



# Fall 2023

## UPPER LEVEL COURSE OFFERINGS

# HIST 306

## HIST 306: A History of the Body in the West

with Dr. Christian S. Davis

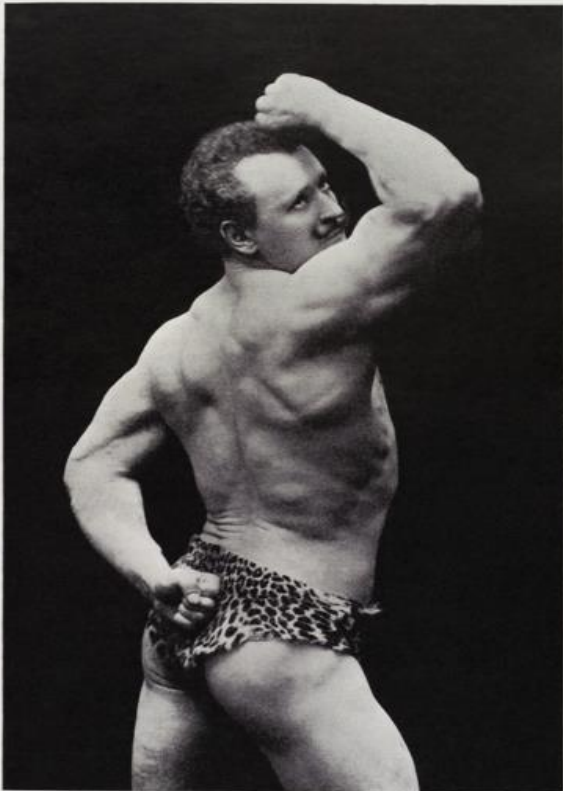
This course is a transnational and comparative history of the human body with a focus on Europe from the time of classical Greece through the twentieth century. We study the body as a historical artifact whose physical appearance and social and cultural meanings changed over time in accordance with transformative developments in European society, like the rise of Christianity, the emergence of modern science, the acquisition of overseas colonies, and the creation of communist and fascist states. Close attention is paid to issues of **sexuality, gender, class, and race**.

Fall 2023

TTH 3:55-5:10pm

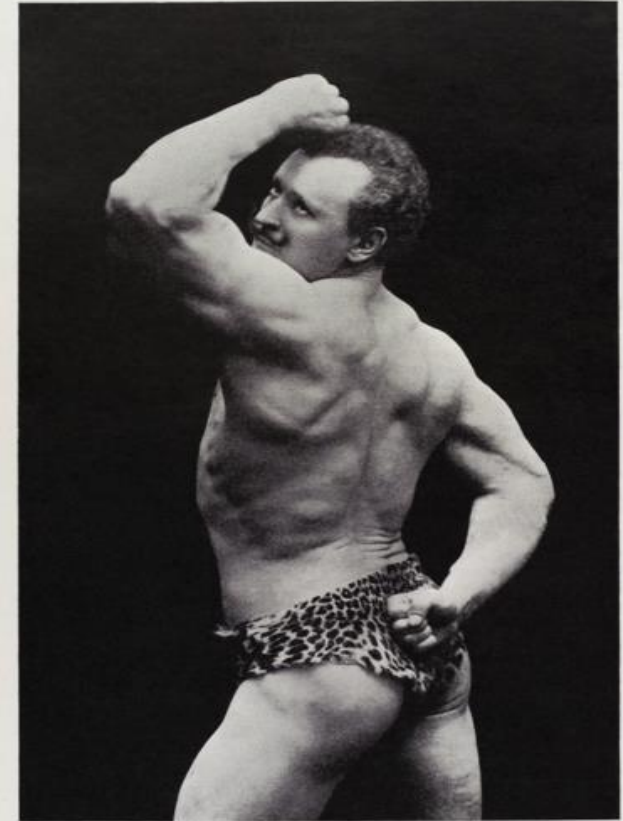
Wilson Hall 1014

**This course counts for the following programs: Medical Humanities Minor, Disability Studies Minor, History Major, History Minor.**



*Photo: D. Bernart & Co., Melbourne.*

A NEW SANDOW POSE (VIII).



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A NEW SANDOW POSE (VIII).

# HIST 318

## **Our Better Angels? The World History of Violence**

TuTh 3:55-5:10 p.m., Wilson Hall, rm. 1012, in person

Timothy J. Fitzgerald, [fitzgetj@jmu.edu](mailto:fitzgetj@jmu.edu)

An interdisciplinary and comparative exploration of human violence. The course uses theoretical studies and empirical research to address big questions about the kinds, causes, and consequences of violence in human societies from the deep past to the present. Students examine everyday and extraordinary forms of violence, they debate if and how violence has declined across time, and they learn to use historical methodologies to better understand conflict and coercion in today's world.

Requirements it meets: 300-level "Connected History" course



# HIST 326



Course name: How Cars Changed Everything (& Vice Versa)

M/W 3:25-4:40

Wilson 1014

In-person

Dr. Kevin Borg, [borgkl@jmu.edu](mailto:borgkl@jmu.edu)

This course examines the historical processes by which Americans transformed nearly all aspects of their lives through the automobile, while also constantly transforming the car itself to meet evolving personal, economic, and social goals. Cars changed everything and vice versa ("and the other way around"). HIST 326 will help you better understand this deeply entrenched relationship.



# HIST 333



Maps, Money, Manufacture and Trade MW 3:25-4:40 Wilson 1012, in person Alison Sandman, [sandmaad@jmu.edu](mailto:sandmaad@jmu.edu) Meets the "Thinking with Economics" requirement for social studies teaching

How do maps make arguments? What is money anyway? Why did people build factories, and why did others resist? Can YOU prosper in Manchester in 1817, and will you build a factory or destroy the machines? How do you make sense of economics beyond numbers and graphs? We will look at a few key concepts and case studies in the geography and economics of a globalizing world to make sense of the interactions of maps, economics, and history. Recommended especially for future social studies teachers, but open to all.

# HIST 335



Topics in Applying History: Community in Lincoln's America  
MW, 1:50-3:05 PM Wilson Hall 1014  
Prof. Andrew Witmer [witmerad@jmu.edu](mailto:witmerad@jmu.edu)

This course explores belonging and exclusion in the United States during Abraham Lincoln's lifetime (1809-1865), focusing on the local, state, and national communities to which Lincoln belonged. The course guides students in applying historical thinking and the use of evidence outside the classroom. This course satisfies the Applying History requirement.

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# Hist 338



US Urban History

Evan Friss

[frissej@jmu.edu](mailto:frissej@jmu.edu)

Explore the history of  
urban spaces in the  
United States.



# HIST 339



Topics in American History: Terror and  
Survival in American Lynching

MW 1:50–3:05

Wilson 1012 (in-person)

Dr. Steven Reich

([reichsa@jmu.edu](mailto:reichsa@jmu.edu))

Detailed description is below in notes (notes page view)



# HIST 352



TuTh, 12:45-2:00 p.m., Wilson Hall, rm. 1012, in person  
Timothy J. Fitzgerald, [fitzgetj@jmu.edu](mailto:fitzgetj@jmu.edu)

A thematic introduction to the premodern Middle East, with emphasis on the political, social, and religious developments that have shaped the region's diverse communities and connected them to world history.

Requirements it meets: 1) Middle Eastern Communities and Migrations (MECM) minor core class; 2) 300-level History elective; 3) International Affairs, Comparative Study, Middle East Track class

Important Note: HIST 352 was formerly HIST 337 and HIST 269

# HIST 374



The Southern Plantation: Race, Space, and Gender  
TuTh 11:10AM-12:25PM, Wilson Hall 1012, in person

This course explores the plantations of the American South as both physical and imagined spaces. Drawing on a number of historical subfields, particularly architectural, environmental, and public history, students will examine through a wealth of primary sources the people and sites that populated the plantation landscape. The course includes visits to two historic plantations in Virginia.



# HIST 401



Research Capstone: Storytelling from the Historical Record  
9:35–10:50 TT, Wilson 4033 (in-person)  
Steven Reich ([reichsa@jmu.edu](mailto:reichsa@jmu.edu))

Description: This course focuses on how to turn sources from the historical record into stories people want to read. Students will learn how to conceptualize their research into a well-framed story with a plot, narrative arc, and controlling idea. We will work on strategies for creating suspense and narrative tension. We will learn some of the key elements of character development, including how to build a cast of protagonists, antagonists, witnesses, and supporting players. Throughout the course, we will read the works of historians who excel as storytellers. Significant class time will be devoted to workshopping drafts of our own stories. By the end of the semester, students will complete their own work of creative nonfiction.

# HIST 438



Workshop in Public and Local History: History of Home: Practice and Ethics of Local History MW, 9:35-10:50 AM  
Wilson Hall 4033  
Prof. Andrew Witmer [witmerad@jmu.edu](mailto:witmerad@jmu.edu)

This workshop explores the theory, practice, and ethics of local history and invites students to apply what they are learning in an original research project. What is local history, and how does it relate to historical analysis at larger scales? What is locality, and how is it produced? Who writes local history, how do their methods and motives differ, and what place should the local have within academic history?



# HIST 445



In the Year 2000: America @ the Turn of the Century

Evan Friss

[frissej@jmu.edu](mailto:frissej@jmu.edu)

Expand your research and writing skills through a thematic study of American culture and politics in (and around) the year 2000.

# Hist 447

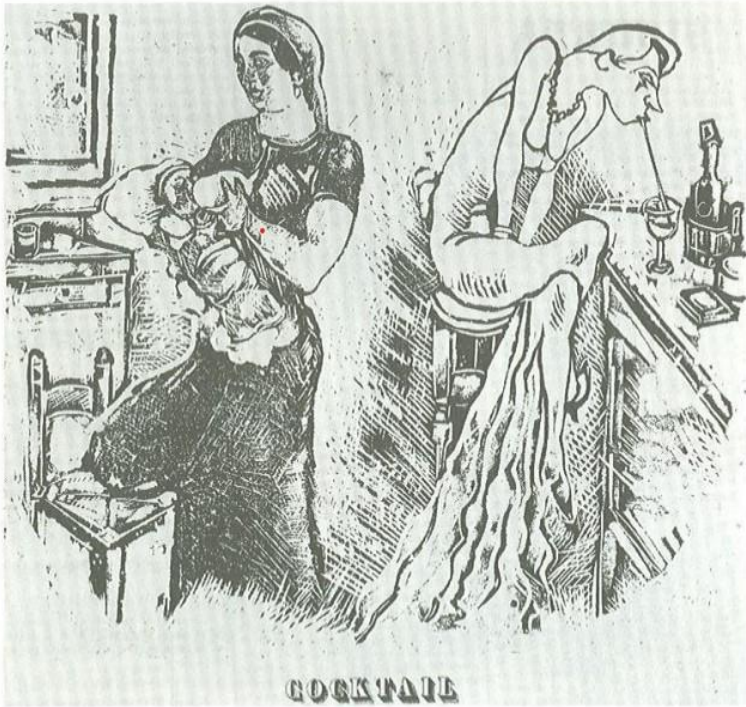


South America  
Dr. McCleary  
Fall Semester 2023  
Wilson Hall 4033  
Tues. Thurs. 220 to 335

This course will look at the legacy of military dictatorships in South America in the 20<sup>th</sup> century. We will examine the connections between memory, history, and democracy through a digital assignment. Students will also examine how theater and film contribute to historical memory and democracy in the region.

# HIST 449

1931, "The Crisis Woman," Italian.



Women and Fascism, Tuesday/Thursday 11:10-12:25, face to face, Wilson 4033  
Professor Jessica Davidson, [davidsjb@jmu.edu](mailto:davidsjb@jmu.edu)

This course offers a comparative understanding of fascism and women with a focus on Europe including Nazi Germany, Fascist Italy, and Francoist Spain. We will also discuss fascist movements and right-wing women in other European countries, in North America, in Latin America, and in non-western cases. We will uncover the origins of fascism and the rise of the fascist party and the women's branch. The paradoxical aims of the female movements, as harbingers of traditionalism and enthusiasts for women's political mobilization, will be explored. The course will also examine the platforms and programs of the women's groups as well as the problems encountered by them in their quest for homogeneity. The last units in the course will cover new forms of fascism in the past twenty years, both in Europe and in the United States.

Any requirements it fulfills for other programs (eg links to international affairs, IdLS, area studies): **Counts for minor in WGSS**

# HIST 459



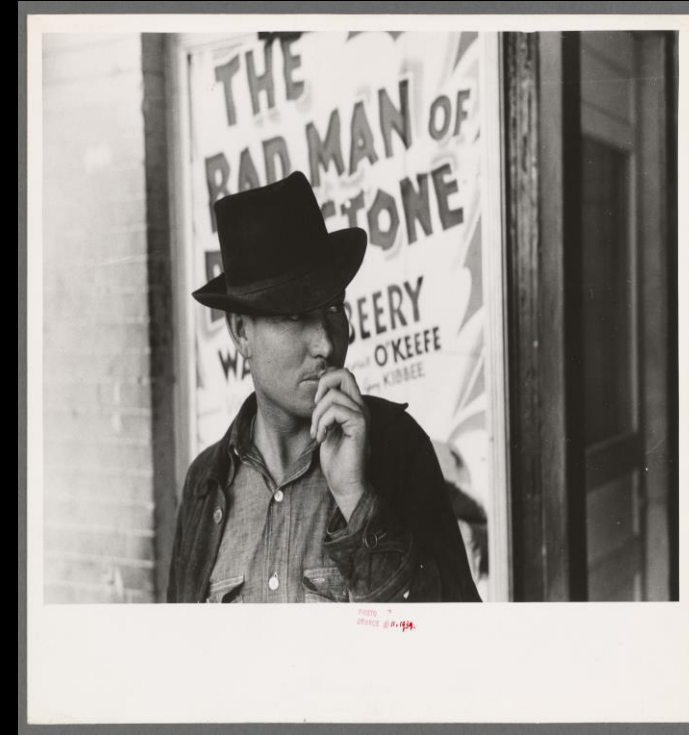
Gender and popular culture

MW 3:25-4:40

Professor Westkaemper

[westkaem@jmu.edu](mailto:westkaem@jmu.edu)

Linked to Women's, gender, and  
sexuality studies





# HIST 479



Global Environmental History: Mountains,  
Rivers and Animals in Asia and Africa  
MW 1:50-3:05

Wilson 4033

Dr. Shah Mahmoud Hanifi  
([hanifism@jmu.edu](mailto:hanifism@jmu.edu))

Detailed description is below in notes (notes page view)

# ARTH 493/HIST 493



Historic Preservation

W 5:00-7:30PM, Wilson Hall 1014, in person

This course is an introduction to the philosophy and techniques of historic preservation with an emphasis on architectural styles and vocabulary, researching historic places, assessing historic significance, and asking whose stories we preserve and why. The class includes visits to local historic buildings.