts in the colonial world. Turning to the twentieth century, we will examine how total war and authoritarianism shaped the institutionalization of human rights and the explosion of transnational rights activism.

HST3010 Gender and Religion in History (3 credits)
This course examines major gender concepts and how different religions have interpreted gender issues in both pre-modern and modern times. Some specific questions that may be explored include: Is gender biologically or socially determined, accordingly to various religious perspectives? How did classical religious texts define the differences and relationships between male and female? How have religions established moral and natural principles on which their gender ideas are based? How have monotheistic and polytheistic religions interpreted gender differently? How have religions faced the modern challenges of feminism and transgenderism? How has gender modernization intersected with other modern ideologies, such as nationalism, communism, and imperialism?

HST3011 Practicum in History (3 credits) (deleted from 2022-23)
This elective provides students with a platform to apply their history knowledge and skills to real-world situations. Students are responsible for proposing their own practicum experience, and submitting the proposal to the Department for approval.

HST3012 History of Information (3 credits) (deleted from 2027-28)
This course explores the history of information from the early modern period onwards. The transmission of and access to information have long formed a battleground for governmental and religious authorities, publishers and media producers, and publics. The concept has particular relevance to the self-consciously mediated societies of the 20th and 21st centuries. We will examine information as an instrument of governance, a source of profit, and a tool of political and social enfranchisement, through case studies ranging from illegal publishing in Enlightenment Europe to the spread of telegraph networks in China and British India to the role of mass media in 20th-century decolonization and civil-rights movements. The course also addresses the prehistory of contemporary issues like digital privacy and the environmental cost of cloud computing.

HST3013 An Urban History of Hong Kong (3 credits) (from 2027-28)
(Restriction(s): Students are not allowed to take both this course and HST3399y Special Topics in History: An Urban History of Hong Kong.)
How did Hong Kong transform from a small fishing village into a high-density, high-rise metropolis over the past two centuries? What challenges did the city face during its rapid urban growth and development? What key decisions—both intentional and unintentional—shaped Hong Kong's urban environment? And how did residents experience improvements in their urban lives? This course examines the history and processes of urban development in Hong Kong during British colonial rule. It explores how rapid urbanisation and population growth created challenges in governance, land use, housing, and infrastructure, and analyses the various responses to these issues.

HST3014 Empire, Revolution, and Reform: China from Late Qing to Modern Period (3 credits) (from 2027-28)
(Restriction(s): Students are not allowed to take both this course and HST3398f Special Topics in History: History of Late Imperial and Modern China.)
This course, with historical events about the Qing empire, revolution and reform, teaches students to analyse late Imperial and Modern China, and most importantly, to learn the impact of these events on the politics, society, economy, and culture of modern China. In this course, students will read, write, and think like a sinologist.

HST3015 The History of Water in China (3 credits) (from 2027-28)
(Restriction(s): Students are not allowed to take both this course and HST4499c History Capstone Seminar: The History of Water in China.)
This course will explore the water in Chinese history by examining changing political and social relations and the way these changes have affected the life and landscapes of China. Topics are organised thematically.

HST3016 Science, Technology, and Environment in East Asia (3 credits) (from 2027-28)
(Restriction(s): Students are not allowed to take both this course and HST3398m Special Topics in History: Science, Technology, and Environment in Everyday East Asia.)
This course examines the entanglement between science, technology, and the environment in shaping everyday life in modern East Asia. Moving beyond narratives of one-way technological transfer, the course explores how societies across East Asia adapted, innovated, and contested technologies in their pursuit of modernity. We investigate how technological practices, infrastructures, and knowledge production transformed East Asian societies while also considering how these societies reshaped technologies to fit local economic, social, and environmental contexts. Key themes include industrialisation, consumer culture, public health, and the role of technology in nation-building, all analysed through historical sources and contemporary theories.

At the same time, the course situates these developments within the broader environmental transformations of the Anthropocene, highlighting East Asia's central role in this global epoch. From commodity frontiers and industrial pollution to nuclear technology and climate change, we examine how political, social, and cultural forces have shaped—and been shaped by—the region's environments. By integrating the histories of science, technology, and the environment, this course fosters a nuanced understanding of East Asia's modern trajectory, emphasising the co-evolution of human and nonhuman actors. Students will engage with interdisciplinary approaches, critically analyze primary and secondary sources, and develop narratives that connect local practices to global processes, offering insights into the challenges and opportunities of our technologically driven and ecologically precarious world.

HST3017 Japan in Asia, Asia in Japan (3 credits) (from 2027-28)
In the 20th century, Japan was the only non-Western nation to build a modern colonial empire. This expansion dramatically reshaped East Asia, and its consequences are still felt today in the histories of China, Taiwan, the Koreas, and Southeast Asia. This course examines the rise and fall of the Japanese empire. We will ask: What made this empire unique? How did Japan and the rest of Asia influence each other? And why does this history continue to cause political and diplomatic tensions in the region? We will explore these questions by analysing historical scholarship, as well as primary sources like fiction, diaries, and films.

HST3018 Comparative Fascism in 20th Century Europe (3 credits) (from 2027-28)
(Restriction(s): Students are not allowed to take both this course and HST3399u Special Topics in History: Comparative Fascism.)
This course will introduce students to the historical varieties of fascism in twentieth-century Europe. It will give particular attention to the social, economic, and political factors that have led fascism to achieve mainstream political prominence in some historical contexts while remaining marginal in others. It will also analyse what is distinct about historical fascism and how it has related to other political movements.

HST3019 A Global History of Housing (3 credits) (from 2027-28)
(Restriction(s): Students are not allowed to take both this course and HST3399o Special Topics in History: A Global History of Housing.)
In the two decades following the Industrial Revolution, city living became an increasingly popular choice for people around the world. However, this shift also introduced new challenges for governments in regulating urban spaces and populations. How do people live in cities? How did housing—a traditionally private matter—become a concern of modern governments? This course provides the historical foundation necessary to understand today's housing issues. It examines how rapid urbanization and capitalist development after the Industrial Revolution led to housing crises in cities, and explores the varied responses to these crises across different contexts. The course also considers how the emergence of the modern welfare state has influenced housing policies in various countries.

HST3020 Fashion in History (3 credits) (from 2027-28)
(Restriction(s): Students are not allowed to take both this course and HST3398l Special Topic in History: Fashion in History.)
This course examines the social history of fashion from the eighteenth to the twentieth centuries with a global focus on Western, Chinese, and colonial contexts. It addresses the emergence and development of new materials, representations, and interpretations of fashions in Europe, America, China, and former colonies in Asia. The course not only

explores the major global transformations of fashions and their relationships with various political, economic, and social contexts in historical and contemporary realities, but also their social significance to people in reshaping their individual and communal identities.

HST3113 Introduction to the History of the USA (3 credits) (recoded to HST1113 from 2015-16)

HST3114 Introduction to European History (3 credits) (recoded to HST1114 from 2015-16)

HST3115 Introduction to Chinese History (3 credits) (recoded to HST1115 from 2015-16)

HST3151 History of Modern East Asia (3 credits) (recoded to HST1151 from 2015-16)

HST3153 Ancient Civilisations (3 credits) (recoded to HST2153 from 2019-20)

HST3194 "Clashes of Civilisations" in Modern History: Value Confrontations between Asia and the West (3 credits) (recoded to HST1194 from 2015-16)

HST3202 History of the Ming and Qing Dynasties (3 credits)
(Language of instruction: either Cantonese or Putonghua. The language of instruction for each term will be published in the course offering list.)
This course provides an introduction to the history of China from 1368 to 1911. The content of the course includes a general and bibliographic review of the two dynasties, and a study of the politics, institutions, society, economy, and cultural and intellectual development of China during the Ming and Qing dynasties.

HST3203 History of China in the Twentieth Century (3 credits) (recoded to HST2203 from 2015-16)

HST3208 History of Hong Kong from 1941 (3 credits) (recoded to HST4208 from 2015-16) (recoded from HST4208 from 2019-20)
This course offers students an introduction to the political, social, intellectual, and cultural history of Hong Kong from WWII to the present. Special attention will be paid to Hong Kong's formation as a metropolis concentrating on economics and international trade. Postwar colonialism, development of democracy, the values of the middle class, Hong Kong's troubles & successes in the post-War era, and the transition to Chinese Sovereignty will also be examined.

HST3209 Hong Kong Public History (from 2019-20)/
Introduction to Public History (in 2018-19 or before) **(3 credits)**
This course will be a comprehensive treatment of the ways in which the historian's skills and insights can be utilised in an array of public history professions beyond the academic setting. Students will conduct a service-learning project which applies their knowledge directly to the Hong Kong context.

HST3251 History of Hong Kong before 1841 (3 credits)
(recoded to HST2251 from 2019-20)
(Language of instruction: either Cantonese or Putonghua. The language of instruction for each term will be published in the course offering list.)

HST3252 History of Hong Kong from 1841 to 1941 (3 credits)
(recoded to HST2252 from 2019-20)

HST3255 Empire, Slavery, and Capitalism in North America to 1865 (from 2019-20)/
History of the United States to 1865 (in 2018-19 or before) **(3 credits)**

From 2019-20

The course covers the major political, social, and cultural factors that spurred the European colonisation of North America and then transformed Britain's North American colonies into an independent, expansionist republic, the United States. It will also provide students with a foundation for analysing more recent dynamics in American politics and culture. The course focuses in particular on the themes of slavery, capitalism, and empire in the Atlantic World.

In 2018-19 or before

This subject is a survey of the American people and their political and social institutions prior to 1865. The subject begins with the arrival of the Native Americans and concludes with the Civil War.

HST3256 Critical Intersections in U.S. History since 1865: Race, Class, Gender, and Sexuality (from 2019-20)/
History of the United States since 1865 (in 2018-19 or before) **(3 credits)**

From 2019-20

The course covers the history of the United States from Reconstruction to the present. In particular it focuses on how the intersecting variables of race, class, gender, and sexuality shaped both national politics and the experiences of ordinary people in the United States.

In 2018-19 or before

A survey of the history of the American people and their political and social institutions. The subject begins with Reconstruction and concludes with a study of the contemporary American scene.

HST3258 Introduction to Japanese History (3 credits)
(recoded to HST2258 from 2019-20)

HST3259 Introduction to Korean History (3 credits)
(recoded to HST2259 from 2019-20)

HST3260 Introduction to Southeast Asian History (3 credits)
(recoded to HST2260 from 2019-20)

HST3263 History of the Modern Middle East (3 credits)
(recoded to HST2263 from 2019-20)

HST3264 Introduction to South Asian History (from 2019-20)/
Introduction to Indian History (in 2018-19 or before)
(recoded to HST2264 from 2019-20) **(3 credits)**

HST3265 History of Modern Islamic Societies (3 credits)
(recoded to HST2265 from 2019-20)

HST3266 Europe and Europeans in Historical Perspective (3 credits)

This course's principal function will be to examine the notion of Europe and Europeans

as continuous and stable historical concepts. Different issues will be explored such as the question of origins, the role of Christianity, myths about the Renaissance, the rise of the nation state, colonization in creating a non-European other and the establishment of the EEC. In this regard, the intention of the course will be to help students understand Europe within a number of different thematic frameworks. A comparative approach will also be taken to allow students to understand the social and political aspects of geography, identity and perceived cultural boundaries.

HST3268 Cities Across Civilisations (3 credits)
(recoded to HST2007 from 2026-27)

HST3269 A Cultural History of Water (3 credits) (deleted from 2027-28)
This course examines the changing relationship between water and humankind across civilisations, with particular emphasis given to the period from the 17th century to the present. We will explore how the Enlightenment, the Industrial Revolution and the public health movement originated in the West have profoundly transformed people's attitudes towards Mother Nature and their concepts of cleanliness, and how technological advancement has increased the extent of the exploitation of our water resources. The repercussion of such changes on Asian countries and the overall impact of human exploitation of water on the environment will also be examined.

HST3311 Critical Themes in the History of China's Cultural Interchange
(from 2019-20)/
Cultural Interchange between China and the World (in 2018-19 or before) **(3 credits)**
This course explores some major themes in the history of Sino-Western relations. It will focus on significant patterns and issues that have shaped the ways in which China has influenced, and been influenced by, the world outside it. We will particularly emphasize the movement of people and ideas and how such movements produce the formation of cross-cultural imagery, revised concepts of self, and processes of mutually-stimulated change. By examining the interchange of people and ideas between China and the West, and particularly how Hong Kong has played a special role in this interchange process, we will also discover the fluidity of culture itself and the dynamics and parameters of cross-cultural interchange within which we live today.

HST3312 Russia and the Former Soviet Union: Politics, Economy and Society (3 credits) (deleted from 2027-28)
The course will examine the final years of Soviet rule and the first period of independence of the post-Soviet republics. Student will acquire knowledge of the political, social and economic developments in the late Soviet and post Soviet space (approximately the period 1970-present). Particular attention will be devoted to the regions of the former Soviet Union most relevant to China's economic and strategic interests: Russia and Central Asia.

HST3352 History of Religions in China (3 credits) (deleted from 2027-28)
Buddhism, Taoism and folk religions in China are examined in terms of their historical development and significance in Chinese politics and society. Topics are organised chronologically and thematically.

HST3355 History of U.S. – China Relations (3 credits)
This course explores the changing relations between China and the United States from the late eighteenth century to the present. Following the chronological line, the class will

focus on the ways in which China and America were involved with each other on political, economic, and cultural levels. Special emphasis will be placed on the significance of mutual perception in shaping mutual behavior and policy. Attention will also be given to how Hong Kong has played an important role in shaping the contemporary Sino-American relationship.

HST3359 History of Women and Children in China (3 credits)
(recoded from HST4359 from 2019-20)
This course offers a brief introduction to the history of women and children in China from ancient times to the present. The course will begin with an examination of gender and age roles as defined by Confucian norms, the state, kinships, and other political, social and legal institutions in China. Then, we will explore women's techniques for existence in domestic and non-domestic realms, as well as the meaning and process of "growing up" in late imperial China. Finally, the course will discuss women and children in the changing phase of modern China. Readings will include primary sources (in Chinese and translation) to the greatest extent possible.

HST3360 Historical Geography of China (3 credits)
(recoded to HST4360 from 2019-20)

HST3365 History of Russia and Central Asia (from 2019-20)/
History of Russia and Inner Asia (in 2018-19 or before) **(3 credits)**
(recoded to HST1365 from 2019-20)

HST3367 The End of the British Empire (3 credits)
(recoded to HST4367 from 2019-20)

HST3398/HST3399 Special Topics in History (3 credits)
(recoded from HST4399 from 2019-20)
This course provides an opportunity for students to study and discuss selected topics in history.

HST3398a Special Topics in History: Global History of Madness (3 credits)
This course examines the social, cultural and medical history of madness from the 18th century to the present day. With a global geographical focus, this course introduces students to the history of madness as a historical construction contingent on different societies and periods. The course is divided into three sections: 1) the emergence of the lunatic asylum in Europe and America, 2) the Rise of psychiatry and anti-depressant, and 3) the introduction of colonial psychiatry and the global mental health movement in the contemporary world.

HST3398b Special Topics in History: Global History of Drugs (3 credits)
This course explores how drugs and the ideas of drugs shaped global history. It will cover the social, cultural, and political perspectives of drugs like opium, marijuana, cocaine and amphetamines. This course centers on the shifting meanings of "drugs" and "addiction," covering other addictive substances, such as sugar, chocolate, alcohol and tobacco. It offers a broad perspective on the changing meanings of bodies, healing practices, and drugs from the 19th century to the present.

HST3398c Special Topics in History: Gender, Class and Race (3 credits)
Gender, class and race are all socially-constructed categories; they do not readily occur in the natural world. Yet, they define and structure our societies, even when they carry with them an inherent hierachy and factors of discrimination. Any student of the humanities

needs to be able to define these concepts, understand their origin and history, and be aware of the biases they carry. This course will unravel the problematic roots of some the core categories societies have historically used to structure themselves, with an emphasis on countering problematic misconceptions, stereotypes and biases.

HST3398d Special Topics in History: Women and Politics in Asia (3 credits)
Women have historically been underrepresented in Asian politics. Despite a handful of highly visible female national leaders, such as Indira Gandhi, Sirimavo Bandaranaike, Megawati Sukarnoputri, Park Geun-hye, Corazon Aquino or Sheikh Hasina, the political scenes of many countries in East, Southeast and South Asia remain dominated by men. While female politicians from influential backgrounds have excelled in some of the region's most important democracies, there is little understanding of how women attain and thrive in positions of leadership across Asia.

HST3398e Special Topics in History: The History of Chinese Overseas (3 credits)
This course examines transnational Chinese migrations since the 1500s. Chinese merchants have sojourned overseas since at least the Song dynasty, but their numbers increased during the Ming and Qing dynasties as Europeans established colonial trading posts such as Macao (1557) and Manila (1571). Over time, overseas Chinese merchants (華商) became the “essential outsiders” of European empires across Southeast Asia, while mass labor migrations (華工) followed in the 1800s in conjunction with accelerating global capitalism, the abolition of African slavery, steamship technologies, and Qing China’s own deteriorating economy. These migrants faced routine exploitation and discrimination such that by the 1870s a racialized anti-Chinese hysteria gripped the Pacific’s white settler nations. These nations’ subsequent restrictions against Chinese migration engendered our world’s contemporary systems of boundary policing and marginalized many overseas communities. Over the twentieth century, individuals of Chinese descent fought to assert their legal belonging in their countries of residence, debated their relationship to China amid multiple revolutions, and re-defined their identities in myriad ways.

HST3398f Special Topics in History: History of Late Imperial and Modern China (3 credits)
This course, with historical events in chronological order, teaches students to analyze late Imperial and Modern China, and most importantly, to learn the impact of these events on the politics, society, economy, and culture of modern China. In this course, students will read, write, and think like sinologists.

HST3398g Special Topics in History: International Political Economy of East Asia (3 credits)
As one of most dynamic regions in the world, East Asia stands at the forefront of the academic and policy debates on economic development, global value chains, and emerging economies. The region also plays an indispensable part in shaping the future of trade liberalization, technological innovation and politico-economic regionalism. Of equal importance is the long history of East Asia as an interactive region in both economic and political terms. The historical legacy of the ancient silk roads, the hierarchical regional order, and the transnational flow of money in East Asia offer another unique and yet generalizable set of cases in the field of international political economy.

HST3398h Special Topics in History: Great Men & Women in History (3 credits) (in 2024-25)
Historians have long debated the precise relationship between great individuals and historical events: are great men the engine of change who bend events to their will, or are

they merely the manifestation of broader underlying societal forces? Do they lead change, or are they merely symptoms of it?

Whatever the precise relationship, studying the lives and contributions of great men and great women provides an excellent opportunity to put a spotlight on their time and their society, be they political leaders, thinkers, artists, explorers, scientists or business moguls.

HST3398i Special Topics in History: Asian Heritage: Musical Video Games (3 credits) (in Term 2, 2024-25)
This course explores the intersection of cultural heritage and digital game design. Students will create their own musical video games inspired by traditional Asian stories, folklore, and performing arts. Through learning 8-bit music composition, UI/UX design, and coding with Microsoft MakeCode Arcade, students will transform cultural narratives into interactive experiences. This hands-on course aims to equip students with STEAM skills and techniques to preserve and share cultural heritage digitally, making traditional stories accessible to modern audiences.

HST3398j Special Topics in History: Cultural Soundscapes: World Music and Arts with AI (3 credits) (in Term 2, 2024-25)
This course delves into the world's musical and artistic diversity, exploring the significance of music as a universal cultural expression. Through studying key moments of cultural exchange, such as the Silk Road, the Age of Exploration, and the rise of popular music, students will gain insight into the global evolution of arts. The course includes a practical component where students will use AI tools to create music and lyrics, fostering an appreciation for cultural preservation and the role of technology in modern creativity.

HST3398k Special Topics in History: History of Globalization in Modern East Asia (3 credits) (in Term 2, 2024-25)
This course aims to enable students to develop an understanding of the complex place East Asia holds in the current era of globalization. To understand how East Asia (Japan, Korea, Mainland China, Hong Kong, Taiwan) transformed after the Second World War from an economic backwater into one of the main pillars of the global economy, the course offers a detailed overview of the East Development Model and an exploration of the Developmental State theory. The course uses a comparative approach to highlight the factors that enabled East Asia to become one of the major economic, political and cultural poles of the global order.

HST3398l Special Topics in History: Fashion in History (3 credits) (in 2025-26)
This course examines the social history of fashion from the eighteenth to the twentieth centuries with a global focus on Western, Chinese, and colonial contexts. It addresses the emergence and development of new materials, representations, and interpretations of fashions in Europe, America, China, and former colonies in Asia. The course not only explores the major global transformations of fashions and their relationships with various political, economic, and social contexts in historical and contemporary realities, but also their social significance to people in reshaping their individual and communal identities.

HST3398m Special Topics in History: Science, Technology, and Environment in Everyday East Asia (3 credits) (in Term 2, 2025-26)
This course examines the entanglement between science, technology, and the environment in shaping everyday life in modern East Asia. Moving beyond narratives of one-way technological transfer, the course explores how societies across East Asia adapted, innovated, and contested technologies in their pursuit of modernity. We investigate how

technological practices, infrastructures, and knowledge production transformed East Asian societies while also considering how these societies reshaped technologies to fit local economic, social, and environmental contexts. Key themes include industrialization, consumer culture, public health, and the role of technology in nation-building, all analyzed through historical sources and contemporary theories.

At the same time, the course situates these developments within the broader environmental transformations of the Anthropocene, highlighting East Asia's central role in this global epoch. From commodity frontiers and industrial pollution to nuclear technology and climate change, we examine how political, social, and cultural forces have shaped—and been shaped by—the region's environments. By integrating the histories of science, technology, and the environment, this course fosters a nuanced understanding of East Asia's modern trajectory, emphasizing the co-evolution of human and nonhuman actors. Students will engage with interdisciplinary approaches, critically analyze primary and secondary sources, and develop narratives that connect local practices to global processes, offering insights into the challenges and opportunities of our technologically driven and ecologically precarious world.

HST3398n Special Topics in History: A History of Japanese Popular Music: From Enka to Vocaloid, exploring with GenAI Creation (3 credits)
(in Term 2, 2025-26)

This course traces the rich history of Japanese popular music, exploring its evolution from postwar Enka to contemporary digital cultures including Vocaloid and J-HipHop. Students will analyse how musical genres reflect Japan's shifting political, economic, and social landscapes. Key genres, such as City Pop, Idol Music, and Minyo, Okinawan folk-pop, will be studied in historical and cross-cultural contexts, with a particular focus on their influence on and from other Asian music cultures.

Students will critically listen to music, analyse lyrics, and reflect on how sound shapes cultural identity. The creative component of the course will engage students in generating their own historically informed music using AI tools, enabling them to understand music as both a historical product and a medium for innovation and creativity.

HST3398o Special Topics in History: Intellectual History of Modern China (3 credits) (in 2025-26)

This course provides a historical survey of major themes and debates in cultural and intellectual circles in modern China, from the quest for "national rejuvenation" in the late Qing era, to the debates about neoliberalism in the post-Mao period. It attempts to (1) address cultural and historical background for understanding the tradition of Chinese political thought; (2) an immanent reconstruction of major texts and argument of this tradition. The chief focus of our attention will be the question of how Chinese intellectuals coped with the dilemma of "revolution versus enlightenment" throughout China's long twentieth century. The primary examples that we will examine include late Qing Confucianism, the May Fourth enlightenment, anarchism, feminism, cultural conservatism, Maoism, reformist socialist thought, neoliberalism, New Left, and nationalism.

HST3398r Special Topics in History: From Renaissance to Revolution: A History of Early Modern Europe (3 credits) (in Term 2, 2026-27)

This course explores the history of Europe from the Renaissance to the end of the French Revolution (roughly 1450–1799), a period of remarkable political, religious, intellectual, and cultural change. As Europeans recovered the arts and ideas of the ancient world, challenged religious authority, expanded overseas, and argued over new ideas about science, society, and political power, they also found themselves asking enduring

questions about faith, knowledge, liberty, and what it meant to be human. We will examine these developments not only through the actions of rulers, reformers, and philosophers, but also through the experiences of ordinary men and women and Europe's encounters with the peoples of the Americas, Africa, and Asia. Throughout the course, students will work closely with both primary sources and historical scholarship to understand how people at the time made sense of these changes—and why historians continue to debate their significance.

HST3398p Special Topics in History: Art and Society in China (3 credits)
(in 2025-26)
This course surveys Chinese society from the prehistoric period to contemporary times through the lens of art as primary sources. Students will interpret art pieces as historical texts and contextualize these works within broader themes and developments of Chinese society by engaging with secondary literature. The course is organized chronologically with a thematic focus, covering areas such as life and death, court cultures, religious influences, the production and consumption of art, class, gender, patronage, and the impact of foreign influences and local responses.

HST3398q Special Topics in History: Oral History and Public History (3 credits)
(in 2026-27)
This course provides an overview of oral history methods and practices, focusing on the skills and perspectives required for applied oral historical research and writing. It introduces students to the key contributions and challenges of oral history as a discipline widely used in public history projects.

HST3399c Special Topics in History: Nazi Germany and the Holocaust (3 credits)
The attempted destruction of the Jewish people of Europe during the Second World War, called “Holocaust”, is one of the most significant events in modern world history. The course represents a sustained and rigorous inquiry into the history of the Holocaust chronologically in several parts: Part 1. An overview of the long history of anti-Semitism in Europe until the early twentieth century; Part 2. The rise of the National Socialist (Nazi) movement in Germany, and the role of anti-Semitism in it; Part 3. The growth of Nazi anti-Semitism from the movement’s seizure of power in 1933 until the beginning of the Second World War in 1939; Part 4. An detailed analysis of the systematic destruction of European Jewry by the Nazi regime during WWII; and Part 5. A discussion of the extra-historical—moral, philosophical, personal—problems that the Holocaust raised.

HST3399d Environmental History of China (3 credits)
This course explains the remarkable ways in which millennia of human activity have transformed China’s landscapes and how the feedback of those changes has affected human affairs. Three important themes will be covered by this course: (1) the influence of environmental factors on Chinese history; (2) the environmental changes caused by human actions and the many ways in which human-caused changes in the environment rebound and affect the course of change in Chinese society; and (3) the history of human thought about the environment and the ways in which patterns of human attitudes have motivated actions that affect the environment.

HST3399e Digital History: From Concordances to Big Data (3 credits)
This course introduces students to the informed and critical uses of online resources, data science, and the wealth of digitized and born-digital materials for historical inquiry. Students will develop familiarity with the origins of digital history and the various ways that historians create, analyze, visualize, interpret, curate, and archive historical artifacts in digital form. Topics include text mining, spatial visualization, network analysis, and

cultural analytics. Optionally, students will be given the opportunity to explore the uses of digital forensics, machine learning, three-dimensional data, and virtual reality engines in historical inquiry and storytelling. Readings are in English. No background in programming or computer science is assumed.

HST3399f Sex, Drugs, & Rock 'n' Roll: Music and Revolution in the Post-World War II West (3 credits)

(Note: Students who have taken CLB9034 Music Across the Generations: Western Popular Music in the Post-World War II Period cannot enroll in this course.)

This course will investigate the intersections of music and revolutionary social change in the post-World War II period, between approximately 1945 and 1980. Under the overarching umbrella of "the Youth Revolution and intergenerational struggles," it will be divided into three units, focusing on crucial aspects of those changes: 1) Race and the Civil Rights struggle; 2) the Peace Movement (in particular, resistance to nuclear weapons and to the Vietnam war); 3) the Sexual Revolution and Feminism. For all of these topics, attention will be paid to both social/political history and relevant musical expressions relating to it, in a variety of music genres. No prior musical knowledge or experience is expected.

HST3399g Law and Order in Imperial China (3 credits)

China has its own legal system with unique features and traditions that was developed since the ancient times. This system formulated how Chinese empires functioned and the order of life at all levels of society. It also influenced the institutions of East Asian countries through the long history of cultural exchanges. This course provides an overview of this law and order in imperial China. It begins with the legislations in the early periods from the Shang to the Han dynasties to review the foundation of Chinese legal tradition. It then explores the growth of that tradition and system through the critical occasions in early Tang and Ming, which also discusses the modernisation attempts in late Qing. Besides this chronological review, this course also examines specific themes to deepen students' understanding, including traditional forensic science, and gender relations under the law.

HST3399h Confucian Classics and the Chinese Historiographical Tradition (3 credits)

(Language of Instruction: Chinese)

In this course we will explore the Confucian classics (Classics of Changes, Documents, Poetry, and the Spring and Autumn Annals) at different moments in their traditions: when they were first created, when they were canonized as classics, and when they were treated as the timeless wisdom at the heart of China's traditions. We will also survey the relationship between these classics and Chinese Historiographical Tradition.

HST3399i Special Topics in History: Imagining Pre-modern China: Perspectives, Evidence and Writings (3 credits)

(Language of Instruction: Chinese)

This proseminar course aims to help history-majored students develop a comprehensive understanding of historiographical traditions that have prevailed in the studies of China's state and society prior to 1600. It focuses on reading the selected classical work, either by pioneering Chinese scholars or by Japanese historians while presented in Chinese, in association with the rise and development of diverse forms of critical historical scholarship in modern East Asia in the century after 1900.

HST3399j Twentieth Century Britain in Film (3 credits)

This course will survey twentieth-century Britain through using feature films as primary sources. Students will watch some of the most significant British films of the twentieth

century, while reading secondary literature in order to place the films and their topics within appropriate historical contexts. Students will write a more extended interpretive essay on one chosen film. Topics that will be examined include Britain at war, the Great Depression, the end of empire, the postwar welfare state consensus and its dissolution, and the rise of a multicultural Britain.

HST3399k History of Tang China: A Cosmopolitan Empire (3 credits)
The Tang dynasty (618-907) governed a cosmopolitan China: at its peak, its imperial territory spanned from the Korean peninsula to present-day Vietnam and Central Asia. It encompassed a wide range of peoples of different origins under its rule: from Korean princes, Turkic generals, Indian monks to Sogdian merchants. Its cultures and institutions also spread the East Asia and shaped the civilisations of the region. This course is an introduction to the history of this empire. Why China became that cosmopolitan under the Tang? Was the regime a 'Chinese' dynasty at all? How the central court managed to rule this vast empire? What made the fall of the dynasty? What are the legacies it left to the Eastern world? We will study the complex history of the empire over this course.

HST3399l History of Taiwan: Across China and the World (3 credits)
In recent years, Taiwan has become a point of focus in current affairs of China and beyond. This course brings Taiwan back to history, studying the island from historical perspectives to have an in-depth understanding of the society. It introduces the history of Taiwan from the 17th century to the present in both Chinese and international contexts. It discusses the island's connections with China and the world, including the aboriginal cultures across the Pacific Ocean. Through the study of primary and secondary sources, this course particular focuses on how the island inhabitants have developed their own identities and democracy under the complex political, cultural and economic circumstances in centuries.

HST3399m The History of Capitalism (3 credits)
We live in a highly capitalist world. Yet, historians have only recently renewed their attention to this global system. This course will introduce students to the history of capitalism as both a bitterly debated concept and a violently contested system of production, consumption, and exchange. To narrow this agenda, this course will focus on three chronological units: 1) the historical origins of capitalism, 2) the industrial revolution's new divisions of labor, and 3) the role of Euro-American imperialism in global capitalist integration ("globalization"). As such, we will read and discuss a wide range of sources, but many themes and topics will receive less attention than they deserve.

HST3399n Safeguarding Cultural and Historical Heritage (3 credits)
In today's world, old buildings are often pulled down to give way to new developments. Machines gradually replace traditional craftsmanship, and fewer and fewer people speak local dialects. Will rapid development and technological advancement destroy our local communities and cultures? Will globalization turn us into one homogenous world culture? How can we safeguard our cultural and historical heritage, ensuring it can be passed on to future generations? This course introduces the concepts and values of cultural and historical heritage and explores the pertinent issues facing heritage conservation today. It discusses different ways of protecting and managing both tangible and intangible heritage. Field trips to historic sites in Hong Kong will be arranged, and students will have the chance to engage in dialogues with local conservation professionals.

HST3399o A Global History of Housing (3 credits)
In the two decades following the Industrial Revolution, living in a city became an increasingly popular choice for many people around the world, but also created new governmental problems regarding how to regulate urban spaces and urban populations.

How do people dwell in cities? How did housing, a private matter, become a domain of today's governments? This course provides the historical background needed to understand current housing problems. It explores how rapid urbanization and capitalist development after the Industrial Revolution created a housing crisis in cities and analyzes the different responses to this housing crisis across a range of contexts. The course also discusses how the rise of the modern welfare state has shaped the housing policies of various countries.

HST3399p The History of Rights in the United States (3 credits)
This course provides an overview of the history of civil rights in the USA. It will trace the origins of rights from the Magna Carta and the 13 original colonies which enshrined inalienable rights into the Declaration of Independence. However, slavery and the genocide of native Americans clearly ran counter to these aspirations. The course will cover the history of the Civil War which was fought over the question of slavery, the reconstruction era and progressivism, and the period of segregation, which saw an institutionalization of racism. The World Wars gave rise to the idea of human rights but many nonwhites still suffered under unfair discrimination. The Civil Rights Movement brought great change to the US but the struggle for equality continues.

HST3399q Empires and Migrations in the Pacific World (3 credits)
This course examines how Asian, European, and American empires have channeled, categorized, and regulated human movement in the Pacific since the 1500s. The Mediterranean and Indian Oceans hosted dense networks of mobility before recorded history, while a single Atlantic World coalesced in the seventeenth century. Yet, the Pacific resisted such integration. Only the Polynesians traversed its vast expanses over centuries of migration. Chinese and Japanese merchants and later European empires were able to build segmented corridors during the early modern era, but mass migration awaited the California Gold Rush. Yet, then the prospect of mass Chinese migration elicited racialized hysteria throughout the Pacific basin's white settler nations. Their imposition of barriers against ordinary Chinese and later all Asian migrants engendered contemporary systems of policing state boundaries and re-divided the Pacific into contending spheres of state power, economic penetration, and racial imagining whose legacies remain with us today. This course will introduce students to these diverse histories of human movement.

HST3399r Special Topics in History: The Historical Geography of China (3 credits)
This course is intended to provide an introduction to the historical geography of China by exploring changing social, political, and cultural relations and the way these changes have shaped the landscapes of China. Topics are organized chronologically and thematically.

HST3399s Special Topics in History: Exploring Local China: Elite, Bureaucracy and Beliefs (3 credits) (from Term 2, 2022-23)
(Prerequisite(s): A reading knowledge of classical Chinese.)
This course introduces to the students China's two millennia of local history. It selects one prefecture as the case and focuses on changes and continuity in rural society over different periods of time. As a proseminar course designed for the history-majored students, we will teach them how to use primary sources such as gazetteers, genealogies and epitaphs to explore the formation of elite families at the local level. The students will also learn through studying the multiple dimensions of local society the dynamics of rural development and the changing relationship between the state power and society.

HST3399t Special Topics in History: Global Hong Kong (3 credits)
(from Term 2, 2022-23)
This course examines modern global history through the lens of Hong Kong. The history of this interstitial territory's dramatic evolutions from colonial entrepôt and migration hub to manufacturing powerhouse and financial centre afford us unique opportunities to interweave traditionally disconnected histories and to consider alternative approaches to the study of the past. Our readings and discussions will span the historiographies of modern China, the British Empire, overseas Chinese migration, decolonization, Asia's Cold War, and the history of capitalism so that we can consider the multiplicity of roles that Hong Kong has occupied and its shifting meaning within overlapping geographies and historical experiences.

HST3399u Special Topics in History: Comparative Fascism (3 credits)
(from Term 2, 2022-23)
This course will introduce students to the historical varieties of fascism. It will give particular attention to the social, economic, and political factors that have led fascism to achieve mainstream political prominence in some historical contexts while remaining marginal in others. It will also analyze what is distinct about historical fascism and how it has related to other political movements.

HST3399v Special Topics in History: History of Comics and Animations (3 credits)
Comics and animations are not just leisure entertainments but also reflections of human conceptions and social changes. This course studies the set of visual arts from historical points of view. It traces the origin and development of the genres of graphic narratives in the past and present, which also reviews modern history through the lens of the artworks. It focuses on the productions of the US and Japan, the dominant powers in modern comics and animations, and also sheds light on those from our city, Hong Kong. From Disney figures to Gundam robots and the Old Master Q or the Lou Fu-zi, this course appreciates the world of visual imagination in different times and spaces.

HST3399w Special Topics in History: History of East Asia to 1800 (3 credits)
(from Term 2, 2022-23)
'Asia' is originally a Western concept denoting the eastern part of the known world of Europeans. The term is now used to designate the large eastern continent, oddly grouping distinct civilisations and cultures together. But the region known as 'East Asia' today, namely China, Korea, and Japan, has shared coherent traditions and cultures since ancient times despite political division. This course studies the formation and development of such traditions and cultures in pre-modern times through the rise and fall of empires, kingdoms, and dynasties across the region. Starting with the connections between the three countries in the pre-historical era, it discusses how the region developed a shared past in philosophy, religion, writing system, and state institutions through 1800. It represents 'East Asia' from native historical and cultural contexts and prepares students to understand modern Asia.

HST3399x Special Topics in History: Xinjiang: A Crossroad of the Silk Road (3 credits)
This course is a synthetic survey of the history of the Xinjiang region from Tienshanosaurus (earliest time) to the twenty-first century. While recent scholarship on Xinjiang frequently ties indigenous experiences more closely to events in Russia and Central Asia than to those in "China proper," this course teaches Xinjiang history mainly in the context of a Chinese history course. Three important themes will be covered by this course: (1) Xinjiang as the crossroads of the Silk Road, its intermediate position, its role as a conduit, and its linkages to other places; (2) Xinjiang's geography and the environment, especially the role of water in supporting and limiting agriculture, settlement and

urbanization; (3) The variety of ways in which people in the Xinjiang region were organized and organized themselves.

HST3399y Special Topics in History: An Urban History of Hong Kong (3 credits)
How has Hong Kong transformed from a small fishing village to a high-density, high-rise metropolis in the past two centuries? What were the challenges Hong Kong faced during its rapid urban growth and development? What key decisions, intentional and unintentional, had shaped Hong Kong's urban environment? How did Hong Kong people experience improvement in their urban lives? This course examines the history and process of urban development in Hong Kong under British rule. It explores the ways rapid urbanization and population growth created problems in the city's governance, land use, housing, and so forth, and analyzes the different responses to these urban problems.

HST3399z Special Topics in History: History of Macau (3 credits)
This course introduces and examines the historical development of Macao since its founding in the 16th century. Apart from examining the political aspects of Macao's history, students will study the social, economic, and cultural dimensions of the historical development of modern Macao over the past four centuries.

HST4000 Senior Research Seminar (3 credits) (deleted from 2022-23)
This course will combine intensive seminar discussions and individual supervision of student research, culminating in a substantial research paper. Thematic content will vary according to instructor and term.

HST4001 Development Theories and Development Aid in History (3 credits) (deleted from 2027-28)
The concepts of development and the "developing" and "developed" worlds are ubiquitous in contemporary discussions of international relations. But these concepts are neither timeless nor universal. This course situates the emergence of development discourses and practices in the history of the twentieth century, when the rise of the modern social sciences furnished scholars with new tools for examining social and economic changes; and when anticolonial movements challenged extractive colonial economies. As decolonization unfurled in Asia and Africa and the Cold War superpowers competed for global influence, development aid emerged as an important adjunct of postcolonial state-building. Yet it also attracted fierce criticisms from environmentalists, anti-imperial intellectuals, and others. We will examine development in a variety of historical and geographical contexts.

HST4002 Chinese Historiography (3 credits)
(Restriction(s): Students are not allowed to take both this course and HST4399d Special Topics in History: Chinese Historiography.)
This course introduces students to the historiographical traditions of China from antiquity to the imperial period. Students will learn about the major types of historical writings of ancient China, the context of their production and circulation, and most importantly, how they can be utilised for historical research. Students will also receive basic instruction in the grammar of the classical Chinese language. They will read excerpts of various historical works, and learn the literary conventions of these historiographical texts.

HST4003 China and the Global Opium Trade (3 credits) (deleted from 2027-28)
The course is a writing-intensive seminar focused on the history of the global opium trade between the seventeenth and twentieth centuries, and the place of China in it. Students will closely read a selection of secondary and primary sources the topic of the course, both in English and in Chinese. The course will outline the patterns of consumption and

production, and trade in Europe and Asia in the different periods, and the multifarious ways in which opium came to play an important role in modern Asian history on a number of levels: in medicine, leisure, as status symbol, as a fiscal resource, as a monetary surrogate. The main questions the course will focus on will be how opium production, consumption and trade were embedded in culture and power across Asia; how opium was connected with the creation of overseas empires in Asia, and their eventual delegitimisation; how it was linked to state-building and state collapse in China during the late Qing Empire and the early Republican period; how opium became a powerful symbol in public discourses about social change and national revival in China. Discussions about the readings will familiarise students with different historical methodologies and sub-disciplines (social history, economic history, cultural history, gender history, etc.).

HST4004 Cities in East Asian History (3 credits) (deleted from 2027-28)
This course introduces students to the history of cities and society in the East Asia (China, Japan) from antiquity to the modern period through reading and discussion of representative English works, with emphasis on issues that are particularly pertinent to the study of city planning, built environment, municipal governance, urban culture, identity and modernity. Topics are organised chronologically and thematically.

HST4005 War, Gender, and Society in 20th-century Europe (3 credits)
This course explores how war shaped twentieth-century European societies through the lens of gender. Warfare touched the lives of nearly all residents of Europe during this time, yet not in the same ways. We will study how gender shaped both peoples' experiences of the world wars and the policies that the wars generated, ranging from efforts to raise birthrates following World War I to the gendered punishments meted out to fascist collaborators after World War II. We will also study how gender intersected with cultural representations of warfare, and how it affected the memorialisation of war in postwar societies.

HST4006 Gender and the British Empire (3 credits)
This course is a research-intensive seminar. It traces key concepts and developments of gender as employed in and by the British Empire throughout its history in various regions of the world. Within this historical context, students choose a relevant and significant topic on which they will receive step-by-step guidance to conduct research and to produce a final paper and presentation on their findings.

HST4007 Comparative Modern Revolutions (3 credits) (deleted from 2027-28)
The course is a writing-intensive seminar focused on the history of the French, Russian and Chinese revolutions. Students will closely read a selection of secondary and primary sources the topic of the course, both in English and in Chinese. The course will outline the different causes, dynamics, and outcomes of the three revolutions for the countries where they happened, and in global history. The main questions the course will focus on will be how cultural, economic, political and environmental factors can contribute to explain major social and political events; what is the relevance of transnational connections in the evolution of the revolutionary moment; how the history of political and social revolutions were embedded in issues about gender, race, and nationalism; how the knowledge about previous revolutions influenced the understanding of historical actors. Discussions about the readings will familiarise students with different historical methodologies and sub-disciplines (social history, economic history, cultural history, gender history, etc.).

HST4008 Sensory History (3 credits) (from 2027-28)
(Restriction(s): Students are not allowed to take both this course and HST4499a China's Encounters with the World, A Sensory History.)

This course examines the historical and cultural construction of the senses—seeing, hearing, tasting, smelling, and touching—with a particular focus on China's encounters with the world. It explores how sensory experiences are shaped by their historical contexts and how they reflect and reproduce power relations grounded in race, gender, culture, nation, and civilisation. Through case studies and theoretical frameworks, students will engage with the politics of perception and the role of the senses in shaping cross-cultural understanding. The course culminates in a final research project in which students apply sensory history as an analytical lens to a specific historical case.

HST4009 Violence in Modern History (3 credits) (from 2027-28)
(Restriction(s): Students are not allowed to take both this course and HST4499d History Capstone Seminar: Violence in Modern History.)
This course studies violence from the sixteenth to the twentieth centuries using an interdisciplinary approach, ranging from the examination of the language of violence to psychological and sociological analysis of perpetrators and victims. Making use of non-combative human atrocities from different locales, this course examines violence as a religious, anti-imperial, and racial phenomenon. By examining these manifestations of violence in different parts of the world, we discover interactions and conflicts in modern world history. The emphasis is also on how violence, and its narratives, are justified and promoted, or contrarily, sanitized and intentionally left out.

HST4208 History of Hong Kong from 1941 (3 credits)
(recoded to HST3208 from 2019-20)

HST4301 Senior History Directed Research Project A (from 2015-16)/
Senior History Directed Research Project (in 2014-15 or before) **(3 credits)**
(deleted from 2022-23)
(Prerequisite: Students must have a minimum GPA of 2.8 for the History courses taken in the first three years of study. Exceptions can be made in special circumstances.)
(Restriction(s): This course is available to Year 4 (final year) History Major students only.)
A capstone course which will integrate advanced research methodology, current issues in historical scholarship, and research and writing of an in-depth directed research project.

Students are expected to undertake independent research and complete a research paper under the guidance of advisers from the Department. The word count will be 6,000 (or 6,000 Chinese characters). This 3-credit Directed Research Project can be completed in either term of Year 4. This Directed Research Project can be on any topic that is mutually agreed by the student and a supervisor, and approved by the Department Board. Because of the advanced level of skills and initiative required, a minimal Grade Point Average of 2.80 will normally be required for a student wishing to undertake this Project.

HST4302 Senior History Directed Research Project (from 2022-23)/ **Senior History Directed Research Project B** (in 2021-22 or before) **(6 credits)**
(Prerequisite: Students must have a minimum CGPA of 3.0 for the History courses and have completed at least two 3000-level HST courses)
(Prerequisite: Students must have a minimum GPA of 2.8 for the History courses taken in the first three years of study. Exceptions can be made in special circumstances) (in Term 2, 2023-24 or before)
(Restriction(s): This course is available to Year 4 (final year) History Major students only.)
From Summer Term, 2023-24
A capstone course that will integrate advanced research methodology, current issues in historical scholarship, and research and writing of an in-depth directed research project.

This 6-credit Directed Research Project will cover both terms of the student's final year. Students are expected to undertake independent research under the guidance of advisers from the Department. The Project can be on any topic that is mutually agreed by the student and a supervisor, and approved by the Department Board. The Project may take the form of an academic paper, with a word count of 12,000 (or 12,000 Chinese characters). Alternatively, the Project may make use of multimedia formats. Multimedia projects must be accompanied by written work, including an Abstract and Bibliography and any other components required by the Chief Adviser. Because of the advanced level of skills and initiative required, a minimum 3.0 CGPA for HST courses (i.e. exclude non-HST courses) and completion of at least two 3000-level HST courses will normally be required for a student wishing to undertake this project.

In Term 2, 2023-24 or before
A capstone course that will integrate advanced research methodology, current issues in historical scholarship, and research and writing of an in-depth directed research project.

This 6-credit Directed Research Project will cover both terms of the student's final year. Students are expected to undertake independent research and complete a substantial research paper under the guidance of advisers from the Department. The Project can be on any topic that is mutually agreed by the student and a supervisor, and approved by the Department Board. The word count will be 12,000 (or 12,000 Chinese characters). Because of the advanced level of skills and initiative required, a minimal Grade Point Average of 2.80 will normally be required for a student wishing to undertake this Project.

HST4353 Chinese Social and Economic History (from 2019-20)/
Social and Economic History of South China (in 2018-19 or before)
(3 credits) (recoded to HST2353 from 2019-20)

HST4354 History of Science and Technology in China (3 credits)
(recoded to HST2354 from 2019-20)

HST4356 History of Nineteenth Century Europe (3 credits)
(recoded to HST2356 from 2019-20)

HST4357 History of Twentieth Century Europe (3 credits)
(recoded to HST2357 from 2019-20)

HST4359 History of Women and Children in China (3 credits)
(recoded to HST3359 from 2019-20)

HST4360 Historical Geography of China (3 credits)
(recoded from HST3360 from 2019-20)
This course is intended to provide an introduction to the historical geography of China by exploring changing social, political, and cultural relations and the way these changes have shaped the landscapes of China. Topics are organised chronologically and thematically.

HST4361 Critical Themes in Pre-Modern Chinese History (3 credits)
This course is a survey of the history of China from the earliest times to late imperial period, with particular emphasis on special topics chosen from political, social, cultural, and intellectual aspects of China's historical development. The key aim of the course is to revisit critical historical themes from different perspectives and to offer insight into factors that influence historians' perceptions of the past.

HST4363 History of Modern Germany (3 credits)
(recoded to HST2363 from 2019-20)

HST4364 History of Modern Britain (3 credits)
(recoded to HST2364 from 2019-20)

HST4367 The End of the British Empire (3 credits)
(recoded from HST3367 from 2019-20)
This course will examine the end of the British Empire from broad cultural, social, and political perspectives, focusing chiefly on the period 1930-1970. It will focus on the ways in which the end of Empire affected British culture, including national identity and the experience of national "decline". It will situate the end of the British Empire within the context of total war and the Cold War; within a comparative context (e.g., the French or Japanese experiences); and within the contexts of the rise of American power. It will also examine the impact of decolonization on selected former colonies (i.e., using a case study approach).

HST4399 Special Topics in History (3 credits) (recoded to HST3399 from 2019-20)

HST4399d Special Topics in History: Chinese Historiography 中國古代史學 (3 credits)
(Restriction(s): Students are not allowed to take both this course and HST4002 Chinese Historiography.)
This course introduces students to the historiographical traditions of China from antiquity to the imperial period. Students will learn about the major types of historical writings of ancient China, the context of their production and circulation, and most importantly, how they can be utilized for historical research. Students will also receive basic instruction in the grammar of the classical Chinese language. They will read excerpts of various historical works, and learn the literary conventions of these historiographical texts.

HST4399e Special Topics in History: Ancient Chinese Empires (3 credits)
In ancient China, we have one of the oldest civilisations in all of world history. From the first signs of agricultural life in pre-historic times to the creation of empires more than two millennia ago, it gave rise to a diverse set of political, social, economic, and cultural institutions that would come to have great impact on the history of East Asia and the world at large. This course is an introduction to this history of ancient China. Specifically, we will focus on the rise of empires in the long first millennium BCE, from the collapse of the Zhou aristocratic kingdoms to the creation of the Qin and Han dynasties. Why did the earlier Bronze Age aristocratic kingdoms of the Zhou collapse, and what motivated the creation of these new imperial regimes? What were the arguments for or against empires? We will study the complex historical process that led to the rise of empires in early China.

HST4399f Special Topics in History: Late Imperial and Modern China: Issues and Approaches (3 credits)
(Restriction(s): Students are not allowed to take both this course and HST3006 Late Imperial and Modern China: Issues and Approaches.)
This course introduces students to the Chinese historiography. Emphasis will be placed on issues that are particularly pertinent to the study of Late imperial China and modern China.

HST4499 History Capstone Seminar (3 credits)
(Prerequisite: Any (or none) which the lecturer may designate as appropriate for the particular topic being offered)

This course provides an opportunity for students to study special topics in history at an advanced-level in a research seminar format.

HST4499a China's Encounters with the World, A Sensory History (3 credits) (from Term 2, 2022-23)
This course will explore the various ways and narratives of seeing, hearing, tasting, smelling, and touching in history, especially in the context of China's encounters with the world. Historical and cultural contexts help explain different sensory experiences and meanings, and influence how we hear, smell, see, taste, and touch the world. Discourses about the senses are products of contested power relations defined in racial, gender, cultural, national, and civilizational terms. Overall, this course provides a historical and critical analysis of the senses. Students then will be guided to apply these concepts to conduct research on a particular historical case.

HST4499b History Capstone Seminar: Fascism and the Far Right in Britain, 1923-2014 (3 credits)
(Prerequisite(s): HST1001 Historian's Craft and HST1002 Ideas in Modern History, or permission of instructor.)
In this course, students will write a substantive primary source-based research paper focusing on an aspect of Fascism and the far right in Britain, 1923-2014. In order to do so, they will read widely in the secondary literature on this topic and participate in weekly seminars supplemented by mini-lectures.

HST4499c History Capstone Seminar: The History of Water in China (3 credits) (from Term 2, 2022-23)
(Prerequisite(s): HST1001 Historian's Craft and HST1002 Ideas in Modern History, or permission of instructor.)
This course will explore the water in Chinese history by examining changing political and social relations and the way these changes have affected the life and landscapes of China. Topics are organized thematically.

HST4499d History Capstone Seminar: Violence in Modern History (3 credits)
(Prerequisite(s): HST1001 Historian's Craft and HST1002 Ideas in Modern History, or permission of instructor.)
This course studies violence from the sixteenth to the twentieth centuries using an interdisciplinary approach, ranging from the examination of the language of violence to psychological and sociological analysis of perpetrators and victims. Making use of non-combative human atrocities from different locales, this course examines violence as religious, anti-imperial, and racial phenomenon. By examining these manifestations of violence in different parts of the world, we discover interactions and conflicts in modern world history. The emphasis is also on how violence, and its narratives, are justified and promoted, or contrarily, sanitized and intentionally left out.

HST4499e History Capstone Seminar: The Japanese Cities From Tokugawa Era to the 21st Century (3 credits)
Japanese cities, especially the great metropolis of Tokyo, represent Japan's modern success in economic and political terms, as well as the site of its cultural and social disintegration. However, urban spaces were also the main site of Japanese modernity and its contradictions. This course surveys Japanese cities from the Tokugawa era to the 21st century. In this class, we will learn to analyze different topics in urban studies in the historical contexts of Japan. Topics include the rise of early modern metropolises (Edo, Osaka, Kyoto), the relationships between the countryside and cities, disasters and reconstruction (the Great Kanto Earthquake of 1923 and wartime), the construction of the

imperial capital of Tokyo, and the making of colonial cities (Taipei and Seoul), as well as class, gender, consumption, and various urban lives in the cities. The course ends in the early 21st century, where the lived experience of urban life is changing yet again to accommodate the world's fastest-aging and shrinking population.

Given that one of the great pleasures of urban life is the amazing variety of spectacles, visual analysis will be a central element of the course via a range of different sources such as films, art, and more.