

History 125, K02
Spring 2023
Introduction to World History
Modality: Lecture, Recitation

Instructor: Carey McCormack

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Office Hours and Location: G760, TTH 12pm-1:15pm, Zoom

Course Meeting Days, Times, and Location: TTH 1:30pm – 2:45pm, Room G105

Course Catalog Description: Analytical approach to world history overview that surveys major features of principal existing civilizations of world, as originally formed and as altered by key global processes including forces of modernity. Limited to three attempts.

Topics covered include exploration, colonialism, indigenous lifeways, the rise of the nation-state, the green revolution, the impact of a global economy, and global responses to conflicts. We will explore the historical roots of contemporary issues such as humans and the environment, global inequalities, migrations between the Global North and the Global South, and globalization.

Course Student Learning Outcomes: By the end of the semester, students will be able to (1) Distinguish between primary and secondary sources; (2) Develop written skills and create arguments based on evidence from sources (3) Describe the historical roots of inequalities between the Global North and the Global South; (4) Describe the political, technological, and cultural contributions of different world societies to globalization.

Required Course Materials: Marks, Robert B. *The Origins of the Modern World: A Global and Ecological Narrative from the Fifteenth to the Twenty-First Century*. Fourth edition. New York: Rowan & Littlefield Publishers, Inc., 2020. You can purchase the ebook online at <https://rowman.com/ISBN/9781538127025/The-Origins-of-the-Modern-World-A-Global-and-Environmental-Narrative-from-the-Fifteenth-to-the-Twenty-First-Century-Fourth-Edition> and use promo code STUDENT30 to get 30% off. A used physical copy of the book can also be purchased on https://www.amazon.com/Origins-Modern-World-Environmental-Twenty-First/dp/1538127032/ref=sr_1_1?crid=341RNUDUCGYC2&keywords=origins+of+the+modern+world+4th+edition&qid=1675288840&srefix=origins+of+the+modern+world+%2Caps%2C144&sr=8-1 **Additional Readings:** Additional readings will be available online or posted on Blackboard, as indicated in the course calendar (below).

Enrollment Policy: Students are responsible for verifying their enrollment in this class. Schedule adjustments should be made by the deadlines published in the Schedule of Classes. (Deadlines each semester are published in the Schedule of Classes available from the Registrar's Website registrar.gmu.edu.)
Last Day to Add **February 27**



Last Day to Drop **March 31**

After the last day to drop a class, withdrawing from this class requires the approval of the dean and is only allowed for nonacademic reasons.

Undergraduate students may choose to exercise a selective withdrawal. See the Schedule of Classes for selective withdrawal procedures.

Course Assessments and Requirements: Your grade in this class will be based on 100 total points. Each assignment is worth a portion of these points.

Group Discussion/In Class Projects (25 points): Each class we will discuss course readings and engage in group projects connected to historical themes and events. Groups will complete in class projects turned in at the end of class (1 per class, worth 1 point each) and will be a pass/fail grade. Students must come prepared to discuss the readings and participate in order to earn these points. Students can miss up to three classes without losing points and will not be able to complete these assignments without attending class. Exceptions will be made for students with documented illnesses or documented accommodations.

Primary Source analysis (20 points): You will write a primary source analysis based on primary sources from the required readings. Each week, we will read a primary source and students will choose one to analyze and use lectures and secondary sources (textbook and additional readings) to back up your analysis. Details on the parameters of these papers will be provided on Blackboard.

Midterm Exam (20 points): This will be an exam on the readings and lectures from the first half of the semester. The exam contains 10 multiple choice questions about the primary source readings and 1 essay question about various topics and historical events discussed in class. This will be an open book exam.

Final Exam (30 points): This will be an exam on the readings, lectures and class projects from the second half of the semester. The exam contains 10 multiple choice questions about the primary source readings, 4 identification short answer questions, and one essay question about various topics and historical events discussed in class. This will be an open book exam.

Field Trip Reflection (5 points): Students will write a reflection about a self-guided field trip based on various options listed on the assignment prompt. This assignment can be completed at any time during the semester on any subject of world history, but it must be submitted no later than week 14. **No late assignments will be accepted since each student has 15 weeks to complete the assignment.** This is a pass/fail assignment.

Course Grading:

Letter Grade	Total Points Earned
A (Excellent)	90 - 100
B	80 – 89
C	70 – 79
D	60 – 69
F	0 - 59

Academic Integrity: George Mason University has an Honor Code, which requires all members of this community to maintain the highest standards of academic honesty and integrity. Cheating, plagiarism, lying, and stealing are all prohibited. All violations of the Honor Code will be

reported to the Honor Committee. If you are unsure what plagiarism is, you should read through this website: <http://mason.gmu.edu/~montecin/plagiarism.htm>

Students with Disabilities: Disability Services at George Mason University is committed to providing equitable access to learning opportunities for all students by upholding the laws that ensure equal treatment of people with disabilities. If you are seeking accommodations for this class, please first visit <http://ds.gmu.edu/> for detailed information about the Disability Services registration process. Then please discuss your approved accommodations with me. Disability Services is located in Student Union Building I (SUB I), Suite 2500. Email: ods@gmu.edu Phone: (703) 993-2474

MasonLive/EMAIL (GMU Email): Students are responsible for the content of university communications sent to their George Mason University email account and are required to activate their account and check it regularly. All communication from the university, college, school, and program will be sent to students solely through their Mason email account. Once you sign up for your Patriot Pass, your passwords will be synchronized, and you will use your Patriot Pass username and password to log in to the following systems: Blackboard, University Libraries, MasonLive, myMason, Patriot Web.

University Policies: Students must follow the university policies. See <http://universitypolicy.gmu.edu>

Responsible Use of Computing: Students must follow the university policy for Responsible Use of Computing. See <http://universitypolicy.gmu.edu/1301gen.html>

Weekly Schedule: Below is a schedule for each day, but is subject to change. Find additional readings and assignments on Blackboard. Read all assigned materials before coming to class.

Week 1: Introduction/The Biological Old Regime (Feb. 21 - Feb. 23)

Tuesday: Introduction to world history, course expectations.

Thursday: Read Marks, chapter 1.

Week 2: Muslim Empires (Feb. 28 – Mar. 2)

Tuesday: Read Marks, chapter 2.

Thursday: Ibn Battuta, *The Travels of Ibn Battuta*, ca. 1350 (Blackboard).

Week 3: Empires in the Americas (Mar. 7 – Mar. 9)

Tuesday: Read Marks Chapter 3 to page 87 (end before “The Conquest of the Americas”)

Thursday: Read Goucher and Walton, “Empires in the Americas,” (Blackboard).

Week 4: Global Exploration and The Columbian Exchange (Mar. 14 – Mar. 16)

Tuesday: Read Marks Chapter 3 from “The Conquest of the Americas (pg. 87) to before “The Global Crisis of the Seventeenth century” (pg. 100).

Thursday: Read Toribio de Benavente Motolinia, *History of Indians in New Spain* 1536-1541 (Blackboard).

Week 5: Early Modern Revolutions (Mar. 21 – Mar. 23)

Tuesday: Read Marks “The Global Crisis of the Seventeenth century” (pg. 100) to the end of the chapter (pg. 108) and “Declaration of the Rights of Man and Citizens,” August 26, 1789, (Blackboard).

Thursday: Read “Declaration of the Rights of Woman,” (Blackboard) and “The Haitian Constitution,” 1805, (Blackboard).

Week 6: Slavery, Abolition and Unfree Labor (Mar. 28 – Mar. 30)

Tuesday: Read “Servitude and the Changing Face of the Demand For Labor in the Indian Ocean World” (Blackboard).

Thursday: Read Olaudah Equiano, *The Interesting Narrative of the Life of Olaudah Equiano, or Gustavus Vassa, the African*, 1789 (Blackboard).

Week 7: Course Review and Midterm Exam (Apr. 4 – Apr. 6)

Tuesday: Course review.

Thursday: **Midterm Exam** online.

Week 8: Industrial Revolution (Apr. 11 – Apr. 13)

Tuesday: Read Marks chapter 4 and stop before “Coal, Iron, and Steam” (pg. 125).

Thursday: Read the rest of Marks chapter 4 (pg. 125 to the end of the chapter) and “Children’s Employment Commission,” 1842 (Blackboard).

Week 9: The Gap and Scientific Racism (Apr. 18 – Apr. 20)

Tuesday: Read Marks chapter 5 and stop before “Social Darwinism and Self-Congratulatory Eurocentrism” (pg. 172).

Thursday: Read the rest of Marks chapter 5 (pg. 172 to the end of the chapter) and Rudyard Kipling, “The White Man’s Burden,” <http://historymatters.gmu.edu/d/5478/>. (Link on Blackboard)

Week 10: World War I and the Thirty-Year Crisis (Apr. 25 – Apr. 27)

Tuesday: Read Marks chapter 6 and stop before “Normalcy?” (pg. 183).

Thursday: Read Marks from “Normalcy” (pg. 183) and stop before “World War II” (pg. 186) and “Report on the Deportation of Armenians from Zeitun, July 21, 1915”

<https://www.armenian-genocide.org/us-7-21-15-text.html> (Blackboard). **Primary source analysis due on Blackboard by 11:59pm.**

May 1st to May 5th – No Class

Week 11: WWII, Genocide, and Comfort Women (May 9 – May 11)

Tuesday: Read Marks from “World War II” (pg. 186) and stop before “Part II” (pg. 187) and watch Eva Kor’s testimony video and Comfort Women Wanted video (both on Blackboard).

Thursday: Read Bayly *Forgotten Armies* (Blackboard).

Week 12: Decolonization and 20th Cold War Conflicts (May 16 – May 18)

Tuesday: Read Marks from “Part II” and stop before “Development and Underdevelopment” (pg. 192).

Thursday: Read Marks from “Development and Underdevelopment” (pg. 192) and stop before “Third World Developmentalism” (pg. 200) and read Tran Dinh Tru, *Ship of Fate: Memoir of a Vietnamese Repatriate*, (Blackboard).

Week 13: The Green Revolution and the Anthropocene (May 23 – May 25)

Tuesday: Read Marks from “Third World Developmentalism” (pg. 200) and stop before “Part III” (pg. 210).

Thursday: Read Marks from “Part IV: The Great Departure” to the end of the chapter and read “Tragedy of the Commons” (Blackboard).

Week 14: The Global War on Terror and 20th Century Globalization (May 30 – Jun. 1)

Tuesday: Read Marks from “Part III” (pg. 210) and stop before “Global Free Trade” (pg. 215).

Thursday: Read Marks from “Global Free Trade” (pg. 215) and stop at “Part IV” (pg. 223).

Documentary Review due by 11:59pm.

Week 15: Final Exam Week (Jun. 5 and Jun. 12)

Tuesday – Final Exam Review

Thursday June 12 – **Final exam 12:30pm to 3:15pm**