

HIST 125-017 – World History, Spring 2020

Instructor: Professor Claire P. Love

Time: R 7:20pm-10:00pm

Location: Planetary Hall 131

Email: clove1@gmu.edu

Office: Basement of the Johnson Center outside Starbucks.

Office Hours: R 5:00pm-6:30pm

Course Description

Beginning in 1450, this course will use global history to investigate historical trends both shaped by humans and that, in turn, helped shape human life. With a focus on culture and identity, as well as investigations into politics, economics, and society, this course will take a topical approach to examining trends in world history, focusing on specific parts of the globe including not just North America, but also Latin America, Asia, Africa, and Europe. Students will learn how to identify and describe important trends in global history, and will be able to determine distant and proximate causes for both historical events and events today. They will be provided with a lexicon with which they can describe the creation and evolution of historical identities on an individual and global scale. Through a combination of course readings and lecture, students will be able to develop an understanding of a timeline of important global historical events. This is a required core course.

Course Requirements & Grading

Course Reading: There is no required text for this course. All reading material will be provided through JSTOR.

Participation: Students are expected to attend all lecture periods. Attendance will be taken at the beginning of each class. If a student must miss a session that falls on a test day, they must provide adequate documentation satisfactory to produce an excused absence and generate a make-up day. Adequate documentation **does not** include a letter from one's parents or family members. In order to make up a missed take-home assignment, the student must also provide adequate documentation. Technical difficulties do not count as excused. If the student has a question as to what does include adequate documentation, please contact the instructor as soon as possible. The instructor will not provide lecture notes or copies of Prezi slides. Students are responsible for obtaining notes from missed lecture sessions.

Grading: Grading will be conducted on a point value scale to be converted to a percentage at the end of the grading period. The student can obtain up to a total of 305 points to be combined between take-home assignments and periodic quizzes. Quizzes will be worth a total of 200 points (50 each). Points will also be earned on take-home assignments, with 70 points fulfilling the grade requirement and the remaining points counting as extra credit points. In other words, to obtain a complete grade on the take-home assignments, students must receive 70 points total. Anything after that counts as extra credit. The film review is worth 35 points.

Take-Home Assignments: Each week the student is expected to complete take-home assignments that consist of finding the thesis statements in academic articles cited on Blackboard. These articles can be found in their entirety on JSTOR. The student may complete as few or as many articles as they like, with each correct thesis statement identified worth up to 2 points. Quiz articles are displayed in bold **Take-home assignments do not count simply for participation points. Full points are only available if the student completes the exercise correctly.** Once the student has reached a total of 70 points, any extra

points will count as extra credit. To complete the assignment, each student must print the page containing the thesis, underline or highlight the thesis, and turn it in to the instructor. If the student wishes to provide a hand-written or typed copy, the student must provide the thesis verbatim (copied word-for-word), the page number the thesis was found on, and either the title or author of the article. **Take-home assignments must be turned in at the beginning of class in person in hard copy. No electronic submissions will be accepted. Hard copies will not be accepted via the instructor's departmental mailbox. You may not complete take-home assignments and hand them in ahead of time. Late submissions are only allowed with an excuse, i.e. for illness, travel, etc. Adequate documentation must be provided. Technical difficulties do not count as an excuse.** Each student will receive one free "do over," allowing them to correct an assignment or hand in a missed one. Do-overs may not be used to replace grades. All do-overs must be handed in hard copy, in person, by 04/30/2020 in class. It is up to the student to keep track of missed assignments.

Quizzes: A total of 4 quizzes will be held during the semester. Each quiz will be worth 50 points and will consist of 4 vocabulary words worth 5 points each and 6 short answer questions worth 5 points each. Vocabulary words and questions will come from take-home assignments and lecture. Extra credit opportunities may be provided on the quizzes. Students will be provided with a study guide to aid in identifying which areas to focus on, as well as to familiarize them with the format of the quiz. Each quiz will pertain to its identified units. Quizzes must be completed in Blue Books, which can be purchased in the campus bookstore. The same Blue Book may be used throughout the semester provided the previous quiz pages are torn from the book prior to the new quiz. Each student may ask 1 question about the quiz while preparing to take it.

Movie Review: Each student must complete one (minimum) 3-page review of the film, *Barefoot Gen*, linked on the course Blackboard site. The rubric/requirements for this paper are posted on Blackboard and must be followed in order to get full points. By thoughtfully answering 10 questions in essay form the student may acquire up to 30 points. 5 points will be awarded for following formatting guidelines All sources used must be cited using MLS, Chicago, or APA styles. The paper is due via Blackboard on 05/04/2020 at 11:59pm. No late assignments will be accepted. All reviews must include in-text citations and a bibliography when outside sources are used. ***Students may not work together on the movie reviews.***

Extra Credit: Extra credit opportunities will be provided during the semester.

Course Policies

Cell Phones, Laptops, and Electronic Devices: While the use of electronic devices during class is not prohibited, if the student's use of said devices becomes distracting to other students or the instructor, the instructor reserves the right to ask the student to leave the classroom for the remainder of the class period. The instructor also reserves the right to request that the student email her a copy of their notes at any time during the class period. During quizzes all devices must be stored away, including smart watches, which the students may not wear during exams.

Late Policy: As noted above, **no late take-home assignment will be accepted unless provided with an adequate excuse. They also must be submitted in person in hard copy. No electronic submissions will be accepted. Submissions will not be accepted via the instructor's departmental mailbox.** Quizzes may be made up if the student has a legitimate excuse, i.e. documented illness, documented travel for athletics, documented family emergency, etc. It is the student's responsibility to provide documentation and schedule a make-up quiz with the instructor. It is also the student's responsibility to provide

documentation for missed take-homes and complete the assignments by the next attended class period. Notes from parents or other family members do not count as legitimate documentation.

Plagiarism: Don't do it. Plagiarism is very easy to identify, and all cases will be referred to the Honor Committee. Plagiarism can result in failing the course, expulsion, or loss of degree. By signing GMU's Honor Code you have pledged not to partake in plagiarism. For more information on plagiarism, please view this page: <http://writingcenter.gmu.edu/guides/plagiarism>. **Students may not use notes or other material when taking the quiz. Students may not work together on the Movie Review. All outside sources used on the Movie Review must be cited both in-text and in a bibliography.**

Academic Integrity: Academic Integrity: All George Mason University students have agreed to abide by the letter and the spirit of the Honor Code (<http://oai.gmu.edu/the-mason-honor-code/>). All violations of the Honor Code will be reported to the Honor Committee for review.

Academic Accommodations: If you are a student with a documented condition that warrants academic accommodations, please notify the instructor and contact the Office of Disability Services (ODS) at 703-993-2474. All academic accommodations must be arranged through ODS (<http://ods.gmu.edu/>). Additional support may be obtained through Counseling and Psychological Services (CAPS): <http://caps.gmu.edu/>.¹

Electronic Communications: **All communications must come for your gmU.edu email account.** As a rule, if you have a problem or a question, it is best to contact me right away. I will respond to emails between 5pm and 8pm MTWF, though I may respond during the business day on weekdays and over weekends, time permitting. **When emailing me, please put HIST 125 in the subject line.** This will prevent your email from going to my spam folder and ensure a prompt response. Emails sent after 8pm will generally not receive a response until the next day, so please keep that in mind when planning your coursework. I will stop answering quiz-related emails at 8pm on Wednesday nights before the quizzes.

Course Schedule

Each lecture will be devoted to one topic relevant to world history, and will be explored in depth.

Week 1 01/23/2020: Introduction and Review of Syllabus

- Reading: Syllabus. Come prepared with questions.

Week 2 01/30/2020: Slavery - A Global Case Study

- Take Home 1: Blackboard

Week 3 02/06/2020: Colonialism/Globalization

- Take Home 2: Blackboard

Week 4 02/13/2020: Quiz 1: Weeks 1-3

Week 5 02/20/2020: Revolutions

- Take Home 3: Blackboard

¹ Preceding 3 paragraphs taken from Michael Chang's syllabus:
<http://s3.amazonaws.com/chssweb/syllabuses/30411/original/HIST125-01-S17-Chang.pdf?1486495484>

Week 6 02/27/2020: Industrialization

- Take Home 4: Blackboard

Week 7 03/05/2020: Quiz 2: Weeks 5-6

03/12/2020 Spring Break, No Class

Week 8 03/19/2020: Imperialism

- Take Home 5: Blackboard

Week 9 03/26/2020: Turn-of-the-Century World

- Take Home 6: Blackboard

Week 10 04/02/2020: The Armenian Genocide

- Take Home 7: Blackboard

Week 11: 04/09/2020: Quiz 3, Week 8-10

Week 12 04/16/2020: World Wars

- Take Home 8: Blackboard

Week 13 04/23/2020: Cold War

- Take Home 9 Blackboard

Week 14 04/30/2020: Decolonization

- Take Home 10: Blackboard

Week 15 05/04/2020 – No Class

- *Movie Review: Blackboard.*
 - *Due 05/04/2020 @ 11:59 pm via Blackboard.*

Final Exam: 05/07/2020, 7:30pm-10:15pm. Quiz 4, Week 12-14.

The instructor reserves the right to alter this syllabus at her discretion.