**The Rise of Islam / HIST 309**  
Dr. Weitz  
Tues. & Thurs. 12:40-1:55

Introduces students to the history and religious traditions of the Islamic Middle East and North Africa, including the areas ranging from Morocco in the west to Iran in the east. The course examines the period from the coming of Islam in the 7th century until the rule of the Mongol and Mamluk dynasties in the 13th-15th. Our points of focus include the Middle East’s characteristic political and social institutions, the development of Islamic religious traditions, relations between Muslims and non-Muslims, and the social life of the region’s diverse populations.

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**The Crusades / HIST 311**  
Dr. Paxton  
Mon. & Fri. 12:40-1:55

This course will present an overview of the crusading movement from its origins in the eleventh century to the fall of Constantinople to the Turks in 1453. We will examine the development of the ideology of holy war in both Europe and the Middle East, the conquest of Jerusalem and the establishment of the crusader states, the expansion of the crusades to encompass campaigns against heretics, northern European pagans, and even political opponents within Europe, and the ultimate decline of the crusading ideal in the later Middle Ages. We will also study the lasting impact of the crusades: their contributions to European art, architecture, and music, and their continued resonance in political debates concerning relations between the Islamic world and the West.

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**Europe in the Reformation Era, 1500-1648 / HIST 325**  
Dr. Minnich  
Mon. & Wed. 3:40-4:55

An examination of the political, socioeconomic, intellectual, and religious backgrounds and the careers and teachings of the magisterial and radical reformers both on the continent and in England. Also explains the emergence of Catholic reforms and the religious wars and peace movements.