History 645: **Spain and Its Empire**  
Dr. Robert H. **Holden**  
Mondays, 4:20-7:00pm

The Spanish empire created Spain at least as much as Spain created an empire. That process of mutual interaction provides the theme of this seminar, as it traces the rise of today’s Hispanic world from its emergence in the Iberian peninsula in the 15th century, through the 19th century, when the Spanish monarchy lost its American and Asian realms. Key problems for investigation: The entrepreneurial nature of the American conquest, the 16th century debate over the rights of Native Americans, the political constitution of the monarchy and its imperial reach, the monarchy’s relationship with the Catholic Church and its role in the extension of Spanish rule, and the logic and impact of the “politicized economy” of mercantilism. Finally, we consider the sources and the epochal consequences of the revolution that followed the Napoleonic invasion of 1808, giving birth to modern Spain. Opportunities for fruitful comparison with other, contemporary world empires will not be overlooked. Expectations: Regular participation in seminar discussions and the writing of a research paper.
History 647: Studies in Maritime History
Dr. Ingo Heidbrink
Tuesdays, 4:20-7:00pm

The seminar will explore the major recent developments in maritime historiography. The course will explore how maritime history both presents unique understandings of human history while also working within or redefining broader historical constructs. Students must learn to recognize and analyze historical interpretations and develop, write, and present their own interpretations of primary sources related to a specific topic of local maritime history.

Class requirements include the preparation of a discussion session on a maritime history topic chosen by the students as well as a term paper on the same topic. If the topic can be linked to maritime environmental history, a short version of the term paper might be published via the digital portal of the Rachel ‘Carson Center for Environment and Society.’

Finally Hist 647 is the mandatory capstone class for history graduate students interested in obtaining the Graduate Certificate in Maritime History in addition to the regular graduate degree.

History 660: Fascism in Europe
Dr. Maura E. Hametz
Thursdays, 7:10-9:50pm

This seminar focuses on the rise of the interwar fascist regimes led by Mussolini and Hitler. Readings emphasize the social, cultural and political developments of the period including takeover, leadership, the impact of violence and terror, the position of women, ethnic and racial minorities, and the role of political opponents and allies in Germany and Italy and across Europe. Historical debates regarding the origins of fascism, the nature of fascist dictatorship, questions of collaboration, quiescence, and resistance and their impact on European society form the bases for discussion.
History 695: **The Long Civil Rights Movement**
Dr. John W. **Weber**
Wednesdays, 4:20-7:00pm

This course will examine the historiography of the Long Civil Rights Movement. Popular conceptions of the Civil Rights Movement typically encompass only the years between the Supreme Court’s 1954 *Brown v Board of Education* decision and the passage of Great Society civil rights legislation in 1964 and 1965. We will look beyond this narrow if important time frame to the much longer struggle for civil rights that stretches from the nineteenth century to the present day, encompassing multiple movements that sought to achieve the basic rights of citizenship for a number of different groups.

**Partial bibliography**
Kevin Boyle, *Arc of Justice*
Timothy Tyson, *Radio Free Dixie*
David Montejano, *Quixote’s Soldiers*
Andrew Fisher, *Shadow Tribe*
Brian Behnken, *Fighting Their Own Battles*
Paul Ortiz, *Emancipation Betrayed*

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History 695: **Rethinking a "Peoples Contest": The History of the Civil War Era**
Dr. Timothy J. **Orr**
Thursdays, 4:20-7:00pm

This course will survey the crucial historiographical debates surrounding the Civil War Era. It will analyze such topics as the political crisis over slavery, the causes of secession, Union and Confederate military strategies, the motivations of Civil War soldiers, political dissent on the home fronts, mobilization and management of resources, guerrilla war, the expanding roles of freed-people and women, the failures and successes of Reconstruction, and the popular memory of the war.