

HIST 4545: Reformation Europe

3 Credit Hours

Prerequisite: Completion of at least 45 credit hours

This course provides an overview of European history in the long sixteenth century, focusing on the religious upheavals known as the Reformations. It traces the emergence of the Protestant confessions, as well as Catholic reform and reaction. Examining both the actions of key figures and the broader social forces, the course assesses the immediate and enduring repercussions of the splintering of western Christendom.

HIST 4555: Topics in European Culture

3 Credit Hours

Prerequisite: Must have completed 45 credit hours.

This course introduces themes in early modern and modern European cultural history. It explores the premise that literary and artistic developments could drive—not just reflect—political, social, economic, and intellectual changes. Topics may include, but are not limited to, the use of popular song as political propaganda, changing gender norms in eighteenth-century literature, identity formation through music, culture as an industry, film and globalization, and the relationship between visual art and warfare.

HIST 4558: The Holocaust

3 Credit Hours

Prerequisite: Must have earned at least 45 credit hours.

This course puts the Holocaust into historical perspective and reflects on what it reveals about genocide in the twentieth and twenty-first centuries. The course examines the roots of anti-Semitism, the rise of fascism in Europe as it relates to the ideology of the Nazi Party, and the implementation of the Final Solution. The structure and purpose of the ghettos and death camps is studied, as well as efforts to resist. The course concludes by looking at what contemporary representations of the Holocaust mean for a post-Shoah generation.