

# Department of History and Archaeology

Chairperson:	Butcher, Kevin E.T.
Professors:	Abu Husayn, Abdul Rahim A.; Butcher, Kevin E.T.; El-Cheikh, Nadia M.; Sader, Helen S; Seeden, Helga R.; Seikaly, Samir M.
Associate Professors:	Koistinen, David P.; Meloy, John L.
Assistant Professors:	Genz, Hermann P.; Schayegh, Cyrus M.
Visiting Assistant Professor:	Pederson, Ralph

The department offers programs leading to BA and MA degrees in Arab and Near Eastern history and in archaeology. In Arab and Near Eastern history, a program leading to the PhD degree is also available, but is temporarily frozen. It will be reactivated pending final approval by the New York State Education Department. Requirements for transfer to the department include approval by the department, and a grade of 70 or more in any two humanities courses (excluding the communication skills requirements in Arabic and English). Students expecting to work in Arab history must also have knowledge of Arabic.

## History

### Undergraduate Program

Students majoring in history must complete a minimum of 39 credit hours in the department, including HIST 286, HIST 287, HIST 291, and HIST 292. Detailed programs are determined by subcommittees of the department, which advise each student on courses in his/her major, related departments, and electives. Majors are also required to take a minimum of six credit hours in social sciences and/or economics and a minimum of six credit hours in sciences, mathematics, and technology, which must include a three credit hour course in computer literacy.

Students choosing a minor in history must complete five courses numbered 200 and above. All minors, especially those considering graduate work in history, are encouraged to take HIST 287 as one of the five courses.

**HIST 101/**                      **Survey of Modern Europe**    **3.0; 3 cr. (each)**  
**HIST 102**

A chronological and topical survey of the political and socio-economic forces that have shaped modern Europe and the rest of the world. Attention is given to teaching students how to tackle historical problems and how to initiate and conduct research. *Annually.*

- HIST 200 Introduction to the History of the United States 3.0; 3 cr.**  
An introductory survey of the social and political development of the United States from its colonial origins through the early twentieth century. Principal themes include European settlement of the North American continent and the establishment of an independent United States; the tensions between North and South that culminated in civil war; and the social transformations brought about by the rise of a market-oriented, industrial society. Open to freshman students. *Annually.*
- HIST 201 Introduction to the Study of History 3.0; 3 cr.**  
An introduction to some of the main themes and problems of the study of history such as the structures, aims, and methods of historical writing, and related questions such as causation, periodization, and style. The readings in this course are drawn mostly from modern texts in the methodology of history. *Offered occasionally.*
- HIST 202 Introduction to the Modern History of the Arab East 3.0; 3 cr.**  
An introduction to the modern history of the Arab East from the Ottoman conquest until the outbreak of the Arab revolt. This course also uses case studies relating to the rise of local Arab rule and to Arab-Turkish relations in the late Ottoman period. *Annually.*
- HIST 212 Islamic History: Origins and Empire, 600–750 3.0; 3 cr.**  
A course that focuses on the origins of Islam in Arabia, Islamic expansion, internal divisions, and the establishment of the Umayyad dynasty. This course emphasizes the themes of Arab expansion and adaptation, the historical roots of Shiism, institutional developments, problems of societal integration, and the factors of decline. *Alternate years.*
- HIST 213 Islamic History: The Rise and Fall of the Abbasids, 750–1055 3.0; 3 cr.**  
A survey of the Abbasid Caliphate from its establishment in 750 to the Seljuk take-over of Baghdad in 1055. This course studies the origins, interpretation, and results of the Abbasid revolution, the militarization of the state, the emergence of specific institutions, the process of political decentralization, and the flourishing of cultural-scientific achievements. *Alternate years.*
- HIST 214 Islamic History: Military Society in the Middle East, 1055–1500 3.0; 3 cr.**  
A course that completes the three-part survey of the central lands of Islam, covering the period from the Seljuk conquest in the eleventh century until the Ottoman expansion into the Middle East at the beginning of the sixteenth century. This course traces the fusion of societies that generated a new social and political order in the region. *Alternate years.*
- HIST 216 History of the Fatimid Imamate, 909–1171 3.0; 3 cr.**  
A survey of the major stages of the Fatimid polity from the turn of the tenth century to its demise at the end of the twelfth century. Major themes include the political institutions of the Fatimid state, the intellectual trends of the Fatimid movement, and the social and economic ramifications of the Fatimid Empire. *Offered occasionally.*



**HIST 235                      History of the Arabs, 750–950                      3.0; 3 cr. (in Arabic)**

A course that covers the first two centuries of the Abbasid Empire until the arrival of the Buyids, who were the first dynasty openly to take the Abbasids under their wing. This course places particular emphasis on the culture of the period as well as on Abbasid institutions of government and society. *Offered occasionally.*

**HIST 236                      History of the Arabs, 950–1258                      3.0; 3 cr. (in Arabic)**

A course that covers Arab history from the Buyids to the Mamluks, also discussing other major dynasties such as the Seljuks, Zengids, and Ayyubids. *Offered occasionally.*

**HIST 237                      Ottoman State and Society, 1300–1600                      3.0; 3 cr.**

A course on the formation, consolidation, and expansion of the Ottoman state from its birth as a ghazi principality in northwestern Anatolia in the late thirteenth century until the end of the so-called Classical Age. This course emphasizes political and institutional developments. *Alternate years.*

**HIST 238                      Ottoman State and Society, 1600–1923                      3.0; 3 cr.**

A continuation of HIST 237 which traces the change and transformation of the classical Ottoman system and the responses to it. This course examines the Ottoman reform efforts from traditional reform in the seventeenth century through the Tulip Age and down to the Tanzimat (modernization) of the nineteenth century. *Alternate years.*

**HIST 239                      History of the Arab East and Egypt from 1516 to 1798                      3.0; 3 cr.**

A course that covers the expansion of Ottoman rule into the Arab East and the nature of Ottoman domination and its consequences. Selected case studies investigate the emergence of local Arab autonomies in the seventeenth and eighteenth centuries. *Alternate years.*

**HIST 240                      Confronting Modernity:  
The Arab East and Egypt from 1798 to 1920                      3.0; 3 cr.**

A course on the Arab provinces of the Ottoman Empire in the age of the Tanzimat, foreign intrusion into the region, and the Arab provinces' progressive incorporation into a developing global economy. Special attention is given to Egypt's bid for autonomy and the emergence of national sentiment in the Arab provinces of the Fertile Crescent. *Alternate years.*

**HIST 242                      A Social History of  
the Modern Middle East: 1800–1980                      3.0; 3 cr.**

Examines the historical trajectory and character of social groups—including peasants, workers, middle and upper classes—in the 19<sup>th</sup> and 20<sup>th</sup> century Middle East. Explores how the rise of modern interventionist states has transformed everyday social life. Considers the effects, characteristics, and limits of the region's integration into the world economy, and the effect of oil and inter-state warfare on state-society relations. *Alternate years.*

**HIST 243                      History of the Arab East and Egypt Since 1920                      3.0; 3 cr.**

A course that focuses on the Arab provinces of the Ottoman Empire during World War I and their subsequent partition into mandates. This course also considers the gradual emergence of modern state structures and the Arab struggle to achieve independence. *Alternate years.*



**HIST 258                      Special Topics in History                      3.0; 3 cr.**  
A term-specific variety of in-depth courses involving a detailed and systematic analysis of a particular topic, region, or nation. Examples of courses offered include Arabia, Biblical History, and Egypt under Nasser. *May be repeated for credit. Offered occasionally.*

**HIST 262                      Women and Gender in Classical Islamic Society                      3.0; 3 cr.**  
An investigation of the history of gender roles, images, and experiences in the social, political, economic, and legal contexts of classical Muslim societies. Through a topical approach, emphasis is placed on the variety of Muslim women's experience. Reading material includes translations of primary sources that will be at the center of class discussions. *Alternate years.*

**HIST 271                      Race, Class, Gender:  
Introduction to American Social History                      3.0; 3 cr.**  
A course that begins with the notion of how the study of the American past has been revolutionized in recent decades by social history, which focuses on the experiences of everyday people, particularly those from subordinate social groups. Employing this approach, the course looks at the lives of African-Americans, immigrant workers, and women, and shows how this alters the traditional picture of American history. *Offered occasionally.*

**HIST 272                      Economic History of the United States                      3.0; 3 cr.**  
A survey of the economic life of the United States from colonial times to the present. This course examines the development of the economy and business institutions and corresponding changes in public policy and cultural life. Topics addressed include the colonial economy within the mercantilist system, the economics of slavery, industrialization, the rise of large corporations, government regulation, the Great Depression, the recent decline of traditional manufacturing, and the emergence of a high-technology, service-oriented economy. *Offered occasionally.*

**HIST 273                      The United States and the Middle East                      3.0; 3 cr.**  
An examination of the varying and complex relationship between the United States and the Middle East over the last two centuries. Subjects examined include images of the Middle East in early American political discourse, the activities of American missionaries and the founding of AUB, Arab immigration to the US, the role of American oil companies in the region and the rise of OPEC, Cold War diplomacy toward the Arab states and Israel, the Iran hostage crisis, US intervention in the conflict in Lebanon, and the Gulf War. *Offered occasionally.*

**HIST 274                      The United States in the Twentieth Century                      3.0; 3 cr.**  
A survey of the social, political, and cultural development of the United States from the early twentieth century until recent times. This course emphasizes particular episodes of domestic political reform such as the New Deal, the changing social roles of African-Americans and women, the turmoil of the 1960s and its aftermath, and the role of the United States as a world power. *This course is designed as a companion course to History 200, although History 200 is not a prerequisite for History 274. Annually.*

**HIST 278/279                      Special Topics in United States History                      3.0; 3 cr.**  
A course emphasizing a particular subject, theme, period, or region in the history of the United States (e.g., Native Americans, US environmental history, Civil War and Reconstruction, the American West) to be offered by resident or visiting specialists with expertise in the field. *May be repeated for credit. Offered occasionally.*

**HIST 286 Historical Interpretation 3.0; 3 cr.**  
An introduction to current theoretical trends and interpretations in history and archaeology. Students are exposed to some modern and post-modern interpretations of history. *Alternate years.*

**HIST 287 Historical Writing 3.0; 3 cr.**  
An applied library course focusing on the conduct of historical and archaeological research and writing. Emphasis centers on historical methodology in the identification and utilization of sources, analysis, synthesis, and exposition. *Alternate years.*

**HIST 291/292 Senior Seminar in Arab and Near East History 3.0; 3 cr. (each)**  
A seminar in which students work in association on a select topic, report on their progress in class, and incorporate their findings in a detailed paper in line with historical methodology. *Alternate years.*

## History

### 39 Credits in History

Modes of Analysis	English and Arabic (9)	Humanities (12+39)	Social Sciences (6)	Sciences, Math, and Technology (6)
Lecture Course (9+39+6+3)	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Required Arabic course: ARAB 201A or 201B or any upper level course</li> <li>2. Required English courses: ENGL 203(3), 204(3)</li> </ol>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Required credits in the humanities: 12 credits including 6 credits from CVSP (see pp. 152-54)</li> <li>2. Nine history courses (27 cr.) from the following two categories:               <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. HIST 202, 212, 213, 214, 216, 217, 220, 225, 226, 227, 230, 233, 234, 235, 236, 237, 238, 239, 240, 242, 243, 244, 245, 251, 258, 262</li> <li>b. HIST 252, 253, 254, 255, 256, 257, 271, 272, 273, 274, 278, 279 (no more than two courses [6 cr.] may be taken from this category)</li> </ol> </li> </ol>	Two courses (6) The academic adviser will recommend particular courses in these disciplines depending on availability.	One course in computer literacy and any other course in these disciplines
Seminar (6)		Required history courses: HIST 291(3), 292(3)		
Laboratory (3)				Computer Lab (3)
Research Project (6)		Required history courses: HIST 286(3), 287(3)		

THE REQUIREMENTS LISTED ABOVE APPLY TO STUDENTS WHO JOINED THEIR MAJOR AS OF OCTOBER 1, 2001–02. STUDENTS WHO JOINED A MAJOR PRIOR TO THAT DATE SHOULD CONSULT THE 2000–01 CATALOGUE.

# Archaeology

## Undergraduate Program

Students majoring in archaeology must complete a minimum of 39 credit hours in the department, including HIST 286, HIST 287, AROL 233 or 234, and AROL 291 or AROL 292. Detailed programs are determined by subcommittees of the department, which advise each student on courses in his/her major, related departments, and electives. Students are also required to take a minimum of six credit hours in the social sciences and/or economics and a minimum of six credit hours in sciences, mathematics, and technology, which must include a three credit hour course in computer literacy.

Students choosing a minor in archaeology must complete five courses numbered 200 and above, including one of the following courses: AROL 211, AROL 212, AROL 233, AROL 234, AROL 291, or AROL 292.

**AROL 101 Introduction to Archaeology 3.0; 3 cr.**  
An introductory course on how the world's archaeological resources are threatened and need rescue, protection, and management. Archaeology studies this cultural heritage and rediscovers human experience from its origins to the present. What is the nature of archaeological evidence, and how can it be saved? *Each semester.*

**AROL 201 Archaeology in Lebanon 3.0; 3 cr.**  
A course that presents the archaeology of Lebanon: its history, institutional organization, the state of the evidence, and the problems Lebanon's archaeological heritage is facing. Reports of the country's main excavated sites and standing monuments are studied in combination with required site visits. *Alternate years.*

**AROL 211/212 Methodology 3.0; 3 cr. (each)**  
A study of the methods of recovery, systematic description, integration, and presentation of archaeological material for the preservation and reconstruction of information from the human past. Special emphasis is given to cultural heritage preservation and education in Lebanon and the Near East. *Alternate years.*

**AROL 213 The Human Story I: The Old Stone Age (up to ca. 10,000 BC) 3.0; 3 cr.**  
A course on the physical and cultural evolution of hominids and early humans subsisting on food gathering, hunting, and fishing in a Pleistocene environment. The cultural and functional significance of artifacts and lifestyles are investigated with the help of information gained from the palaeoenvironment, experimental technology, and ethnography. *Alternate years.*

**AROL 214 The Human Story II: The New Stone Age or Neolithic Period (tenth to fourth millennium BC) 3.0; 3 cr.**  
A course on the gradual domestication of plants and animals, leading to food production, and the development of socio-cultural systems with increasing differentiation of activities. Neolithic village communities are investigated for evidence of new technologies and arts and crafts, including exotic raw materials and luxury goods. *Alternate years.*



**AROL 226      The World of the Philistines,  
Israelites, and Aramaeans      3.0; 3 cr.**

An investigation of the material culture of Syria and Palestine from 1200–300 BC, with special emphasis on the origin and early settlement of Philistines, Israelites, and Aramaeans, the formation of their states, and the processes of urbanization. *Alternate years.*

**AROL 231      Ancient Near Eastern Religions      3.0; 3 cr.**

A study of ancient Mesopotamian, Canaanite, and biblical religious texts with emphasis on creation myths, divine beings, death and the afterlife, cults and rituals. This course also contains a complementary investigation of archaeological evidence for religious beliefs and practices. *Offered occasionally.*

**AROL 233/234      Fieldwork in Archaeology      3.0; 3 cr. (each)**

A course entailing participation in archaeological fieldwork to acquire practical experience of methods and techniques used in area surveys, excavation, building recording, post-excavation analysis, or ethnographic data collection related to archaeological fieldwork. *Annually.*

**AROL 235/236      Special Topics in Archaeology      3.0; 3 cr. (each)**

A course on the archaeology of a particular area, region (e.g., Anatolia, the Arabian Peninsula, Egypt, Iran, etc.) or subject. Such courses are offered by resident or visiting specialists in their respective fields. *May be repeated for credit. Offered occasionally.*

**AROL 291/292      Senior Seminar      3.0; 3 cr. (each)**

A seminar on research methods in archaeology. Subjects include the study and identification of material culture and theoretical frameworks, or explanation in archaeology. Students are expected to research specific topics, present the results for discussion at workshop sessions, and submit their final analysis in research papers. *Alternate years.*

**AROL 293/294      Ancient Texts      3.0; 3 cr. (each)**

An introduction to West Semitic epigraphy, including the origin of the alphabet and development of alphabetic scripts, presentation of the various Semitic dialects, and palaeography and selected texts for illustration. This course may be repeated for credit under different topics. *Offered occasionally.*

# Archaeology

## 39 Credits in Archaeology

Modes of Analysis	English and Arabic (9)	Humanities (12+39)	Social Sciences (6)	Sciences, Math, and Technology (6)
Lecture Courses (9+39+6+3)	1. Required Arabic course: ARAB 201A or 201B or any upper level course 2. Required English courses: ENGL 203(3), 204(3)	1. Required credits in the humanities: 12 credits including 6 credits from CVSP (see pp.152-54) 2. Nine archaeology courses (27 cr.) from the following: AROL 201, 211, 212, 213, 214, 215, 216, 217, 218, 219, 220, 221, 222, 223, 224, 225, 226, 231, 235, 236	Two courses (6) The academic adviser will recommend particular courses in these disciplines depending on availability.	One course in computer literacy and any other course in these disciplines
Fieldwork (3)		Required archaeology course: AROL 233(3) or 234(3)		
Seminar (3)		Required archaeology course: AROL 291(3) or 292(3)		
Laboratory (3)				Computer Lab (3)
Research Project (6)		Required history courses: HIST 286(3), 287(3)		

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