

REVISED SYLLABUS

History 202H-3: World Civilizations since 1500 (Honors)

TuTh 8:00-9:15am, 275 MARB

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THE HISTORY OF THE MODERN WORLD is a broad, challenging, and exciting topic, that brings not only a better understanding of our fellow humankind, but a better understanding of ourselves.

In this course, we shall investigate the international revolutions which have shaped the world of today, particularly the impact and legacy of the following: (1) religious wars and the religious Reformations; (2) imperialism and decolonization; (3) the Enlightenment and Scientific Revolutions; (4) nationalism and the two world wars; and (5) the Industrial and Information Revolutions. To illuminate these periods of rapid change, we shall analyze key primary texts, including poetry, philosophy, art, music, and propaganda, bringing in the different perspectives of political, religious, diplomatic, military, scientific, economic, and cultural history.

Here students will hone their writing, speaking, and analytical skills, as part of the aims of a liberal education at Brigham Young University. This course also contributes to the goals of history programs at BYU (see <https://learningoutcomes.byu.edu/wiki/index.php/History>) and is part of the BYU Honors curriculum.

You are expected to prepare for each lecture by reading the assigned primary sources, and the optional textbook if it is helpful. You will also write two papers and will take two examinations.

Texts: (*Available in the BYU bookstore or from various on-line booksellers, and in library reserve*)

The Koran (Penguin Classics), translated by N. J. Dawood.

Jean-Jacques Rousseau, *The Social Contract* (Penguin Classics).

Mao Tse-Tung, *Quotations From Chairman Mao Tse-Tung* (China Books)

Other required readings in short primary source documents are posted on Blackboard.

Optional textbook: Albert M. Craig, William Graham, Donald Kagan et al., *The Heritage of World Civilizations*, Vol. 2, Since 1500, 7th ed., 2006.

You will also choose a focus from among the themes below, reading both assigned books, including their introductions. (Presses are given in parentheses)

- A. Intellectual and cultural history. Martin Luther, *Three Treatises* (Augsburg); Gotthold Ephraim Lessing, *Nathan the Wise* (Bedford).
- B. Political history. Thomas More, *Utopia* (Yale); George Orwell, *1984* (Signet).
- C. Military history. William Shakespeare, *Henry V* (Oxford); Erich Maria Remarque, *All Quiet on the Western Front* (Ballantine).
- D. Medical history. Daniel Defoe, *A Journal of the Plague Year* (Oxford); Albert Camus, *The Plague* (Vintage).
- E. Family history. Shen Fu, *Six Records of a Floating Life* (Penguin); Leo Tolstoy, *The Death of Ivan Ilych and Other Stories* (Signet).
- F. Social history. Olaudah Equiano, *The Interesting Narrative of the Life of Olaudah Equiano, Written by Himself* (Penguin); George Sand, *Indiana* (Oxford).
- G. Economic history. Adam Smith, *The Wealth of Nations* (Modern Library) I: i-ix, III, IV, V:i; Max Weber, *The Protestant Ethic and the Spirit of Capitalism* (Penguin).
- H. Scientific history. René Descartes, *Discourse on Method, and Meditations on First Philosophy* (Hackett); Mary Shelley, *Frankenstein* (Oxford).

Assignments and Grading:

Participation in class discussions 5%. Includes in-class written work.

Reading Journal 15%. Typed or handwritten, weekly or semiweekly analyses of all the readings and movies, to organize your thoughts in preparation for class discussions, essays, and exams. The journal will be reviewed twice during the term.

Focus Paper (6-8 pp.) on the two books in the theme you have chosen. 25%. (More instructions to follow.)

Oral History Interview Assignment. (3-4 pp.) Interview a person who has lived through a major historical event, and write a historical report using additional research from books and articles. 20%. (More instructions to follow.)

Midterm Examination 15%. Covers all material Weeks 1-5. Includes a map quiz. Part of the exam will stem from the movie *A Man for All Seasons*. This examination will be given in the Testing Center.

Final Examination 20%. Covers Weeks 6-15, including the movie *Gandhi*, in the format of the midterm, with short answer and essay questions drawing upon the entire semester. This examination will be given as scheduled.

Extra Credit: Analytical review (4pp. each) of one or both of the assigned films. (up to 2% each, depending on the merit of the paper) Due on last day of class, April 15.

NOTE: All assignments must be typed and are due in class, according to the schedule below.

Attendance at all class meetings, except for review sessions, is required.

Schedule

(This syllabus is subject to change. Stay tuned!)

Week 1

January 6: Introduction: The Age of Discovery

Reading: Letter of Christopher Columbus; Samuel P. Huntington, "The clash of civilizations?," *Foreign Affairs* 72, no. 3 (Summer 1993), pp. 22-49; 21] **[Articles are on Blackboard]** [*Heritage*, 439-444, 501-504]

January 8: The Protestant Reformation

Reading: Martin Luther, 95 Theses. Toby Lester, "What is the Koran?," *The Atlantic Monthly* 283, No. 1 (January 1999), pp. 43-56; *The Koran*; [*Heritage*, 444-455, 469-472]

Week 2

January 13: The Catholic Reformation. Europe turned upside down.

Reading: Decrees of the Council of Trent; *The Koran*; [*Heritage*, 455-459]

January 15: Missionaries and Mercenaries: Empire and Slavery in the Americas, Africa, and Asia

Reading: *The Koran*; [*Heritage*, 506-526; for more background, 386-390, 395-398, 479-488]

Week 3

January 20: Ming and Qing Dynasties in China and Tokugawa Japan

Reading: Tokugawa edicts; *The Koran*; [*Heritage*, 251-254, 531-568]

January 22: The Ottoman, Mughal, and Safavid Islamic Empires. Discussion of the *Koran*

Reading: Commentary on Akbar; *Finish Koran for discussion.* [*Heritage*, 350-370]

Film Screenings of *A Man for All Seasons*: TBA

Week 4

January 27: Religious War in Europe. Discussion of *A Man for All Seasons*

Reading: Rousseau. And work on your interview assignment! [*Heritage*, 459-466]

January 29: Absolutist States in Europe and the Wars for Empire

Reading: Rousseau; [*Heritage*, 572-597]

Week 5

February 3: The Scientific Revolution

Reading: Bacon essays, Galileo letter; Rousseau; [*Heritage*, 637-646]

February 5: The European Enlightenment. Discussion of Rousseau's *Social Contract*

Reading: United States Constitution (1787); [*Heritage*, 504-505, 646-662, 667-670]

Week 6

February 10: The French Revolution. More Rousseau discussion

Reading: [*Heritage*, 670-680]

In-Class Team Assignment: Trial of King Louis XVI

DUE: Reading Journal

February 12: Napoleon and Nationalism in Europe and South America

Reading: Napoleonic Code; [*Heritage*, 680-696, 773-796]

In class: Reading Journal returned

Week 7

February 17: No class. Midterm exam in Testing Center

February 19: Classicism and Romanticism

Reading: William Wordsworth poems (1802-1806)

Work on reading your focus paper books too.

Week 8

February 24: The Industrial Revolutions

Reading: Communist Manifesto; [*Heritage*, 738-769]

February 26: The Revolutions of 1848 and The Unifications of Italy and Germany

Reading: [*Heritage*, 700-712, 718-729]

In-Class Team Assignment: German Parliament in Paulskirche, Frankfurt, 1848-1849

Week 9

March 3: The Scramble for Africa

Reading: Rudyard Kipling, “The White Man’s Burden”; [*Heritage*, 816-826]

March 5: The Scramble for Asia

Reading: Qian Long’s letter to George III, Lin’s letter to Victoria; Macaulay’s Minute;
[*Heritage*, 799-806, 832-848]

Week 10

March 10: Imperialism and Mass Migrations

Reading: [*Heritage*, 848-864]

DUE: Oral History Interview Assignment

March 12: Culture vs. civilization: World War I

Reading: Futurist Manifesto; British war poetry; [*Heritage*, 871-889]

In-Class Team Assignment: British Foreign Minister in July, 1914

Week 11

March 17: A new international order?

Reading: The Covenant of the League of Nations; [*Heritage*, 889-903]

In-Class Team Assignment: Mustafa Kemal's Revolution

March 19: Communism, Fascism, and Nazism

Reading: Mao Zedong; [*Heritage*, 903-923]

Week 12

March 24: World War II in Europe and the Holocaust

Reading: Atlantic Charter and Declaration of United Nations; [*Heritage*, 930-942]

March 26: World War II in the Pacific

Reading: Mao Zedong; [*Heritage*, 942-956]

Film Screenings of *Gandhi*: TBA

Week 13

March 31: Decolonization and the United Nations. Discussion of the movie *Gandhi*

Reading: Mao Zedong; [*Heritage*, 806-809, 1035-1039]

April 2: The Cold War. Discussion of Mao's *Quotations*

Reading: Kennan's Long Telegram (1946); [*Heritage*, 959-974]

Week 14

April 7: The End of Cold War/The End of History? Clash of Civilizations in the Balkans

Reading: Fukuyama, "The end of history"; [*Heritage*, 977-990]

DUE: Reading Journal

April 9: The Computer Revolution

DUE: Focus Paper

In class: Reading Journal returned

Week 15

April 14: Final lecture and discussion: Revolution and Globalization

April 15-16: Reading Days

April 17-18, 20-22: Final Examination in the Testing Center

Course Policies.

This course will be conducted according to university and departmental policies regarding the Honor Code, grading, academic honesty, plagiarism, attendance, examinations, evaluations, nondiscrimination, and other matters. You are expected to attend all lectures and should arrange with your fellow students to get a copy of their notes if you must miss a lecture. Makeup examinations will be allowed only in emergencies as defined in university regulations. Assignments must be completed by the deadline, or they will be penalized, and must be your own original work. Any assignment found to have been plagiarized, including from the Internet, will be given a failing grade of “E” and the incident will be reported to the Honor Code Office. At my discretion, the dishonest student will fail the entire course.

I will include three university policies in detail:

Honor Code Standards

In keeping with the principles of the BYU Honor Code, students are expected to be honest in all of their academic work. Academic honesty means, most fundamentally, that any work you present as your own must in fact **be** your own work and not that of another. Violations of this principle may result in a failing grade in the course and additional disciplinary action by the university. Students are also expected to adhere to the Dress and Grooming Standards. Adherence demonstrates respect for yourself and others and ensures an effective learning and working environment. It is the university’s expectation, and my own expectation in class, that each student will abide by all Honor Code standards. Please call the Honor Code Office at 422-2847 if you have questions about those standards.

BOTTOM LINE: Honesty is vital to you and to me. Be honest or face severe punishments.

Preventing Sexual Discrimination or Harassment

Sexual discrimination or harassment (including student-to-student harassment) is prohibited both by the law and by Brigham Young University policy. If you feel you are being subjected to sexual discrimination or harassment, please bring your concerns to me, your professor. Alternatively, you may lodge a complaint with the Equal Employment Office (D-240C ASB) or with the Honor Code Office (422-4440).

BOTTOM LINE: Sexual harassment and discrimination will not be tolerated. Please contact me or the Equal Employment Office (422-5895/5689).

Students with Disabilities

If you have a disability that may affect your performance in this course, you should get in touch with the office of Services for Students with Disabilities (1520 WSC). This office can evaluate your disability and assist me, your professor, in arranging for reasonable accommodations.

BOTTOM LINE: If you need special accommodations in the classroom or during examinations because of disabilities, please call 422-2767 and also let me know.