

# History 125 – 022

## Introduction to World History

### Fall 2018

Office Hours:  
Robinson B 369B  
by appointment

Instructor: Prof Stephen Santelli  
Class: Robinson B 113  
M 7:20 – 10:00 PM  
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#### Course Description

This course is a survey of world history from about the year A.D. 1300 up through the present. We will be focusing on major events, transformations in cultures and the developing connections between various world civilizations.

#### Themes

- A decentralized study of the world
- How different societies interacted with one another
- Globalization
- Characteristics that allow some societies to dominate others
- Empire building and colonialism
- Religious and Political systems
- Modernity
- The role of individuals in history
- How “history” can change

#### Teaching Method/Course Expectations

Teaching methods will include lecture, electronic media presentation, online videos, and classroom discussion and exercises. The textbook provides a good historical narrative that is essential for understanding the periods covered by the exams. **You will be lost in class if you do not complete your textbook reading assignments.** Lectures will NOT be a simple review of the textbook. During lecture, please quietly listen and take notes. Be sure to ask questions. After I finish a lecture, I will make my PowerPoints available to you on Blackboard.



### **Required Textbooks & Equipment**

1. Robert Tignor, et al. *Worlds Together, Worlds Apart*. Vol 2. 4<sup>th</sup> edition. W.W. Norton & Company, 2014. ISBN 978-0-393-92209-7
2. Elizabeth Pollard & Clifford Rosenberg. *Worlds Together, Worlds Apart: A Companion Reader*. Vol 2. 2<sup>nd</sup> Edition. W.W. Norton & Company, 2016. ISBN 978-0-393-93778-7
3. Trevor R. Getz and Liz Clarke, *Abina and the Important Men: A Graphic History*. 2<sup>nd</sup> edition. New York: Oxford University Press, 2016, ISBN 978-0-19-023874-2
4. Access to a computer that can connect to GMU email, Blackboard and the internet in general.

### **Grading Policy**

20%	Midterm
25%	Final
20%	Primary Source Responses
15%	Essay
15%	Quizzes
5%	Participation

### **Exams**

There will be one midterm exam and a final. Each will cover about a half of the course. The final exam will have a cumulative section. **You may not leave during an exam, only when you've completed it.**

### **Essay**

You will write an essay that analyzes *Abina and the Important Men*. There will be a handout that further explains this assignment later in the semester.

### **Quizzes**

Throughout the semester, you will be given in-class pop quizzes and online quizzes to make sure that you are keeping up with the readings and paying attention in lecture. **If you miss a quiz, there is no make-up, (that includes coming in late).** The lowest quiz grade will be dropped.

### **Primary Source Responses**

Students will be required to respond with historical analysis to assigned primary sources. You may use information from the textbook or lecture to help build your analysis. No outside sources may be used. For further instructions please refer to the handout, *How to Read a Primary Source* (available on Blackboard).

### **Participation and Attendance**

Attendance will be taken for each class. **More than 2 unexcused absences and you will lose 5 percentage points off of your final grade for every additional absence.** As an example, let's say your raw total score is 85% and you've missed 4 classes which is 2 more than you're allowed. Your final grade would be 75% (85-10=75) which means you'd go from a B to a C. Only showing up is half the battle: you will not do well if you never participate in class.

## **Class Behavior**

Being disruptive in class is not fair to the instructor or to your fellow classmates. Being disruptive includes, but is not limited to:

- Talking during lecture
- Texting
- Sleeping
- Leaving early (unless you clear it with me beforehand, you will be marked absent)
- Excessive lateness

If you are disruptive in class, **I may mark you off the attendance sheet and I may ask you to leave.**

## **Late/Missed Work**

A late primary source response or essay will lose 10 points each day it is late. It will not be accepted after 2 days. **No other assignments will be accepted after the due date.** If you miss the midterm exam, you will be allowed to write a paper on one of the topics covered in the exam with the highest grade possible being 60%. **There is no make-up for the final exam.**

## **Electronic Devices**

All **electronic devices** must be turned off or set to silent. You are allowed to bring a laptop or a tablet to class in order to take notes. These are tools to help you in class. **I reserve the right to ask you to email me your notes from class or to forbid you from using an electronic device if I feel it is disruptive.** If I believe your notes are insufficient, you will not be allowed to bring your computer to class. You are allowed to use a recording device to record the audio from lecture, but you must check with the instructor first.

## **Special Needs and Accommodations**

If you are a person with a disability and anticipate needing any type of accommodation in order to participate in this class, let me know. You must also make appropriate arrangements with the Office of Disability Services (703-993-2474) before I can give any accommodations. Their website is located at <http://ods.gmu.edu>

## **Academic Honesty and Plagiarism**

This class and all of your work as an undergraduate are governed by GMU's Honor Code: "Student members of the George Mason University community pledge not to cheat, plagiarize, steal, or lie in matters related to academic work." Plagiarism is presenting another person's words, ideas, or sequence of arguments as your own without attribution. We will discuss what constitutes plagiarism and how to cite sources properly in this course. If you plagiarize, it is my duty to report you to the Honor Committee. Punishments can include



failure for the course or suspension from George Mason. To read more about the Honor Code, the Honor Committee, and its procedures, go to <http://academicintegrity.gmu.edu/honorcode/>

**Any student found cheating, including plagiarism, will be punished. For the first offense, the student will receive a grade of “F” for the assignment and a maximum final grade of a “C”. The second time will result in an automatic “F” for the course and may also be referred to the Administration for additional action. Cheating/plagiarism includes but is not limited to:**

- Using your cellphone during a quiz or an exam.
- Taking other peoples’ work and passing it off as your own which includes not citing.
- Unless otherwise stated, you CANNOT use sources from outside the assigned material. This includes the internet in general.

### **Corresponding with your Professor**

If you send an email to your professor, the student MUST include a subject line, some form of salutation, a message written in correct English, and a name. Please compose your email in a professional manner (in other words, do not send me a text message). When emailing the professor, students can expect a response within 3 days.

### **Class Schedule** – *The instructor reserves the right to change the syllabus*

***I will be posting your assignments on Blackboard. Please be sure to check it regularly.***

Week 1 (8/27)	Introduction and the World of AD 1300 – <i>Ch. 10</i>
Week 2 (9/3)	Labor Day – NO CLASS
9/4	<b>Blackboard Quiz</b>
Week 3 (9/10)	Crisis in the 14 <sup>th</sup> Century – <i>Ch. 11</i>
9/10	Final Drop Day
9/16	<b>Primary Source Response #1 Due</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• pp. 44-47, Ordinance of Laborers</li><li>• pp. 48-50, Ibn Battuta, Visit to Mombasa and Kilwa, Rhila</li></ul>
Week 4 (9/17)	Contact, Commerce and Colonization – <i>Ch. 12</i>
Week 5 (9/24)	Worlds Entangled – <i>Ch. 13</i>
9/30	<b>Primary Source Response #2 Due</b>
Week 6 (10/1)	Splendor and Enlightenment – <i>Ch. 14</i>
Week 7 (10/8)	A Mercantilist World
10/8	Fall Break – NO CLASS
10/9	CLASS MEETS
10/14	<b>Primary Source Response #3 Due</b>

Week 8 (10/15)	<b>Midterm</b>
Week 9 (10/22) 10/28	Revolutions – <i>Ch. 15</i> Last Day to Withdraw
Week 10 (10/29)	The 19 <sup>th</sup> Century and New Ideas – <i>Ch. 16</i>
Week 11 (11/5)	Nations and Empires – <i>Ch. 17</i>
Week 12 (11/12) 11/18	Modernity and Crisis – <i>Ch. 18</i> <b>Primary Source Response #4 Due</b>
Week 13 (11/19) 11/25	The World Wars – <i>Ch. 19</i> <b>Abina Essay Due</b>
Week 14 (11/26)	The Cold War and Decolonization – <i>Ch. 20</i>
Week 15 (12/3)	Globalization; A Post-9/11 World – <i>Ch. 21 &amp; Epilogue</i>
Week 16 (12/10) 12/10 12/17	<b>Primary Source Response #5 Due</b> <b>Final Exam 7:30 – 10:15 PM</b>

