HIST/RELS 4910: Religion and Politics in the Modern U.S.
An old maxim says that you should never talk about religion or politics at the dinner table. Well, this course won’t be meeting at a dinner table, so we’re going to spend a semester examining the intersection of religion and politics in the U.S. from the turn of the twentieth century to today. This new course from Dr. Chris Babits will meet Mondays and Wednesdays from 1:30 - 2:45pm as a Web Broadcast.

HIST 4625: The History of Natural Disasters
It’s the end of the world as we know it! Not really, but now seems like a good time to know more about natural disasters! In this new seminar-style class, we’ll read widely about natural disasters in U.S. History, from floods and fires to earthquakes, hurricanes, and pandemics, and students will research topics they choose. All of these events were natural disasters, yet each was also an “unnatural” disaster, magnified by human actions. Choices made about urban planning, public health, disaster preparedness, and disaster response all shaped each event, and so did politics and poverty. History 4625 offers a provocative guide to the history of natural disasters in America, their fundamentally unnatural consequences, and what these disasters can tell us about our society and the choices we make. This new course from Dr. Lawrence Culver will meet Tuesdays and Thursdays from 1:30 - 2:45pm as a Blended Web Broadcast.

This course is designed to provide students with a general introduction to the collection of writings known as the New Testament (i.e., of Christian Bibles). In addition to reading the biblical texts themselves, the course is intended to introduce students to literary-historical methods of biblical research and scholarship. We will explore the New Testament texts in the context of their emergence: that of a fast-paced, urbanized, and rapidly changing world marked by empire, slavery, resistance, philosophical diversity, cultural exchange, and religious conflict and confluence. We will also consider what the texts have to say about their own composition and their role in this dynamic landscape. This new course from Dr. Eliza Rosenberg will be taught as a Blended Web Broadcast from 12:00 - 1:15pm, Tuesdays and Thursdays.

HIST 3350: War in the Age of Cinema, British and American Film of the Two World Wars (DHA)
Using film to tell the story of modern war is as old as cinema itself. As soon as the technology to make moving pictures developed, war-making states began recording their military endeavors and creating narrative, fictional films to bolster the national war effort. This class explores how the ability to make war films came of age with the invention of total war in the twentieth-century. By studying American and British films depicting the First and Second World Wars such as The Battle of the Somme (1916), Shoulder Arms (1918), All Quiet on the Western Front (1930), and Casablanca (1942), we will investigate film, history, and the nature of war itself. This new course from Dr. Susan Grayzel will be taught as a Blended Web Broadcast from 3:30-6:00pm on Tuesdays.

HIST 4660: Work and Migration in North American History (DHA)
Beginning in 1800 and moving into the present, students will explore the global economic changes that inspired diverse workers to migrate to (and within) North America. They will consider why people migrate and how changing political and economic structures encouraged people to move to particular places. In particular, they will study the historical emergence of wage-labor as a system, alongside forms of un-free labor, including slavery, debt peonage, and indentured servitude. Students will think about the kinds of social categories, including race, gender, and class that developed in the migrants’ home communities and in the places, they settle. By the end of the course, they will understand how those diverse communities crafted a variety of social movements to improve their working conditions and to assert their political power, including labor, community empowerment, civil rights, and sovereignty rights campaigns. This new course from Dr. Colleen O’Neill will be taught from as a Blended Web Broadcast from 10:30-11:45am on Tuesdays and Thursdays.