HIST 1112: World History Since 1500
Course Syllabus
TR 11:00 am -12:15 pm
Fall 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/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 and 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 assignments assigned occasionally both in class and through CourseDen. 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](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](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
8/16 Introduction

Week 2
8/21 Exploration and Conquest
   Text: 359-363, 406-428

8/23 Europe Transformed
   Text: 390-403
   Document: The English Bill of Rights (1689)
   Reaction paper due in CourseDen

Week 3
8/28 The Islamic Empires
   Text: 363-371, 456-473

8/30 Early Modern China and Japan
   Text: 476-496
Week 4
9/4   Africa and the Atlantic World
      Text: 432-452
      Documents: Selected sections from Equiano’s *Narrative* (on CourseDen)
      Reaction paper due in CourseDen

9/6   Scientific Revolution and the Enlightenment
      Text: 380-390, 512-515

Week 5
9/11  Revolutions in France and the Atlantic World
      Text: 502-512
      Documents: *Declaration of the Rights of Man* and *Declaration of the Rights of Women*
      Reaction paper due in CourseDen

9/13  Revolutions in France and the Atlantic World (continued)
      Text: 502-512

Week 6
9/18  The Industrial Revolution and Industrial Society
      Text: 598-620

9/20  Growth of Nationalism and the National State
      Text: 515-522

Week 7
9/25  Imperialism and Colonialism
      Text: 624-645

9/27  Book Discussion – *King Leopold’s Ghost*
      Review due in class

Week 8
10/2  China and Japan in the Age of Imperialism
      Text: 553-572
      Document: *Commissioner Lin: Letter to Queen Victoria* (1839)
      Reaction paper due in CourseDen

10/4  FALL BREAK

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

10/11  The Great War
      Text: 650-654
Week 10
10/16  The Russian Revolution
       Text: 664-665
10/18  Europe between the Wars
       Text: 654-660

Week 11
10/23  Africa, Asia, and Latin America between the Wars
       Text: 660-664
       Document: Communism and the Family
       Reaction paper due in CourseDen
10/25  Creative Writing Assignment Due

Week 12
10/30  Rise of Fascism and Nazism
       Text: 666-669
       Document: Excerpts from Mein Kampf by Adolf Hitler
       Reaction paper due in CourseDen
11/1   World War II
       Text: 669-676

Week 13
11/6   World War II and the Holocaust
       Text: 669-676
11/8   The Cold War and Soviet Russia
       Text: 679-688, 707-714
       Document: Selected sections from Kovaly’s Under a Cruel Star (on CourseDen)
       Reaction paper due on CourseDen

Week 14
11/13  The Cold War and Soviet Russia (continued)
       Text: 679-688, 707-714
11/15  Communism and China
       Text: 692-693, 718-722

Week 15
11/19-11/23  THANKSGIVING BREAK
Week 16
11/27 Decolonization in Africa, Middle East, and India
   Text: 693-704, 722-729
   Document: The Case for Apartheid (1953)
   Reaction paper due in CourseDen

11/29 Decolonization in Africa, Middle East, and India (continued)
   Text: 693-704, 722-729

Week 17
12/4 Civil Rights Movements and the Rise of Conservativism
   Text: 714-717
   Documents: MLK, Jr., Letter from a Birmingham Jail (1963) and George C. Wallace, The Civil Rights Movement: Fraud Sham and Hoax (1964)

12/6 Review Day

FINAL EXAM

Our final exam is scheduled for Tuesday, December 11th, 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.