

WORLD HISTORY, 1500-PRESENT

Rutgers University, New Brunswick – HST (3 Credits)
College Avenue Campus – Campbell Hall Room A3
Monday/Thursday 11:30am-12:50pm – 01:506:102:01, Index # 18527

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Course Description

Events half way across the globe can impact our lives in a matter of seconds. In some ways the world we live in would have been unimaginable to people 500 years ago. Yet in other ways, our experience of a densely interconnected globe would feel quite familiar to some of our ancestors. Minor shifts in the Chinese economy had profound impacts on finance in Europe, antagonisms between Christians and Muslims were at a fever pitch, the indigenous peoples of the Americas were being dispossessed of their lands. So much has changed and yet so much has stayed the same, or more precisely the past haunts us in altogether new ways.

This course traces how the world became interconnected, and how and where it did not. We cannot possibly cover the entire history of the world over 500 years so instead we will focus on the technological, economic, political and cultural drivers of this long history of globalization. The course will also focus on the “Global South” (Latin America, Africa, the Middle East and Asia) rather than Europe and North America. In emphasizing these places and developments, I hope we can gain a greater understanding of when, how and why this long and complicated history shapes our lives today.

Core Learning Outcomes:

- h. Understand the bases and development of human and societal endeavors across time and place.
- i. Explain and be able to assess the relationship among assumptions, method, evidence, arguments, and theory in social and historical analysis.
- l. Employ historical reasoning to understand human endeavors

Required Texts

Elizabeth Pollard, Clifford Rosenberg, Robert Tignor et.al., *Worlds Together, Worlds Apart: Volume Two, From 1000CE to the Present* (New York: W.W. Norton, Concise Edition)
This is available at Rutgers Bookstore, all other readings will be available on Sakai

Policies and Expectations

Attendance: You are expected to attend every class and arrive on time. If you have a legitimate reason that forces you to miss class you must inform me as soon as you are aware of it. You will still be expected to cover any material from the lecture you missed. Unexcused absences will be penalized, after 4 absences 10 points will be subtracted from your final numerical grade and more than 6 unexcused absences from class will result in a failing grade. To self-report an absence, go to: <https://sims.rutgers.edu/ssra/> If you are late to class or ill-prepared, this will also

be reflected in your class participation grade. Students who attend every class will receive extra credit of 5 percentage points on their final exam grade.

Electronic Devices: All cell phones must be turned off or on silent during class. Laptops and tablets are not permitted in class except by special permission from the instructor. Use of Facebook, Email or other non-class related applications during class time will also be penalized.

Disabilities: If you have any learning disabilities or need other accommodations you must register with Disability Services and inform the instructor by the second week of class. See information here: <https://ods.rutgers.edu/students/documentation-guidelines>.

Academic Integrity: In all course work you are expected to uphold the university's standards for academic integrity. (<http://academicintegrity.rutgers.edu/academic-integrity-policy/>) Lapses in academic integrity include but are not limited to: cheating, fabrication, plagiarism, and facilitating dishonesty – these will not be tolerated.

Evaluation

Mid-Term and Final Exams: The mid-term exam will be in class, on the last day before spring break, and the final will be during exam period. These will consist of a map quiz and identifications. Identifications include questions that compare or connect different historical identifications. Make-up exams will only be provided for a verified medical emergency.

Essay: An essay prompt and further information will be provided in class. The paper should be 7-8 pages (double-spaced, 12 pt. Times New Roman font with 1 inch margins), and should use information from lectures, discussions and the reading materials from the course. You will first submit a draft on March 27, and we will provide feedback and then the final papers will be due on April 20. Both drafts and final papers must be uploaded onto Sakai by 9:00am on the due date. Late papers will be penalized 5 percentage points each day they are late (so from 94(A) to 89(B+) or 82(B) to 77(C+)). Extensions will only be permitted for valid emergencies and must be requested before the assignment is due.

Class Participation: You are expected to come to class everyday having completed the readings listed for that week and to thoughtfully engage with the readings and your classmates during class time. Every week you will also post a blog entry (1-2 paragraph response to the readings) and one discussion question based on the readings for the following week. Blogs/questions must be posted by 5:00pm on the Sunday preceding that week (for example: the blog responding to the readings for Week 3 should be posted on Sunday, January 29th). To ensure a diverse group of participants the class will be divided up into groups and each day one group will be particularly responsible for raising questions and responding to the readings in class.

This syllabus is subject to change, if any changes are made you will be immediately notified.

Grading Breakdown		Grading Scale		
Class Participation	15%	Percentage Totals	Grade	Credit Points
Mid-Term Exam	25%	89.5-100%	A	4.0
Essay (Draft 5%)	30%	84.5-89.49%	B+	3.5
Final Exam	30%	79.5-84.49%	B	3.0
		74.5-79.49%	C+	2.5
		69.5-74.49%	C	2.0
		59.5-69.49%	D	1.0
		0-59.49%	F	0

CLASS/READINGS SCHEDULE

Week 1

Jan. 19 Introduction

Recommended Readings: Worlds Together, Ch. 10-11

Week 2

Jan. 23 Islamic Encounters

Jan. 26 Discovery and Destruction in the Americas

Readings: Worlds Together, Ch. 12; Malintzin Primary Sources

Week 3

Jan. 30 Monsoon Empires

Feb. 2 The Middle Passage

Readings: Worlds Together, Ch. 13; Equiano, Ch. 1-2 and slavevoyages.org

Week 4

Feb. 6 Splendid Decline in the Muslim World

Feb. 9 Pirates and Warriors in Tokugawa Japan and Ming China

Readings: Worlds Together, Ch. 14; Selections from The Book of Five Rings

Week 5

Feb. 13 Atlantic Revolutions

Feb. 16 Napoleon in Egypt

Readings: Worlds Together, Ch. 15; al-Jabarti, Chronicle of the French Occupation of Egypt

Week 6

Feb. 20 Opium Wars

Feb. 23 Reform and Rebellion in British India

Readings: Worlds Together, Ch. 16; Sources of Indian Tradition, 36-43, 62-83

Week 7

Feb. 27 The Scramble for Africa and African Resistance

March 2 The Taiping Rebellion

Readings: Worlds Together, Ch. 17; Taiping Rebellion (Sources of Chinese Tradition, 213-30)

Week 8

March 6 Other Middle Passages

March 9 **MID-TERM EXAM**

Readings: Swema's Story and readings on Muslim Slavery (Hunwick & Powell, 165-87)

SPRING BREAK

Week 9

March 20 Indenture: A New System of Slavery?

March 23 Veiling and Unveiling

Readings: Worlds Together, Ch. 18; Rokeya Sakhawat Hussain, "Sultana's Dream"

Week 10

March 27 The Rubber Boom; **ESSAY DRAFT DUE**

March 30 The Great War

Readings: Selections from *Putumayo: The Devil's Paradise*

Week 11

April 3 Russian Revolutions

April 6 The Great Depression

Readings: Worlds Together, Ch. 19; Film – Eisenstein's Battleship Potemkin

Week 12

April 10 Partitions

April 13 The Bandung Moment

Readings: Worlds Together, Ch. 20; Richard Wright, *The Color Curtain* 125-154

Week 13

April 17 Globalization in a Box and a Barrel

April 20 Islamic Revolutions; **FINAL ESSAY DUE**

Readings: Worlds Together, Ch. 21; Marc Levinson, *The Box* Ch 1, 9

Week 14

April 24 Osama Bin Laden: From Cold Warrior to Terrorist

April 27 The Great Recession and the Asian Century

Readings: Worlds Together, Epilogue; Osama Bin Laden, Messages to the World, 3-14, 212-32

Week 15

May 1 Conclusion

Readings: Documentary - Disruption

FINAL EXAM - DATE TBD