

INTRODUCTION TO WORLD HISTORY HISTORY 125-A04

Summer 2023 Session A
Lecture MWF 1:20-4:20 pm Online Synchronous
5/22-6/23/2022

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Office hrs: T 1:20-4:20 online

This course will provide an understanding of the processes that have shaped the modern world. The course traces the developments that reorganized peoples, reshaped cultures and generated new economies because of the interaction between major regions of the world from 1500 on. The focus of the course will be on processes of interaction and networks resulting from mercantile expansion, the industrial revolution, imperialism, nationalism and their legacies in the post-colonial period.

By the conclusion of the course, students should have a grasp of the major chronology of world history since 1500, an ability to demonstrate the changes, continuities, and connections between major world regions during this period, and the ability to assess and evaluate the sources, both primary and secondary, textual and other, used in providing explanation and interpretation of world events and world history. Students will be expected to demonstrate these outcomes through essay exams and oral participation.

This course fulfills a Mason Core requirement. As such, it will complement students' chosen field of study, serve as a means of discovery, provide a foundation for learning and connecting to new areas of interest, and equip students with qualities toward graduating with a George Mason degree. These qualities are identified as: striving to be critical and creative scholars, self-reflective learners, ethical and inquiry-based citizens, and thinkers and problem-solvers.

READINGS: The following books are all **required** and available at the bookstore.

Textbooks:

Pollard, Rosenberg, Tignor, et. al. *Worlds Together Worlds Apart*, Concise 2E edition, Norton, 2019

Gurnah, A., *Afterlives*, Bloomsbury, 2020.

REQUIREMENTS AND GRADE DISTRIBUTION:

Students are required to have functioning cameras and mics on their laptops, or to acquire webcams, for this course. Cameras must be turned on during class.

It is imperative that students complete all the assigned readings for each class before that class. Participation (30%) is expected and strongly suggested as failure to do so will adversely affect the student's grade. There will be two exams: a midterm (35%) and a final (35%). Each exam will involve identifications and essays. **Dates for both exams** are absolutely **non-negotiable**; so make sure to plan work, study, and vacations around these dates. There will be no exceptions made for these reasons. Study guides with further instructions for both exams will be provided at the appropriate times.

ADDITIONAL:

ACADEMIC INTEGRITY

GMU is an Honor Code university; please see the University Catalog for a full description of the code and the honor committee process. The principle of academic integrity is taken very seriously and violations are treated gravely. What does academic integrity mean in this course? Essentially this: when you are responsible for a task, you will perform that task. When you rely on someone else's work in an aspect of the performance of that task, you will give full credit in the proper, accepted form. Another aspect of academic integrity is the free play of ideas. Vigorous discussion and debate are encouraged in this course, with the firm expectation that all aspects of the class will be conducted with civility and respect for differing ideas, perspectives, and traditions. When in doubt (of any kind) please ask for guidance and clarification.

GMU EMAIL ACCOUNTS

Students must activate their GMU email accounts to receive important University Information, including messages related to this class.

OFFICE OF DISABILITY SERVICES

If you are a student with a disability and you need academic accommodations, please see me and contact the Office of Disability Services (ODS) at 993-2474. All academic accommodations must be arranged through the ODS. <http://ods.gmu.edu>

OTHER USEFUL CAMPUS RESOURCES:

WRITING CENTER: A114 Robinson Hall; (703) 993-1200; <http://writingcenter.gmu.edu>

UNIVERSITY LIBRARIES "Ask a Librarian" <http://library.gmu.edu/mudge/IM/IMRef.html>

COUNSELING AND PSYCHOLOGICAL SERVICES (CAPS): (703) 993-2380;
<http://caps.gmu.edu>

UNIVERSITY POLICIES

The University Catalog, <http://catalog.gmu.edu>, is the central resource for university policies affecting student, faculty, and staff conduct in university affairs.

TENTATIVE LECTURE AND ASSIGNMENT SCHEDULE

Week 1
May 22,24,26

Toward a World Together

M: Tignor: "Preface", "About the Authors", "Geography of ancient and modern worlds", Ch. 10

W: Ch. 11

F: Ch. 12

Week 2
May 31,June 2

Emergence of a New World Order

M: No Class, Memorial Day

W: Ch. 13, 14

F: Ch.15, **Midterm Exam**

Week 3
June 5,7,9

"An Unsettled World"

M: Ch. 16

W: Ch. 17

F: Ch. 18

Week 4
June 12,14,16

The Modern World

M: Ch. 19

W: Ch. 20

F: *Afterlives* Discussion

Week 5
June 21,23

Globalization and its Consequences

M: No Class, Juneteenth Commemoration

W: Ch. 21, Epilogue and Review of Course Material

F: No Class **Final Exam Due**