HIST 1112: World History Since 1500
Course Syllabus
TR 9:30 – 10:45 am
Fall 2017

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DESCRIPTION

This course will survey the history of the world from 1500 to the present. Since the history of this period is so vast, this course will focus primarily on the major cultural, social, economic, and political events that occurred. It will examine the various interactions and exchanges between regions and nations, as well as between individuals in history. Students will gain an overall understanding of the ideological, religious, and political changes that occurred over time and how these transformations led to the modern, global society that we live in today.

LEARNING OBJECTIVES

Students will be able to:

- demonstrate the ability to understand the political, social, economic, or cultural dimensions of world history
- understand the commonalities and differences among two or more societies, nations, or cultures outside the United States in regard to any of the following: language, literature, aesthetics, politics, economics, or social and cultural practices
- think historically

Special Note

Students, please carefully review the following information at this link: https://www.westga.edu/UWGSyllabusPolicies/ It contains important material pertaining to your rights and responsibilities in this class. Because these statements are updated as federal, state, university, and accreditation standards change, you should review the information each semester.

REQUIRED READING


**GRADES**

Participation: 5%
Quizzes: 10%
Creative Writing Assignment: 10%
Reaction Papers: 15%
Book Review: 20%
Midterm Exam: 20%
Final Exam: 20%

**Participation – 5%**

Attendance is mandatory in this class. Students need to not only show up for each class lecture but also come prepared and ready to discuss the assigned readings for that day and ask any questions over the material being covered. Please understand that only attending class is not the same as participating. Students who wish to receive full participation points should come to class having read all the assigned readings so that they are able to contribute to the class discussion each week. It is also imperative that all students participate on the two days we have book discussions. Students who miss seven or more classes will automatically be dropped a letter grade.

**Quizzes – 10%**

There will be occasional quizzes in this class. Two quizzes will be administered in class and be over the assigned books for the semester: *The Interesting Narrative of the Life of Oladah Equiano* and *Under a Cruel Star*. The other quizzes will cover the material learned in lectures and any assigned readings. You will not be notified when quizzes will be administered in class which is why it is paramount that you attend every lecture. There will be no make-up quizzes.

**Creative Writing Assignment – 10%**

Each student will also have to complete a creative writing assignment for this class. For this assignment, students will be assigned a variety of primary sources on CourseDen. The student will need to choose one of the primary readings to read. They will need to analyze the source, noting the period it was written, the author(s), the intent, and any events surrounding the document. Once this is done, the student will create a creative rendition of the primary source. This can include anything from a song/rap, a made-up dialogue between the individuals discussed in the document, a short video depicting the event(s) represented by the document, or any other creative endeavor the student can come up with completing. This assignment will be turned in on CourseDen.
**Reaction Papers – 15%**

Throughout the semester, the class will have assigned readings on five primary source documents and will view one movie. Students are expected to write a 2-3 paragraph analysis on these readings and the movie based on the question prompts that will be presented with them. These assignments should be turned in on CourseDen **prior to the beginning of class** on each day they have been assigned.

Be sure to consult the “How to Read Primary Sources: A Quick and Handy Guide” when analyzing each primary source. This guideline can be found in CourseDen and contains useful information on determining what is a primary source, who is the audience, and the intent of the source when it was written.

**Book Review – 20%**

Students are required to read two books during this semester. They must choose one of these books and write a 3-4 page review of it. This paper should include summary, analysis, and reactions. I must stress that this is not a book report. Analysis is key. Include the main argument of the book, how it relates to class lectures and other class readings, and whether or not you agree with the argument and why. You must support your point of view with evidence from the book, lectures, and readings. Book reviews will be due at the start of class on the day of our book discussion. I will not accept any late papers. More in-depth instructions for these book reviews will be posted in CourseDen a few weeks before the assignment is due.

**Exams – 40% (20% each)**

There will be two exams in this class, a midterm and a final. Each of these exams will be over material we covered in class prior to the examination. In addition, the final exam will not be cumulative but will only cover the events discussed after the midterm. Both of these exams will consist of identifications and essay questions and will be discussed in more detail prior to the first exam. Students will need to provide their own blue books for each exam.

**Make-Up Policy**

It is **your responsibility** to notify me if you are going to miss an exam due to sickness, a family emergency, or a school event. In order to make-up the exam missed, you must provide a valid excuse. All **make-up exams will be essay only** and **you have only one week** to contact me in order to take the exam you missed. If you fail to contact me or do not show up in order to make-up the exam when scheduled, you will receive an F for that exam.

**STATEMENT ON PLAGIARISM**

Students need to make sure they have read and understood the University’s Honor code when it comes to cheating and plagiarizing. The Student Handbook defines cheating as “using or attempting to use unauthorized materials, information or study aids” and it defines plagiarizing
as “representing the words or ideas of another as one’s own. Direct quotations must be indicated and ideas of another must be appropriately acknowledged.” Please understand that anyone found cheating or plagiarizing on any assignment will receive an F for the course and may face further disciplinary action.

For more information, please see the UWG’s History Department statement on plagiarism at http://www.westga.edu/~history/statatementonplagiarism.pdf and the UWG English Department’s guide for avoiding plagiarism at http://www.westga.edu/english/1138_2219.php

DISABILITIES ACT/ACCESSABILITY

Please submit an official Student Accommodations Report (SAR) to the instructor if the Office of Disability Services has authorized you to receive special assistance during regular class meetings and/or test dates. For testing purposes, appropriate arrangements will be made in accordance with the following procedures outlined by the Office of Disability Services:

“Most Students With Disabilities (SWD) are entitled to 1.5 time on all tests in classes in which they have presented their Student Accommodations Report (SAR) to their professor and made advance arrangements with their professor for this extra time per test...Students have two options for receiving testing accommodations. They can make arrangements directly with their professor or test at the Learning Support and Testing Center.”

COURSE POLICIES

Students are not permitted to record the instructor’s lectures. Exceptions will be made for those who have submitted a Student Accommodations Report (SAR) with the university.

Cell phones

Cell phones are not permitted to be out during class time. This means students should not check their phones or text during lectures and class discussions. I suggest that in order to avoid doing this all cell phones need to be turned off. Anyone caught with their phones out and/or texting will have their participation grade for that class period lowered. If you are repeatedly asked to put away your cell phone, you may be asked to leave the class. I understand that in rare occasions students may need to keep their cell phones on. If for any reason you need to have your phone on you, such as a family emergency, please let me know before class begins and quietly step out in the hall if you need to take a phone call.

Computers

I understand that for some students it may be easier to type notes during lecture instead of handwriting them. The only thing I ask is if you need to use a computer, please choose a seat in the front of the class. If you are seen to be using your computer during lectures and class discussions for anything not related to class (Facebook, Instagram, Snapchat, Twitter, etc.), you will be asked to put your computer away.
Email Policy
University of West Georgia students are provided a UWG e-mail account. The University considers this account to be the official means of communication between the University and the student. Because of this, I am unable to answer questions or discuss assignments sent from a student’s external email account. If you need to reach me by email please use either your official UWG email or CourseDen. In addition, each email should use proper format, including formally addressing me, signing your full name, and using proper grammar.

Tobacco Products
Tobacco products of any kind, as well as fake cigarettes and vapes (electronic or otherwise) are not allowed in this class. If you have a dip cup, an electronic cigarette, or any other tobacco products/paraphernalia, you will be asked to leave.

Food and Drink
Food and drink are permitted in class since it falls during regular lunch hours. Students are responsible for cleaning up any food or drink they may bring and should be courteous to their other classmates. If students do not follow these rules, then food/drink may be banned from the class for the rest of the semester.

COURSE SCHEDULE AND ASSIGNMENTS

Please be advised that this schedule is tentative and may change at any time over the semester.

Week 1
8/10 Introduction

Week 2
8/15 Exploration and Conquest
    Text: 362-377

8/17 Europe Transformed
    Text: 392-413
    Document: Read selections from Luther’s Ninety-Five Theses (page 396)
    Reaction Paper due in CourseDen

Week 3
8/22 The Islamic Empires
    Text: 419-445

8/24 Early Modern China and Japan
    Text: 448-472
Week 4
8/29 Africa and the Atlantic World
   Text: 377-383

8/31 Class Discussion – *The Interesting Narratives of the Life of Olaudah Equiano*
   **Book Review Due before class (if you choose this book)**

Week 5
9/5 Scientific Revolution and the Enlightenment
   Text: 476-487, 492-495

9/7 Revolutions in France and the Atlantic World
   Text: 488-491, 495-504
   Documents: *Declaration of the Rights of Man* and *Declaration of the Rights of Women*
   Reaction paper due in CourseDen

Week 6
9/12 The Industrial Revolution and Industrial Society
   Text: 512-522, 542-553

9/14 Growth of Nationalism and the National State
   Text: 522-537, 554-561

Week 7
9/19 Imperialism and Colonialism
   Text: 571-592
   Creative Writing Assignment due in CourseDen


Week 8
9/26 China and Japan in the Age of Imperialism
   Text: 599-624
   Reaction paper on *King Leopold’s Ghost* due in CourseDen

9/28 Review Day

Week 9
10/3 Midterm Exam
   *Be sure to bring a blue book to class.*

10/5 FALL BREAK

Week 10
10/10 The Great War
   Text: 626-638, 642-645
10/12  The Russian Revolution  
Text: 638-642

Week 11
10/17  Europe between the Wars  
Text: 646-653

10/19  Africa, Asia, and Latin America between the Wars  
Text: 656-681  
Document: Communism and the Family
Reaction paper due in CourseDen

Week 12
10/24  Rise of Fascism and Nazism  
Text: 684-691  
Document: Excerpts from Mein Kampf by Adolf Hitler
Reaction paper due in CourseDen

10/26  World War II  
Text: 691-715

Week 13
10/31  World War II and the Holocaust  
Text: 691-715

11/2  The Cold War  
Text: 723-747

Week 14
11/7  Soviet Russia  
Text: 750-765

11/9  Book Discussion – Under a Cruel Star  
**Book Review Due before class (if you choose this book)

Week 15
11/14  Communism and China  
Text: 765-780

11/16  Decolonization in Africa, Middle East, and India  
Text: 815-848, 851-855  
Document: The National Party’s Colour Policy
Reaction paper due in CourseDen
Week 16
11/20 – 11/24  THANKSGIVING BREAK

Week 17
11/28  Europe and the West
       Text: 784-799; 800-812

11/30  Review Day

FINAL EXAM

Our final exam is scheduled for Thursday, December 7, 8:00 – 10:00 am. Be sure to bring a blue book to class.

Final grades are posted on Banweb. I cannot discuss grades via email or over the phone, so please do not ask. It must be in person.