

HISTORY 1050 – The Modern World

Course Description:

This course provides broad coverage of the formation of the modern world from the late 18th century to the present. It traces political, economic, social, and cultural developments and interactions among the principal regions of the world – Europe, the Middle East, Africa, Asia and the Americas – from the Atlantic Revolutions and their aftermath to our contemporary era. Topics include: the American, French and Haitian revolutions, the Latin American independence movements, industrialization, colonialism and anti-colonialism, nationalism, the World Wars and their aftermath, the Cold War, and globalization. Course Prerequisites: None.

You should familiarize yourself with Blackboard, if you do not know the software already. We will mostly use the “Course Readings,” “Discussion Board” and “Assignments” sections. Answers to your questions about technical aspects of using Blackboard can be found at <http://bb.wpunj.edu>. Feel free to e-mail me with any other problem or concern you might have related to the course.

Course Readings:

Worlds Together, Worlds Apart, Concise Ed. Ebook (with free InQuizitive access)
Pollard, Rosenberg, and Tignor, et al. General Editors. ISBN: [978-0-393-26559-0](https://www.wiley.com/go/9780393265590)

I have ordered this textbook ONLY as an ebook. You should purchase directly from the publisher Norton. To purchase ebook and InQuizitive access directly from Norton, do the following:

- a. Go to <https://digital.wwnorton.com/worldsconv2>
- b. Click on the yellow “Purchase Options” button on the upper right-hand corner of the page
- c. Check the box next to the option you’d like to purchase (NOTE: Click on the option for “Purchase both the ebook and InQuizitive.”)
- d. Click “Purchase or Register for Access”
- e. Fill out your information to create an account. On this page, you have the option to either to register a code you’ve already purchased from the bookstore or purchase access now. Choose the appropriate option and click through the prompts to confirm your email and purchase.

If you purchase the textbook elsewhere, make sure you get the latest Concise edition. You will still need to buy the InQuizitive package from the publisher.

All readings and assignments are accessible through Blackboard @ <https://bb.wpunj.edu>.

Course Requirements:

1. Discussion Board (12 x 3% = 36% of grade)
2. Quizzes: through InQuizitive on the Blackboard site (8 x 3% = 24% of grade)
3. Exams: three essay exams (12% & 12% & 16% of grade)

Discussion Board: Each student will contribute substantially to the class discussions. The basic structure of the course: each week we will cover one chapter from the textbook. I will post a few questions for discussion. In general, new discussions will begin on Monday. You will raise questions, answer questions, debate each other and me, and so on. I expect active participation from each of you for every week of the course, though you do not need to respond to every question or topic.

The discussions are meant to be informal. Your thoughts do not have to be fully developed. This is the place where we work our ideas through, test them on each other, wrestle with the issues raised by the historical material, and try to bring evidence to support our assertions.

The quality as well as the frequency of your participation counts toward your final grade. You do not have to post your comments to the discussion board right away. **BUT: if you don't post by midday, then you MUST respond to the comments posted since I first raised the general questions. You cannot simply repeat what others have said. That way our conversation can build throughout the section.**

Course Objectives:

- a.) To introduce students to major issues and events in global history from the late 18th century to the present, including but not limited to the wars of independence in Europe and the Americas, industrialization, colonialism and anti-colonialism, nationalism, the World Wars, the Cold War, and globalization.
- b.) To teach students to understand individual historical events and issues within the context of the interactions of peoples across different geographical regions from the late 18th century to the present.
- c.) To enable students to ask meaningful questions about historical developments and events related to causation, significance, and continuity versus change, across a range of distinct geo-political and cultural contexts from the late 18th century to the present.
- d.) To enable students to analyze and understand an array of primary and secondary sources related to world history from the late 18th century to the present by evaluating authorship, bias, context, and accuracy.
- e.) To introduce students to different interpretive approaches or historiographical debates related to the understanding of events and issues in global history from the late 18th century to the present.
- f.) To enable students to analyze contemporary world events by making connections with relevant historical developments from the late 18th century to the present.

Student Learning Outcomes (SLOs):

Students will be able to:

- a.) Identify major issues and events in world history, with an emphasis on connections and interdependencies, in the regions of Europe, Africa, Asia and the Americas from the late 18th century to the present. The historical issues and events examined will include imperialism, warfare, population growth, migration, economic development, modes of labor, medical and scientific exchange, continuity and change in systems of religious belief, popular culture and its evolution, the formation of political systems and reformist and revolutionary challenges to those systems, and the development of racial, ethnic and gender divisions and hierarchies and challenges to those structures.
- b.) Demonstrate an ability to situate individual historical events and issues within the context of the global interactions of peoples across different geographical regions from the late 18th century to the present.
- c.) Locate, evaluate, and apply information on historical developments and events in global history with an emphasis on development over time and the interdependencies among different geographical regions from the late 18th century to the present.
- d.) Demonstrate critical and analytical skills by evaluating authorship, bias, context and accuracy in the primary evidence (written, visual and material) and secondary literature in global history from the late 18th century to the present.
- e.) Identify different interpretive approaches or historiographical debates related to the understanding of events and issues in global history from the late 18th century to the present.
- f.) Apply knowledge of global history from the late 18th century to the present to the analysis and discussion of contemporary world developments and trends.

Other Important information:

Plagiarism: A word on **plagiarism**: it is absolutely not acceptable for you to use someone else's words or ideas as your own. In the discussions, you should feel free to bring in material from outside sources, but you must make clear that you are doing so. Do not simply copy from Wikipedia or some other online source. To present someone else's work as your own is cheating, and will result in failure of the course. It is okay, even good, to use someone else's work; just be sure to give credit. One of your tasks as a student – especially in the discipline of history – is to demonstrate your ability to understand and assimilate other people's ideas. You should WANT to properly credit your sources; it shows you are participating in the scholarly exchange that is essential to the academic mission. Defined briefly, plagiarism consists of the unacknowledged use of another person's words or ideas. If you plagiarize you will fail the course. Read the WPU Academic Integrity Policy at <http://wpunj.edu/human-resources/faculty-and-professional-staff-handbook/academic-integrity-policy-for-students.html>.

Academic Resources: The Undergraduate Catalog is here:

<https://wpconnect.wpunj.edu/catalog/?level=UG>. For help with academics, check out the homepage of the Academic Support Center @ <http://www.wpunj.edu/academicsupport/index.html>.

Message from the Writing Center: The Writing Center (<http://www.wpunj.edu/writing-center/>) provides one-on-one tutoring for any WPU student working on any kind of writing in any stage of development. We work with students on writing issues such as outlining, thesis clarification, organization, style, transitions, citing, and grammar, and we help them learn how to edit and proofread their own writing. Our aim is not just to produce a better piece of writing; it's to produce a better writer. Students can make an appointment at <https://wpunj.mywconline.com>, or stop by Preakness 124 or VR 3048.

Students who need help with personal issues should contact the Counseling Health & Wellness Center at Overlook South, 973-720-2257. See <http://www.wpunj.edu/health-wellness/>.

Important semester dates are available at www.wpunj.edu/registrar/calendars/fall.html.

Course Schedule:

Dec 26 – Course introduction. What is the Modern World?

Dec 27 – Chapter 14: Cultures of Splendor and Power, 1500-1780

Dec 28 – Chapter 15: Reordering the World, 1750-1850

Dec 29 – Chapter 16: Alternative Visions of the Nineteenth Century

Dec 31 – First Exam Due by 6pm

Jan 2 – Chapter 17: Nations and Empires, 1850–1914

Jan 3 – Chapter 18: An Unsettled World, 1890–1914

Jan 4 – Modernity and Modernism (readings tba)

Jan 5 – Chapter 19: Of Masses and Visions of the Modern, 1910–1939

Jan 7 – Second Exam Due by 6pm

Jan 9 – Culture and power in the 20th Century (readings tba)

Jan 10 – Chapter 20: The Three-World Order, 1940–1975

Jan 11 – Chapter 21: Globalization, 1970–2000

Jan 12 – Epilogue 2001–The Present

Jan 14 – Final Exam Due by 6pm