HIST 105
World History II (1500-1800)
Winter, 2016

Course Description

The history of the Early Modern world is a tale of the collision of civilizations, the emergence of European nation states and the creation of new artistic, legal, religious, and scientific traditions in the West, and the rise and fall of great empires and imperial dynasties in the East. It is a tale of both continuity and change, of great accomplishment and equally great atrocity, of conflict and revolution. In this course we will explore this pivotal period in world history, paying particular attention to what one historian has called “The Great Divergence,” the ascendance of the West rather than the East, where Chinese power seemed destined to become the world’s major economic center. Ultimately, our discussions will reveal how critical political, social, cultural, economic, and even geographic differences – not to mention a large measure of luck – led to the dominance of western powers by 1800.

Course Objectives

Students taking this course will:

- Learn how Historians ask and answer questions about history
- Learn to read primary sources critically and secondary sources analytically
- Gain an increased appreciation of other cultures, as well as the unique place of their own in world history
- Practice developing and writing effective, supported answers to various questions
- Engage in comparative thinking designed to stimulate an understanding of the interrelated nature of world cultures and their subsequent influence on the course of historical continuity and change

Required Reading

The following titles are available for purchase at the UO Bookstore.


Additional Readings indicated with an asterisk (*) are available via Blackboard.

Grading

Discussion Section Assignments: 35%
Midterm Examination: 35%
Final Examination: 30%

Please note: All elements are required in order to receive a passing grade.

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Course Policies

Attendance

Lecture Attendance, while not mandatory, is strongly encouraged. You are responsible for all information given as part of any lecture or reading assignment in this course. The Midterm and Final exams will both contain questions requiring a thorough understanding of material presented in lecture. It will be difficult to do well in the course if you do not attend and take good notes.

Discussion Section Attendance is Mandatory. Your Section Instructor will take roll and evaluate your participation on a weekly basis. There will also be a weekly quiz, prepared paper, or in-class writing due during your section meetings.

One Absence Exception: You may choose to miss one section during the term for any reason and submit your paper (for a missed quiz, see your instructor for a one-page paper assignment) prior to or during the next Section meeting. If you do not make up the assignment, you will not receive credit for that week.

Regarding Excused Absences: As a rule, your instructors are able to excuse you only for verifiable absences; however, please do not attend lecture or section if you are ill. You are always welcome to visit your Section Instructors or me during our office hours in order to discuss missed material, though your first recourse should be to obtain notes from a fellow student. Note that PowerPoint presentations will be available under Course Documents for two weeks after the date I finish a lecture. You will need to provide documentation for any illness causing you to miss more than two section meetings.

Regarding Unexcused Absences: If you miss Section three or more times without an acceptable excuse, you will fail the Section portion of the course. Please note that I will then make a decision regarding whether or not you will be eligible to receive a grade in the course as a whole.

Section Grading Policies

Your instructors will grade your Section assignments on a “check” system (\(\checkmark\) = ‘A’, \(\checkmark\) = ‘B’, \(\checkmark\) = ‘C’), and this grade will form the basis for your Section grade for the week. However, participation counts – if your participation is good during discussion, you will receive a ‘+’ to your existing letter grade; if you do not participate but seem engaged, your grade will remain as it stands; if you are inattentive, clearly unprepared, or disruptive, you will receive a ‘-’ to the weekly grade.

Your instructors will accept no late papers or assignments. You must be present in Section from beginning to end of class in order to receive credit for your attendance and participation, as well as for any assignments or quizzes given or due during the meeting.

Required Format for Papers due in Section:

- **Margins:** 1” maximum top, bottom, left, right.
- **Spacing:** Double-spaced.
- **Font:** 12 pt. Times.
- **Heading:** Name, date, and title on one line.
- **Length:** Where indicated, Paper lengths are minimum lengths.

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You must notify me or your Section Instructor of any scheduling problems regarding either the Midterm or the Final examination by the end of your first enrolled week in class. I will consider these matters on a case by case basis, but you must realize that you may be unable to continue in the course if you cannot sit for the exams as scheduled.

Special Needs Note: If you are a student registered with the Accessible Ed Center as eligible for extra time on exams or for other specific needs associated with the class, please let me know immediately. Remember that it is your responsibility to make any arrangements necessary with the Accessible Education Center for exams or other accommodations.

In Case of Inclement Weather

Please consider signing up for UO ALERT if you have not already done so. To participate in UO Alert! follow the instructions below.

1. Log into DuckWeb (http://duckweb.uoregon.edu)
2. Select the “Personal Information” menu
3. Select the “Enter/Update Emergency Alert Phone” link
4. Enter your text-enabled cell phone number, including area code and then hit “Submit”

In the event of a closure or delay, you will receive a text notification from the University via this system. However, I may need to cancel classes because I cannot reach campus even though the University may remain open. Thus, you should plan to check your email for messages from me (via Canvas) regarding any cancellations if the UO remains open.

If the University remains open and you do not receive an email message from me cancelling the class, we will meet on that day.

If the University delays the start of classes until 2:00 PM, we will not meet.

Regarding Academic Misconduct

Regrettably, I must make a statement regarding the offense of plagiarism. Any violation of the University of Oregon’s academic policy on plagiarism will result in my taking all necessary administrative action to report the conduct directly to the Dean of Students.

I take the offense of plagiarism seriously, on an academic and personal level. If you are caught cheating on any assignment or exam, I will fail you on the assignment or exam at best; at worst, I will fail you for the course. Serious consequences up to and including expulsion from the University may result from the offense.

If you find yourself contemplating cheating as a last resort owing to stress, poor time management, or simple negligence, your first action should be to contact your Section Instructor to discuss alternatives to engaging in academic misconduct.

General Student Conduct

- You may refer to me as either Dr. or Professor Furtado. I will not respond to email messages that do not begin with one of those two salutations.
- No cell phone use during class. Phones should be set to silent.
• Please refrain from reading materials unrelated to our course during class.
• Please do not engage in conversations during lecture; remember that others may be trying to concentrate as they listen and take notes. If you have a question, please ask.
• The lecture hall is an expensive and uncomfortable bedroom. If you are too tired to stay awake during class, please go find somewhere else to sleep.
• If you know you will be leaving class early, please sit near an exit to avoid disturbing the lecturer or other students.
• You may use laptops or tablets only for taking notes, as activities unrelated to the course may be distracting to others

Note: You are agreeing to abide by these policies by continuing to attend this class.
I reserve the right to ban the use of electronic devices at any time for all students.

Schedule of Lectures

Part I: From Land to Sea

Week One: Eurasian Land Empires

Monday, January 4  Introduction to the Course
Wednesday, January 6  Mongols, Muslims, and the Ming
Friday, January 8  The Ottoman Empire

Read: *Ogier Ghiselin de Busbecq, The Turkish Letters, 1555-1562
Worlds, 383-396.

Section Meeting: Discuss section procedures and course requirements.

Week Two: The Indian Ocean

Monday, January 11  The Politicization of the Indian Ocean
Wednesday, January 13  The Takeover of India
Friday, January 15  The Conquest of the New World

Read: *Nicholas Kristof, “1492: The Prequel”
*Louise Levathes, “The Strange Kingdoms of Malacca and Ceylon”
Worlds, 419 – 430; Competing Perspectives, 448-449

Section Paper Due Today: Read Ogier Ghiselin de Busbecq, The Turkish Letters, 1555-1562. Then, write a one-page paper consisting of the following elements: one paragraph summarizing the qualities the author finds most important to the success of the Ottoman Janissary, one paragraph comparing the document to what you now know about the Mongol military successes, and one paragraph discussing the effect of each empire’s successes on trade.

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Week Three: The Atlantic Ocean

Monday, January 18          NO CLASS: Martin Luther King Holiday
Wednesday, January 20      The Columbian Exchange
Friday, January 22         The Slave Trade

*Paul Erdmann Isert, “Eleventh Letter” from *Letters on West Africa and the Slave Trade*
*Worlds, 430-436; 453-469*

Section Paper Due Today: Write a one-page paper answering Questions 1, 2, and 3, in the Questions for Analysis in *Worlds*, pg. 449.

Week Four: The Pacific Ocean

Monday, January 25          Tokugawa Japan and Petrine Russia
Wednesday, January 27      Oceania and the Enlightenment.
Friday, January 29          Midterm Examination
  - One Text and One Image ID
  - One short reading response linked to the “Big Questions” (35%)
  - Longer essay on the “Big Questions” (45%)

Read: *Charles Mann, “1491”*
*Worlds, 477-479; 519-523*

Section Paper Due Today: Equiano’s journey to the African coast and Isert’s subsequent description of the horrors of the slave trade and agriculture in the Caribbean illustrate the complex relationship between Africans and Europeans in the trade itself. Write a one page paper in which you describe how slavery worked in Africa as described by Equiano, and how Africans played a role in the subsequent European slave trade, including your evaluation of Isert’s proposed solution to the problem of slavery. Review for Midterm.

PART II: Comparing China and Europe

Week Five: The State

Monday, February 1          The European state system and the wars of religion
Wednesday, February 3      The Chinese Imperial system and the Manchu Conquest
Friday, February 5          Official religion in China and Europe

Read: *Judge Dee* I-XXIII (skim), 1-87
*Worlds, 436-440; 473-476*

Section Paper Due Today: Write a one-page paper answering Questions 1 and 2 from Worlds, Competing Perspectives, pgs. 526-527.

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Week Six: Patriarchy

Monday, February 8  Family Life in China and Europe
Wednesday, February 10  Popular Religion in China and Europe
Friday, February 12  Migration and Stratification in China and Europe

Read: Review Judge Dee, 61-87; Glückel of Hameln (excerpt)*

Section: Review Midterm; Discuss notetaking, assess study habits and performance.

Week Seven: Money

Monday, February 15  European High Finance
Wednesday February 17  Chinese Silver
Friday, February 19  A World Economy?

Read: Judge Dee, 88-136; Glückel of Hameln (excerpt)*
       Worlds, 453-469 (Review)

Section Paper Due Today: Take on the role of Judge Dee! Using your Judge Dee readings as a resource, write a one-page defense of the Imperial Chinese justice system explaining why their system is not (1) abusive, (2) inefficient, or (3) superstitious

Week Eight: Literacy

Monday, February 22  The Confucian Examination System
Wednesday, February 24  The Republic of Letters
Friday, February 26  Popular Literacy: the Opera and Novel

Read: Judge Dee, 137-223; Gluckel of Hameln (excerpt)*
       Worlds, 512 – 517

Section Quiz on Glückel, with comparative attention to the status and roles of women in Judge Dee. Compare and contrast economic systems presented in Judge Dee and Gluckel.

Part III: Why the West?

Week Nine: Ecology or Culture?

Monday, February 29  European Mathematics
Wednesday, March 2  Chinese Medicine
Friday, March 4  The Great Divergence

Read: Gottfried Wilhelm Leibniz, “Preface to the Novissima Sinica”*

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Memorial from Xu Guangqi to the Wan-Li Emperor
*Worlds, 547-561

**Section Paper Due Today:** Each of these men make statements regarding the cultures of the other. Write a one page paper in which you give at least one example from each perspective showing how each man got it right, as well as how they misunderstood, the other’s culture.

**Week Ten: Modernity**

Monday, March 7       “Western” Revolutions
Wednesday, March 9    Social Revolt and Political Rebellion in China
Friday, March 11       Conclusion

**Read:** Jack Goldstone, “The Rise of the West or Not? A Revision to Socio-Economic History”
*Worlds, 531-539*

**Final Exam Review:** Jack Goldstone’s essay will provide the basis for the comprehensive final exam essay question. Come prepared to provide an example of a way that Goldstone’s argument converges with, or differs from, the account of Western dominance developed in part III of this class.

**Final Examination**
Friday, March 18th, 10:15 - 12:15 PM, WIL 100

Have a Great Spring Break!

**REVISED 12/29/2015**