MODERN WORLD HISTORY

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Course Description
A world history course differs from most other history courses in that it does not focus on events only in a single country or civilization. Accordingly, students will be encouraged to think in broad comparative global contexts when discussing topics, issues and themes presented in this course. In this course, we will examine significant aspects of modern world history, using mainly an issue approach to understanding the major events of the twentieth century. It will focus on the impact of the scientific, industrial and political revolutions in Western and non-Western civilizations. Particular attention will be given to the demise of empires and the rise of the modern nation-state; theories of modern government; the politicization of the masses in the nineteenth century and twentieth century; the world wars of the first half of the twentieth century; the ideologies of liberalism, democracy, fascism and communism; the post-World War II world order and the collapse of colonial empires; major economic theories of industrial states; the reemergence of East Asian civilizations to the center of world power; and the explosion of non-Western religious nationalisms currently in opposition to the modern secular state and the Western-led international world order.

Course Schedule
This Summer Session I course meets from 6:00 PM to 7:50 PM on every Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday, and Thursday from May 28 to July 3. All classes are in Gruening Hall, Room #409, for a total of 22 sessions, including the introductory session on Tuesday, May 28 and the final session on Wednesday, July 3.

Office Hours
Mondays: 5:30 PM – 6:00 PM
Thursdays: 8:00 PM – 9:00 PM
And, by appointment.

Required Texts/References
This course requires the purchase of the following texts:
1) William J. Duiker, Contemporary World History
2) Benedict Anderson, Imagined Communities: Reflections on the Origin and Spread of Nationalism
3) Ayaan Hirsi Ali, Nomad: From Islam to America: A Personal Journey Through the Clash of Civilizations
4) James Womack, Daniel Jones and Daniel Roos, The Machine That Changed the World
**Course Work/Expectations**

Grades will be based on the following: class participation/attendance (10 points), first midterm exam (50 points), second midterm exam (50 points) and final exam (100 points). The midterm exams (one hour exams) are on Wednesday, June 5, and Monday, June 17. The final exam for this course is on the last day of scheduled classes, Wednesday, July 3.

**Attendance and Class Participation**

As indicated above, a part of your final grade will be based on class attendance and class participation. Accordingly, regular attendance and class participation are expected. Unexcused absences will automatically begin to lower your grade.

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**COURSE OUTLINE**

May 28  **Introduction to Modern World History**


May 29  **World of Great Religious Communities and Dynastic Realms**


May 30  **Globalization of Nationalism**


June 3  **Scientific, Industrial and Political Revolutions in the Western World**


June 4  **Western Colonialism in Africa, South Asia, and Southeast Asia**


June 5  **Western Powers and East Asia in the Nineteenth Century**

**FIRST MIDTERM EXAM**

**June 6**

**World War I: Civil War within Western Civilization**

Reading: William J. Duiker, *Contemporary World History*, Chapter 4, pp. 70-94.

**June 10**

**Nationalist Revolutions in Africa, Asia, and Latin America**


**June 11**

**War of the World, 1931-1945**

Reading: William J. Duiker, *Contemporary World History*, Chapter 6, pp. 120-143.

**June 12**

**War of the World, 1931-1945**

Reading: William J. Duiker, *Contemporary World History*, Chapter 6, pp. 120-143.

**June 13**

**Global Cold War**


**June 17**

**Rise and Fall of Communism in the Soviet Union and Eastern Europe**


**SECOND MIDTERM EXAM**

**June 18**

**Postwar Japan, South Korea, Taiwan, Singapore, and Hong Kong**


Documentary Film: *INSIDE JAPAN INC*

**June 19**

**Japanese Manufacturing Technology**
June 20  
**Mao Zedong’s Communist Revolution in China**

Reading: William J. Duiker, *Contemporary World History*, Chapter 12, pp. 252-256.

**Documentation Film:** *THE MAO YEARS 1960-1976*

June 24  
**Deng Xiaoping and Communist China after Mao**


June 25  
**Nationalism in South Asia, Southeast Asia, and Africa Since 1945**


June 26  
**Ferment in the Middle East-1**


June 27  
**Ferment in the Middle East-2**


July 1  
**A Personal Journey from Islamic Fundamentalism to Secularism and Freedom**


July 2  
**Opening the Muslim Mind and Defeating Radical Militant Islamic Fundamentalism**


July 3  
**FINAL EXAM**