

## Fall 2019 History Practicum

**Class Number: 14645**

**HIS3942: Crime & Criminality**

**Instructor: Professor Heather Vrana**

**T 4 – MCCA 2186**

**R 4-5 – WM 0202**

What is history? What is the difference between popular and professional history? What skills and resources do historians need to do their work? The history department's Practicum is designed to introduce students to the basic practices of historical investigation--to help students develop fundamental skills in critical reading, analytical thinking, historical research, and argumentative writing. Although the focus will be on building these skills, we will also examine the complex histories of crime, criminality, and incarceration in Latin America. Historical criminal cases, but also fiction, political theory, memoir, film, TV, and music will comprise our sources. This course will help you develop the practical skills necessary for succeeding in other history classes, completing the major, and conducting historical research.

**Class Number: 14643**

**HIS3942: New York City**

**Instructor: Professor Sean Adams**

**T4 / R4-5**

**CBD 0210**

What famous American city has survived great fires, slave revolts, draft riots, terrorist attacks, Great Depressions, deindustrialization, disco, and King Kong? The answer is, of course, New York City! Join us as we explore a history that includes Dutch colonial practices, Evacuation Day celebrations, the Gilded Age's seedy underworld of crime, the construction of skyscrapers, the invention of hip hop, blackouts, riots, and more. The History Practicum is designed to introduce you to the work of history, and the content matter in this particular Practicum will involve the story of New York City, which will serve as a kind of "laboratory" for you to develop your skills for academic success: critical thinking, primary source analysis, constructing arguments, and making history relevant to contemporary audiences.

**Class Number: 14644**

**HIS3942: The Middle Ages**

**Instructor: Professor Nina Caputo**

**M W F 7**

**FLI 0115**

This course examines the meaning and content of medieval history and imagery in western culture. What (and when!) do we mean when we talk about the middle ages? How does western society understand and use references to the 'medieval'? What does this history mean to us today and why is it compelling? We will consider primary documents from the middle ages, as well as contemporary historical writing, film, literature, and political discourse. The class content is intended as an introduction to significant themes in the historiography of the middle ages, not as a comprehensive survey. While exploring these, you will work to develop the practical skills necessary for succeeding in other history classes, completing the major, and conducting historical research.

**Class Number: 14646**

**HIS3942: Lincoln**

**Instructor: Professor James Gallman**

**M W F 7**

**FLI 0113**

The Practicum functions as an introduction to the study of history. In brief, that means that you will complete a series of modest assignments that introduce (or reintroduce) you to some of the essential skills of being an historian. The course concludes with an extended discussion of how to organize a major research project, culminating in a final proposal. This particular Practicum is about Abraham Lincoln. You will be reading Eric Foner's Pulitzer Prize winning *The Fiery Trial: Abraham Lincoln and American Slavery*. You will also read various articles that address aspects of Lincoln's life and times. And, much of time will be spent examining a wide range of primary sources (newspapers, speeches, cartoons, photographs etc.) that provide the historian with evidence about the Civil War era. Note: Your independent work will not have to be about Lincoln, it will only have to be about this period of history.