



National Taiwan University of Science and Technology

2021 Summer Program

HIS 120 Introduction to World History

Course Outline

Course Code: HIS 120

Instructor: Dr. Susan Hinely

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Credit: 4

Course Description

This course will be conducted on the basis of two divergent goals. Our first goal is to achieve basic fluency in the dominant, internationally employed frameworks for structuring the modern global past, with a focus on the prevailing narratives of the 19th and 20th centuries. Our second goal is to practice thinking historically, that is, to critique the dominant narratives of world history using the tools of evidence, perspective, logic, and imagination. Why do these narratives shape our historical knowledge instead of others? In pursuit of these goals, we will:

- *Briefly review the period of the “Columbian Exchange,” when transatlantic slavery and European conquest of indigenous American societies provided the West with the resources necessary to disrupt existing world empires and to create the first fully global system of commerce.*
- *Study the wave of political revolts that rocked the globe in the 18th and 19th c., from the American and French revolutions through the rejection of Spanish authority in South America.*
- *Analyze the fundamental shift in world history brought by the large-scale conversion to fossil fuels and the many “industrializations” that accompanied this development.*
- *Trace the violence of the “New Imperialism” and the demise of its ideological*



foundation in the cataclysm of world war.

- *Discuss the challenges to liberal democracy and colonial domination that culminated in another, far more disastrous world war.*
- *Study the global geopolitics and cultural dissemination of the second half of the 20th c.*
- *Briefly analyze the new globalism made possible by the digital revolution.*

Required Readings

- Valerie Hansen and Kenneth R. Curtis, *Voyages in World History. Brief Edition. Volume 2: Since 1500*. Second Edition. Cengage, 2016.
- Alice Conklin and Ian Fletcher (eds). *European Imperialism, 1830-1930: Climax and Contradiction*. Houghton Mifflin Co., 1999.
- Erez Manela, *The Wilsonian Moment: Self-Determination and the International Origins of Anticolonial Nationalism*. Oxford, 2009.
- Thomas Mann, *Mario and the Magician*. Orig. pub. 1929. Any edition will do.
- Additional required primary readings and supplementary materials will be made available to the students.

Requirements

- Quizzes and Exercises assigned during lecture and discussion sessions.
- Midterm and Final Examinations in short answer and essay format.

Evaluation

Quizzes and Exercises	25%
Midterm	35%
Final	40%
	100%

Grading

A+:	95-100
A :	87-94
A-:	82-86
B+:	78-81
B :	75-77
B -:	71-74
C+:	68-70
C :	65-67
C -:	61-64
D :	55-60

Class Policies



- Each student must pursue his or her academic goals honestly and be personally accountable for all submitted work. Representing another person's work as your own is always wrong. All work other than the student's must be cited appropriately. Any instance of academic dishonesty will result in penalties ranging from failure of the assignment, to failure of the course, to ejection from the program.
- Exercises, quizzes, and exams must be turned in on time to receive full credit.
- Each student is expected to read the assigned materials, listen to the recordings, take notes during the recordings and participate in all group on-line activities that may be scheduled.

Tentative Course Schedule

All assignments should be read *before* watching the lectures to which they relate.

Week One

Lecture One: Introduction. Global Empires on the Cusp of Modernity.

Hansen & Curtis ["HC"]: 325-335, 356-371, 375-386.

Lecture Two: European Conquest, the Atlantic Slave Trade, and Global Commerce.

HC: 336-355, 389-417, 421-439, 443-449, 454-463. Philis Wheatley: *Poems on Various Subjects*.

Lecture Three: Empire and Modern Science.

HC: 464-473, 477-487.

Lecture Four: The Science of Society

HC: 473-477. Conklin & Fletcher ["CF"]: 67-74.

Lecture Five: Liberal Democratic Revolutions

HC: 488-513.

Lecture Six: The Ideology of Self-Determination.

Manela ["M"]: 19-34.

Lecture Seven: Carbon Energy and Global Commerce.

HC: 514-521. CF: 1-9.

Lecture Eight: Carbon Energy and Urbanization.

William Blake, "Jerusalem." Friedrich Engels, *The Condition of the Working Class in England* (excerpts).

Week Two

Lecture Nine: Responses to Industrialization. Gender and the Modern Family.

HC: 521-540.



Lecture Ten: Mid-Century Revolts and Civil Wars.

HC: 541-543, 553-555, 567-587.

Lecture Eleven: The Second Industrial Revolution.

HC: 592. CF: 141-157.

Lecture Twelve: The Second Industrial Revolution continued.

HC: 588-593. CF: 43-51.

Lecture Thirteen: Global Commerce and Imperialism

Lecture Fourteen: Midterm Review.

Midterm Exam

Lecture Fifteen: The New Imperialism

HC: 588-593. CF: 11-20, 74-86, 139-148.

Lecture Sixteen: East Asia.

HC: 538-551.

Lecture Seventeen: South Asia

HC: 551-561. CF: 22-29, 81-86, 157-164. Mohandas Gandhi, *Hind Swaraj* (excerpts).

Week Three

Lecture Eighteen. Southeast Asia.

HC: 602-611. CF: 111-117, 124-131, 205-211.

Lecture Nineteen: Africa

HC: 588-602. CF: 21-22, 55-59, 86-95, 117-124, 149-157, 196-204. W.E.B. Du Bois, "The Color Line that Belts the World" (excerpts). Rudyard Kipling, "The White Man's Burden."

Lecture Twenty: Imperialism Review.

Lecture Twenty-One: The Great War

HC: 612-622. CF: 165-173.

Lecture Twenty-Two: The Great War continued.

HC: 623-628. Manela ("M"): 3-13.

Lecture Twenty-Three: Revolution

628-637. Rosa Luxemburg, "The Accumulation of Capital" (excerpts). V.I. Lenin, *Imperialism, the Highest Stage of Capitalism* (excerpts).

Lecture Twenty-Four: Contradictions of the "International Community."



M: 35-135. CF: 181-189. Ho Chi Minh, Speech to the Third International (excerpts).

Lecture Twenty-Five: Cultural Crisis in the West.

Virginia Woolf, *Mrs. Dalloway* (excerpts).

Lecture Twenty-Six: Cultural Crisis in the West continued. Anti-Colonial Nationalism

HC: 651-656. M: 137-225.

Lecture Twenty-Seven: Capitalist Economic Collapse

HC: 638-644.

Week Four

Lecture Twenty-Eight: Interwar Authoritarianism. Italian Fascism.

HC: 644-645. Thomas Mann, "Mario and the Magician."

Lecture Twenty-Nine: Stalinism and Nazi Germany.

HC: 645-651.

Lecture Thirty: Collapse of the League of Nations and the International Order.

HC: 656-663. Haile Selassie, Speech to the League of Nations (excerpts).

Lecture Thirty-One: World War Resumed.

HC: 664-677. W.H. Auden, "September 1, 1939."

Lecture Thirty-Two: World War, the Atomic Age, and Genocide.

HC: 677-687

Lecture Thirty-Three: The New International Order, the Cold War, and the End of European Empire.

HC: 688-715.

Lecture Thirty-Four: U.S. Power and Decolonization.

HC: 716-743.

Lecture Thirty-Five: The New Global Capitalism and the Anthropocene.

HC: 744-770.

Lecture Thirty-Six: Final Exam Review.

Final Examination