

**History 200**  
**Ideas and Events that Shook the World:**  
**Ordinary Things, Extraordinary Histories**

Instructor of Record: Dr. J. Spangler

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Hours: Tues, 1:30-3:00; Thurs, 12:30-2:00; or by appointment

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This is an introductory course designed specifically for non-majors.<sup>1</sup> This term, it examines several historical turning points between about 1450 and 1930 by considering the history of some common items that we all might encounter daily. Specifically, we'll be unwinding the complex human stories behind printed books, a cup of tea with sugar, commercial ice, and early uses of fossil fuels (coal and kerosene especially). Much of the globe will be focused on at some point, but Europe and the Americas will be particular regions of interest.

**Course Objectives:**

- To introduce students to some main themes and interpretations of world history.
- To introduce students to historical analysis that focuses on economic, social, and cultural change.
- To develop students' critical reading and analytical skills.

**Assessment:**

20% Four Reading Quizzes, 5% each (self-administered via D2L in weeks 3, 7, 10-11, and 12-13).

20% Midterm Examination 1: January 31

25% Midterm Examination 2: March 7

35% Final Examination, Scheduled by the Registrar

**Readings:**

All readings are delivered electronically through D2L (at no cost to students). Readings average 30 to 40 pages a week. A revised version of this course outline and a separate document, titled "**Reading Schedule**," will be posted to D2L before Winter Term begins, listing the assigned readings.

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<sup>1</sup> History 200 cannot be counted toward the requirements of the history major or minor.

## Explanation of Assessment:

### Reading Quizzes:

The four reading quizzes will be comprised of multiple-choice and true/false questions drawn from assigned readings. They are not intended to test the ability to retain minor details, but to test students' grasp of the readings' main points, concepts, argumentation, and significant evidence. The quizzes are time-limited (15 minutes) and self-administered through D2L. Each quiz will be available for students for about 5 days, opening at 8 a.m. on the first day and closing at 11 p.m. on the last day of the open period, as listed in the schedule below. Each quiz can be completed twice, with the highest mark standing. It is each student's responsibility to complete the quizzes during open periods. Once a quiz has been started there is no way to pause it, so situate yourself with the relevant readings available in a quiet space before launching a quiz.

### Examinations:

Midterm examinations will be held in our normal classroom on the dates stated above. The time and place of the final exam is determined by the Registrar's Office several weeks into the term. You will be asked to stay outside of the classroom until we have set up the room for each exam, and then you will have 1 hour to complete each midterm, 2 hours for the final. You will be required to remain in your seat for the first half-hour of each of the three exams. All three exams will be completed on scantron sheets (bubble-sheets) for machine marking, so you will need to bring appropriate writing devices (exact details will be provided in class). As with the reading quizzes, the aim is not to test retention of minor details. Learning to discern what is a point of importance is part of the work we'll engage in this term.

## Class Schedule:

### Week 1 (Jan 10) Introduction and Unit 1 (Print) Part 1

Reading: Robert B. **Marks**, *The Origins of the Modern World: A Global and Environmental Narrative from the Fifteenth to the Twenty-First Century* (Lanham, Md.: Rowman and Littlefield, 2015), 19-40 and notes.

### Week 2 (Jan. 15 and 17): Unit 1, Print, Part 2

Reading: Adrian **Johns**, "The Coming of Print to Europe," in *The Cambridge Companion to the History of the Book*, ed. Leslie Howsam (Cambridge: Cambridge University Press, 2013), 107-24; and abridged version of Jeremiah **Dittmar**, "Information Technology and Economic Change: The Impact of the Printing Press," *Quarterly Journal of Economics* 126:3 (2011).

### Week 3 (Jan. 22 and 24): Unit 1, Print, Part 3

Reading: John **Man**, *Gutenberg: How One Man Remade the World with Words* (New York: John Wiley and Sons, 2002), 252-92.

**Reading Quiz 1 is open Monday to Friday this week. All reading quizzes open at 8 a.m. and close at 11 p.m.** Covers Marks, Johns, Dittmar, and Man.

### Week 4 (Jan. 29 and Jan 31): Unit 1, Print, Concluded

Readings: none assigned.

**First Midterm Exam -- Jan 31**

Week 5 (Feb. 5 and 7): Unit 2, Cup of Tea with Sugar, Part 1

Readings: Erling **Hoh** and Victor **Mair**, *The True History of Tea* (New York: Thames and Hudson, 2009), 164-80.

Week 6 (Feb. 12 and 14): Unit 2, Tea & Sugar, Part 2

Readings: Andrew B. **Liu**, "The Birth of the Noble Tea Country: on The Geography of Colonial Capital and The Origins of Indian Tea," *Journal of Historical Sociology* 23:1 (2010): 73-100; begin reading Elizabeth **Abbott**, *Sugar: A Bittersweet History* (Toronto: Penguin Canada, 2008), 77-120.

**Reading Week: Feb. 18-22 (No Classes)**Week 7 (Feb. 26 and Feb. 28) Unit 2, Tea & Sugar, Part 3

Readings: finish reading Abbott, *Sugar*, 77-120.

**Reading Quiz 2 is open Monday to Friday this week.** Covers Hoh and Mair, Liu, and Abbott.

Week 8 (Mar. 5 and 7): Unit 2, Tea & Sugar, Concluded

Readings: none assigned

**Second Midterm--March 7**Week 9 (Mar.12 and 14): Unit 3, Commercial Ice, Part 1

Readings: Jonathan **Rees**, *Refrigeration Nation: A History of Ice, Appliances, and Enterprise in America* (Baltimore: Johns Hopkins University Press, 2013), 11-30 (and endnotes); Susan **Freidberg**, *Fresh: A Perishable History* (Cambridge, Ma.: Harvard University Press, 2009), 18-48.

Week 10 (Mar. 19 and 21): Unit 3, Ice, Part 2

Readings: complete Freidberg.

**Reading Quiz 3 is open Wednesday Mar. 20 to Wed. Mar 27.** Covers Rees and Freidberg.

Week 11 (Mar. 26 and 28): Unit 4, Fossil Fuels, Part 1

Readings: Vaclav **Smil**, *Energy: A Beginner's Guide* (Oxford: Oneworld Publications, 2006), 85-109.

Week 12 (Apr. 2 and 4): Unit 4, Fossil Fuels, Part 2

Readings: Daniel **Yergin**, *The Prize: The Epic Quest for Oil, Money, and Power* (New York: Free Press, 2009), 40-61; Roger **Howard**, "Britain, Persia and Petroleum," *History Today* 58:5 (2008): 44-50.

**Reading Quiz 4 is open Wednesday, April 3 to Tuesday, April 9.** Covers Smil, Yergin, and Howard.

Week 13 (Apr. 9 and 11): Unit 4, Fossil Fuels Part 3 and Conclusion

Readings: none assigned

**Final exam** period is April 15-27. The date of the exam for this course is determined by the Registrar's Office.

**Important Departmental, Faculty, and University Information**

***\*Attention history majors: History 300 is a required course for all history majors. You should normally take it in your second year.\****

***Department Twitter @ucalgaryhist***

**Faculty of Arts Program Advising and Student Information Resources:**

- Have a question, but not sure where to start? The Arts Students Centre (ASC) is your information resource for everything in Arts! Drop in at Social Sciences 102, call 403-220-3580, or email [artsads@ucalgary.ca](mailto:artsads@ucalgary.ca). For detailed information on common academic concerns, you can also visit the Faculty of Arts website at <http://arts.ucalgary.ca/undergraduate>.
- For program planning and advice, contact the Arts Students Centre (ASC) in SS 102, call 403-220-3580, email [artsads@ucalgary.ca](mailto:artsads@ucalgary.ca), or visit <http://arts.ucalgary.ca/advising>.
- For registration issues, paying fees and assistance with your Student Centre, contact Enrolment Services at 403-210-ROCK (7625), visit the office in the MacKimmie Library Block (MLB) or their website at <http://www.ucalgary.ca/registrar/>.

**Writing:**

This course will include written assignments. Faculty policy directs that all written assignments (including, although to a lesser extent, written exam responses) will be assessed at least partly on writing skills. Writing skills include not only surface correctness (grammar, punctuation, sentence structure, etc.) but also general clarity and organization. Research papers must be properly documented.

**Writing Support:**

Students are also encouraged to use Writing Support Services and other Student Success Centre Services, located on the 3<sup>rd</sup> floor of the Taylor Family Digital Library (TFDL). Writing Support Services assist with a variety of assignments, from essays to lab reports. Students can book 30-minute one-on-one appointments online, sign up for 15-minute drop-in appointments, and register for a variety of writing workshops. For more information on this and other Student Success Centre services, please visit [www.ucalgary.ca/ssc](http://www.ucalgary.ca/ssc).

**Copyright:**

The University of Calgary has opted out of the Access Copyright Interim Tariff proposed by the Copyright Board. This means that instructors in all University of Calgary courses will strictly adhere to Copyright Act regulations and the educational exceptions permitted by the Act for both print and digital course material. What this simply means is that no copyrighted material may be placed on course D2L or web sites without the prior permission of the copyright holders. In some cases, this may mean that instructors will require you to purchase a print course pack from the University of Calgary bookstore or that you will have to consult books on reserve at the library. For more information on the University of Calgary's copyright policy, see <http://library.ucalgary.ca/copyright>.

**Red Box Policy:**

Essays and other assignments may be handed in to the red box located outside of the History Department office (Social Sciences, Room 656). Please include the following information on your assignment: **1) course name and number, 2) instructor, 3) your name and 4) your student number.** Assignments received after 4:00 p.m. will be date stamped with the date of the next business day. We do not time stamp any papers. Please do not bring your paper into the office to be stamped. The box is emptied promptly at 8:30 a.m. and at 4:00 p.m. Monday to Friday.

**Departmental Grading System:**

The following percentage-to-letter grade conversion scheme has been adopted for use in all Canadian Studies, History, and Latin American Studies courses.

Percentage	Letter Grade	Grade Point Value	Description
90-100	A+	4.00	Outstanding
85-89	A	4.00	Excellent—superior performance showing comprehensive understanding of subject matter.
80-84	A-	3.70	
77-79	B+	3.30	
73-76	B	3.00	Good—clearly above average performance with knowledge of subject matter generally complete.
70-72	B-	2.70	
67-69	C+	2.30	
63-66	C	2.00	Satisfactory—basic understanding of the subject matter.
60-62	C-	1.70	Receipt of a grade point average of 1.70 may not be sufficient for promotion or graduation.
56-59	D+	1.30	Minimal pass—marginal performance; generally insufficient preparation for subsequent courses in the same subject.
50-55	D	1.00	
0-49	F	0	Fail—unsatisfactory performance or failure to meet course requirements.

**Plagiarism:**

Plagiarism occurs when one submits or presents one's work in a course, or ideas and/or passages in a written piece of work, as if it were one's own work done expressly for that particular course, when, in fact, it is not. As noted in *The History Student's Handbook* ([http://hist.ucalgary.ca/sites/hist.ucalgary.ca/files/history\\_students\\_handbook\\_2015.pdf](http://hist.ucalgary.ca/sites/hist.ucalgary.ca/files/history_students_handbook_2015.pdf)), plagiarism may take several forms:

- Failure to cite sources properly may be considered plagiarism. This could include quotations, and wording used from another source but not acknowledged.
- Borrowed, purchased, and/or ghostwritten papers are considered plagiarism, as is submitting one's own work for more than one course without the permission of the instructor(s) involved.
- Extensive paraphrasing of one or a few sources is also considered plagiarism, even when notes are used, unless the essay is a critical analysis of those works.
- The use of notes does not justify the sustained presentation of another author's language and ideas as one's own.

Plagiarism is a serious academic offence and written work that appears to contain plagiarized passages will not be graded. All such work will be reported to the Faculty of Arts' associate deans of students who will apply the penalties specified in the *University of Calgary Calendar*.

**Universal Student Ratings of Instruction (USRI):**

At the University of Calgary, feedback provided by students through the Universal Student Ratings of Instruction survey provides valuable information to help with evaluating instruction, enhancing learning and teaching, and selecting courses ([www.ucalgary.ca/usri](http://www.ucalgary.ca/usri)). Your responses make a difference. Please participate in USRI surveys.

**Academic Accommodations (implemented July 1, 2015):**

The student accommodation policy can be found at: [ucalgary.ca/access/accommodations/policy](http://ucalgary.ca/access/accommodations/policy).

Students needing an Accommodation because of a Disability or medical condition should communicate this need to Student Accessibility Services in accordance with the Procedure for Accommodations for Students with Disabilities [ucalgary.ca/policies/files/policies/student-accommodation-policy](http://ucalgary.ca/policies/files/policies/student-accommodation-policy).

Students needing an Accommodation based on a Protected Ground other than Disability, should communicate this need, preferably in writing, to the course instructor.

**Campus Resources for Mental Health:**

The University of Calgary recognizes the pivotal role that student mental health plays in physical health, social connectedness and academic success, and aspires to create a caring and supportive campus community where individuals can freely talk about mental health and receive supports when needed. We encourage you to explore the excellent mental health resources available throughout the university community, such as counselling, self-help resources, peer support or skills-building available through the SU Wellness Centre (Room 370, MacEwan Student Centre, <https://www.ucalgary.ca/wellnesscentre/services/mental-health-services>) and the Campus Mental Health Strategy website (<http://www.ucalgary.ca/mentalhealth/>).

**Other Useful Information:**

- Faculty of Arts Representatives: 403-220-6551, [arts1@su.ucalgary.ca](mailto:arts1@su.ucalgary.ca), [arts2@su.ucalgary.ca](mailto:arts2@su.ucalgary.ca), [arts3@su.ucalgary.ca](mailto:arts3@su.ucalgary.ca), [arts4@su.ucalgary.ca](mailto:arts4@su.ucalgary.ca)
- Campus Security & Safewalk: 403-220-5333, <http://www.ucalgary.ca/security/safewalk>.
- Freedom of Information: <http://www.ucalgary.ca/legalservices/foip/foip-hia>.
- Emergency Evacuation Assembly  
Points: <http://www.ucalgary.ca/emergencyplan/assemblypoints>.
- Student Union Information: <http://www.su.ucalgary.ca/>.
- Graduate Student Association: <http://www.ucalgary.ca/gsa/>.
- Student Ombudsman Office: <http://www.ucalgary.ca/provost/students/ombuds>
- Registration Changes and Exemption  
Requests: <https://www.ucalgary.ca/registrar/registration/appeals>.

*Winter 2019*