

Hankuk University of Foreign Studies

2026 Winter Session

HIS 120 Introduction to World History

Course Outline

Course Code: HIS 120

Instructor: Susan Hinely, JD, PhD

Home Institution: State University of New York at Stony Brook

Office Hours: TBA

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Credit: 4

Class Hours:

This course will have 60 class hours, including 32 lecture hours, professor 8 office hours, 8-hour TA discussion sessions, 4-hour review sessions, 8-hour extra classes.

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 Iberian 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 Textbooks:

- Valerie Hansen and Kenneth R. Curtis, *Voyages in World History. Brief Edition. Volume 2: Since 1500*. Second Edition. Cengage, 2016.
- 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.
- Excerpts from primary materials and additional supplemental materials will be made available to the students.

Requirements:

Examinations: There will be a midterm and a cumulative final examination. Both will be a combination of essay and short answer, along with oral consultation with the professor. Exams should be written in Word Doc form, not pdf, so that the instructor can comment directly on the work.

Homework/Exercises/Quizzes: There will be occasional quizzes and exercises assigned through the lecture and in discussion sections. Exercises should be written in Word Doc form, not pdf, so that the instructor can comment directly on the work. Oral consultation with the professor may be required to confirm the independence of the submitted exercises.

Discussion Participation: Students should come to all Discussion Sessions prepared to talk about that week’s lectures and assigned reading. Attendance will be taken.

Evaluation:

Discussion Participation	10%
Quizzes and Exercises	20%
Midterm Exam	30%
Final Exam	40%
	100%

Grading System (1 ~ 100)



A+ : 96 - 100	A : 91 - 95
B+ : 86 - 90	B : 81 - 85
C+ : 76 - 80	C : 71 - 75
D+ : 66 - 70	D : 60 - 65
F : 0 - 59	
Pa : Pass	Fa : Fail

Online Learning Policy:

Without your regular engagement with the materials and energetic participation in discussion sessions, you will not achieve the objectives of the class. Students are expected to watch the recorded lectures and take notes, read all the assigned materials, complete all assignments and exams, and attend all synchronous discussion sections. Roll will be taken at discussion. Oral discussion with the professor will be required to confirm the independence of exams, papers, and exercises submitted.

Academic Integrity and Class Policies:

- Each student must pursue his or her academic goals honestly and be personally accountable for all submitted work. Representing another person's or a machine'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 use ONLY these materials as the basis for your own written exercises and exams.

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.

Lecture Three: Empire and Modern Science. HC: 464-473, 477-487.

Lecture Four: The Science of Society. HC: 473-477.



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.

Lecture Eight: Carbon Energy and Urbanization.

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.

Lecture Twelve: The Second Industrial Revolution continued. HC: 588-593.

Lecture Thirteen: Global Commerce and Imperialism

Lecture Fourteen: Midterm Review.

Midterm Exam

Lecture Fifteen: The New Imperialism. HC: 588-593.

Lecture Sixteen: East Asia. HC: 538-551.

Lecture Seventeen: South Asia. HC: 551-561. Mohandas Gandhi, Hind Swaraj (excerpts).

Week Three

Lecture Eighteen. Southeast Asia. HC: 602-611.

Lecture Nineteen: Africa. HC: 588-602. W.E.B. DuBois, "The Color Line that Belts the World," (excerpts).

Lecture Twenty: Imperialism Review.

Lecture Twenty-One: The Great War. HC: 612-622.

Lecture Twenty-Two: The Great War continued. HC: 623-628. Manela ("M"): 3-13.

Lecture Twenty-Three: Revolution. HC: 628-637.

Lecture Twenty-Four: Contradictions of the "International Community." M: 35-135. 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.