

WOH2040/World in the Twentieth Century and Beyond

UF History Dept. Online Course

Fall 2020

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COURSE DESCRIPTION:-

In the 21st century it is generally assumed that, despite the existence of national boundaries, everyone belongs to a global community. This survey offers various perspectives on the origins of today's world of interdependency. It examines how the ideas, cultures, and economies of different peoples intersected, and changed, through the conflicts brought on by the major economic, social, and political movements of the twentieth century. Topics considered will include major European and global conflicts such as the First and Second World Wars, imperialism in India, Asia, and Africa, the impact of political revolutions and world wars in countries like China, Russia, the spread of nationalism, and the origins and consequences of the Cold War. Students will be encouraged to view these events from the internal perspective of the participants and from the standpoint of the outside world.

COURSE GOAL:-

To acquire the empirical grounding needed to achieve a critical understanding of the major events that shaped global history in the twentieth century.

STUDENT OBJECTIVES:-

The purpose of this course is to provide a foundation for the study of modern world history. To realize this goal students will be introduced to a variety of primary and secondary texts, documentary videos, and power-point lectures which emphasize a chronological overview of key events in western history from the last hundred years, while introducing students to particular themes regarding social, political, ideological, and cultural dimensions of the modern past.

Required Texts (Paperback editions available at UF bookstore and online bookstores):-

- **J.A.S. Grenville, A History of the World from the 20th to the 21st Century. Third Edition (preferred), Routledge, 2005.**
- **James Overfield , Sources of Twentieth Century Global History. First Edition.Wadsworth, 2001.**

EXAMS AND GRADING:-

There will be three written exams, consisting of Each exam counts for 30% of your final grade. Class participation (responses to questions and in-class discussions) counts for 10% of you final grade.

- **3 Exams = 90%**
- **Class participation (Discussion Board) = 10%**

STUDY PROCEDURES AND ASSIGNMENTS:-

Lectures:- To complete each weekly module students will be required to view and review all listed power-point lectures (narrated presentations) and/or video lectures.

“Learning Activities”:- Students are also required to complete all other reading and viewing assignments listed under the rubric “Learning Activities.” These supplemental materials will be comprised of the following: (1) pdf articles, (12) internet links to primary and secondary documentary/scholarly sources, and (3) video clips of lectures, exhibitions, and selected footage documenting historical events.

Discussion Board sessions are designed to allow the student to interrogate the instructional materials presented in the weekly modules. You will be asked to write a brief response to a question and/or statement that is posed in this section of the module. Responses should be between 250 and 500 words in length and should reflect not only one’s personal opinions but also one’s studied reflections on the various themes covered in each module.

In order to do well in this course you must always bear in mind that history is largely a "reading" subject. To sustain your interest in the course as well as to understand better the classroom lectures, you will have to adopt good study habits. Above all this means employing a variety of techniques -- taking clear and concise notes while viewing videos and completing reading assignments, for example. In this connection, you should remember that all reading assignments must not be postponed.

Course Calendar

Themes for Weeks 1-15.

August 31 – Introduction to world history: what is history? The Western World, 1900-1914: Science and material progress to 1900; intellectual currents: Positivism, Liberalism, Nationalism, Conservatism, and Socialism.

September 7 – The European Political Order: The Great Power system and its Alliances.

LABOR DAY HOLIDAY: 7 SEPTEMBER

September 14 – The “New Imperialism” and its impact in Africa and Asia. The rise of Japan and the United States to 1914.

September 21 -- The Great War, 1914-1918 and its aftermath. Liberalism challenged: The Russian Revolution and Civil War of 1917-1924.

September 28 -- The rise of fascism in Italy and Germany.

October 5 -- The Middle East and Africa. The emergence of modern China and Japanese imperialism. The United States, Latin America and the Great Depression.

Reading Assignments: Grenville, <u>A History of the World</u> , (Parts I-IV) Chapters 1-21. Overfield, <u>Sources of Twentieth Century Global History</u> , Chapters 1, 3-4, 6, 8.
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First Exam: 7 October

October 12 -- Global warfare, Part I. -- 1939-1941: (1) The Prelude to war, (1) The early phases of war in Europe, (2) The war in Asia and the Pacific up to 1941.

October 19 – Global warfare, Part II. – (1) The war in Europe, 1942-1945, (2) the war in the Pacific after 1942, (3) the end of war and the beginning of the “Atomic Age,” 1945.

October 26 -- Post-War Europe: Reconstruction of a divided continent (East vs. West). The United States and Cold War crises in Europe (Greek Civil War and Berlin Airlift, 1946-1948).

November 2 -- Mao's Revolution in post-war China. National movements and Cold War conflicts in Korea (1950-1953) and Southeast Asia (1954).

November 9 -- Independence movements in Africa, South Asia (India and Pakistan), and Southeast Asia (Malaysia and Indonesia). Colonial issues and Cold War realities in the Middle East (1919-1980).

Second Exam: 11 NOVEMBER

Reading Assignments: Grenville, A History of the World, (Parts V.-X.) Chapters 22-45 . Overfield , Sources of Twentieth Century Global History. Chapters 7-11

November 16 -- United States vs. USSR: Hungarian Uprising, Berlin Wall, Cuban Missile Crisis. Wars in Southeast Asia (Vietnam, Cambodia, Laos).

November 23 -- The U.S. and Soviet Bloc after 1963: From Brezhnev to Gorbachev. Europe's third way: Economic and political integration in the West. Post-war cultural/political movements: Counter-culture of 1960s, the rise of European terrorism (Algeria, N. Ireland, Spain).

November 30 -- Africa after colonialism, Dictatorships, Democracy and Crises in Latin America.

December 7-9 -- The crumbling of communism in East-Central Europe. Tensions in the Middle East. Dissolution of "Cold War" Europe ("Velvet Revolutions of 1989", Balkan crises). Reflections on post-Cold War cultural confrontations and the rise of religious-based terrorism. The emergence of a new world order?

Third Exam: December 9

Reading Assignments: Grenville, A History of the World, (Parts XI. – XVIII.) Chapters 46-80. Overfield, Sources of Twentieth Century Global History. Chapters 10-13.

ADDENDUM TO SYLLABUS

Code of Conduct/Make-up exam policies for WOH2040

UF faculty are now being asked to provide written guidelines relating to (1) student conduct in the classroom and (2) make-up examinations. Most of these can be deduced by exercising common sense. But to avoid any misunderstandings, students enrolled in the courses listed above should take note of the following:

- Intellectual honesty: any student caught plagiarizing the written work of others and/or cheating on an exam will automatically fail the course.

Make-up exams/Late Papers:

- Apart from documented illness, family emergencies (immediate family only), and exceptional circumstances (to be determined by the instructor), exams will have to be taken on the assigned day. The scheduling of permitted make-up exams will be at the discretion of the instructor.
- All written assignments – term papers and the like – are due on the day assigned in the syllabus and/or as announced by the instructor on the Canvas Announcement Board.

UF POLICIES RELATING TO COVID-19

1) Virtual classes:- Our class sessions may be audio-visually recorded for students in the class to refer back and for enrolled students who are unable to attend live. Students who participate with their camera engaged or utilize a profile image are agreeing to have their video or image recorded. If you are unwilling to consent to have your profile or video image recorded, be sure to keep your camera off and do not use a profile image. Likewise, students who un-mute during class and participate verbally are agreeing to have their voices recorded.

If you are not willing to consent to have your voice recorded during class, you will need to keep your mute button activated and communicate exclusively using the "chat" feature, which allows students to type questions and comments live. The chat will not be recorded or shared.

As in all courses, unauthorized recording and unauthorized sharing of recorded materials is prohibited.

- If you are experiencing COVID-19 symptoms ([Click here for guidance from the CDC on symptoms of coronavirus \(Links to an external site.\)](#)), please use the UF Health screening system and follow the instructions on whether you are able to attend class. [Click here for UF Health guidance on what to do if you have been exposed to or are experiencing Covid-19 symptoms \(Links to an external site.\)](#).
- Course materials will be provided to you with an excused absence, and you will be given a reasonable amount of time to make up work. [Find more information in the university attendance policies \(Links to an external site.\)](#).