

## HIST 51 World History from 1500 to the Present

**Course Code: HIST 51**

**Instructor: Dr. Susan Hinely**

**Home Institution: State University of New York at Stony Brook**

**Office Hours: TBA**

**Email: [susan.hinely@stonybrook.edu](mailto:susan.hinely@stonybrook.edu)**

**Credit: 3**

### 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 19<sup>th</sup> and 20<sup>th</sup> 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 18<sup>th</sup> and 19<sup>th</sup> 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 20<sup>th</sup> 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.

### **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***

### **Grading Policy:**

### **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%

### **Letter Grade Assignment**

Final grades assigned for this course will be based on the percentage of total points earned and are assigned as follows:

Letter Grade	Percentage	Performance
A	93-100%	Excellent Work
A-	90-92%	Nearly Excellent Work
B+	87-89%	Very Good Work
B	83-86%	Good Work
B-	80-82%	Mostly Good Work
C+	77-79%	Above Average Work
C	73-76%	Average Work
C-	70-72%	Mostly Average Work
D+	67-69%	Below Average Work
D	60-66%	Poor Work
F	0-59%	Failing Work

### Course Policies:

#### Attend Class

Students are expected to attend all class sessions as listed on the course calendar. 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.

#### Build Rapport

If you find that you have any trouble keeping up with assignments or other aspects of the course, make sure you let your instructor know as early as possible. As you will find, building rapport and effective relationships are key to becoming an effective professional. Make sure that you are proactive in informing your instructor when difficulties arise during the semester so that they can help you find a solution.

#### Understand When You May Drop This Course

It is the student's responsibility to understand when they need to consider disenrolling from a course. Refer to the Course Schedule for dates and deadlines for registration. After this period, a serious and compelling reason is required to drop from the course. Serious and compelling reasons includes: (1) documented and significant change in work hours, leaving student unable to attend class, or (2) documented and severe physical/mental illness/injury to the student or student's family.

#### Commit to Integrity

As a student in this course (and at this university) you are expected to maintain high degrees of professionalism, commitment to active learning and participation in this class and also integrity in your behavior in and out of the classroom.

### **Academic Honesty Policy & Procedures**

“The principles of truth and honesty are recognized as fundamental to a community of scholars and teachers. University expects that both faculty and students will honor these principles, and in so doing, will protect the integrity of academic work and student grades.”

#### **Definitions**

“**Cheating** is the act of obtaining or attempting to obtain credit for academic work through the use of any dishonest, deceptive, or fraudulent means.”

“**Plagiarism** is a form of cheating.”

“Plagiarism is the use of distinctive ideas or works belonging to another person without providing adequate acknowledgement of that person’s contribution.”