HIST 1112: World History Since 1500
Course Syllabus
TR 11:00 am -12:15 pm
Spring 2018

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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/UWG SyllabusPolicies/ 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


**Note: The bookstore has a variety of editions available for purchase. Only purchase one version of the textbook. Page numbers may vary so please see me if you need assistance finding the appropriate page numbers**

**GRADES**

Participation: 5%
Quizzes and In-Class Assignments: 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 and any assignments that week. It is also imperative that all students participate during our book discussion. Students who miss **eight or more** classes will automatically be dropped a letter grade.

**Quizzes and In-Class Assignments – 10%**

There will be occasional quizzes in this class. One quiz will be administered in class and be over the assigned book for the semester: *King Leopold’s Ghost*. 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.

In addition to quizzes, the class may also have small in-class assignments assigned occasionally. These assignments will range from short-answer and opinion writings to group work.

**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. 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 and presented in front of the class.

**Reaction Papers – 15%**

Throughout the semester, the class will have assigned readings on ten primary source documents. Students are expected to write a 2-3 paragraph analysis on six of these readings 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. There will be two weeks where two readings are assigned together. These should be analyzed together which means students only have eight possible reaction papers to choose from.

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 one book, *King Leopold’s Ghost*, during this semester and then must 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/statementonplagiarism.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
1/9  Introduction

1/11  Exploration and Conquest
      Text: 362-377

Week 2
1/16  Europe Transformed
      Text: 392-413
      Document: The English Bill of Rights (1689)
      Reaction paper due in CourseDen

1/18  The Islamic Empires
      Text: 419-445
Week 3
1/23  Early Modern China and Japan
      Text: 448-472

1/25  Africa and the Atlantic World
      Text: 377-383
      Documents: Selected sections from Equiano’s *Narrative* (on CourseDen)
      **Reaction paper due in CourseDen**

Week 4
1/30  Scientific Revolution and the Enlightenment, Part I
      Text: 476-487, 492-495

2/1   Scientific Revolution and the Enlightenment, Part II
      Text: 476-487, 492-495

Week 5
2/6   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**

2/8   The Industrial Revolution and Industrial Society
      Text: 512-522, 542-553

Week 6
2/13  Growth of Nationalism and the National State
      Text: 522-537, 554-561

2/15  Imperialism and Colonialism
      Text: 571-592

Week 7
2/20  **Book Discussion – King Leopold’s Ghost**
      **Review due in class**

2/22  China and Japan in the Age of Imperialism
      Text: 599-624
      Document: *Commissioner Lin: Letter to Queen Victoria* (1839)
      **Reaction paper due in CourseDen**

Week 8
2/27  Review Day

3/1   **Midterm Exam**
      *Be sure to bring a blue book to class.*
Week 9
3/6  The Great War
    Text: 626-638, 642-645

3/8  The Russian Revolution
    Text: 638-642

Week 10
3/13  Europe between the Wars
    Text: 646-653

3/15  Africa, Asia, and Latin America between the Wars
    Text: 656-681
    Document: Communism and the Family
    Reaction paper due in CourseDen

Week 11
3/19 – 3/23  SPRING BREAK!

Week 12
3/27  Creative Writing Assignment Due

3/29  Rise of Fascism and Nazism
    Text: 684-691
    Document: Excerpts from Mein Kampf by Adolf Hitler
    Reaction paper due in CourseDen

Week 13
4/3  World War II
    Text: 691-715

4/5  World War II and the Holocaust
    Text: 691-715

Week 14
4/10  The Cold War
    Text: 723-747
    Document: Selected sections from Kovaly’s Under a Cruel Star (on CourseDen)
    Reaction paper due on CourseDen

4/12  Soviet Russia
    Text: 750-765
Week 15
4/17  Communism and China
       Text: 765-780

4/19  Decolonization in Africa, Middle East, and India
       Text: 815-848, 851-855
       Document: *The Case for Apartheid* (1953)
       Reaction paper due in CourseDen

Week 16
4/24  Civil Rights Movements and the Rise of Conservativism
       Documents: MLK, Jr., *Letter from a Birmingham Jail* (1963) and George C. Wallace,
                 *The Civil Rights Movement: Fraud Sham and Hoax* (1964)

4/26  Review Day

FINAL EXAM

Our final exam is scheduled for *Tuesday, May 8th, 11:00 am – 1:00 pm. 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.