
HTST 307

The Contemporary World

Course Description

This course will introduce students to the main themes, ideas and developments that shaped the modern world since ca. 1750. Focusing on modern world history, it will give students an understanding of continuity and change in a global context. It will highlight the many interconnections that facilitated the transfer of ideas, technologies, commodities, people and institutions, which created today's interdependent and globalized world.

Course Outcomes

After successful completion of this course, students will have had the opportunity to:

- engage with the central approaches of world history
- identify and explain key developments in world history
- describe the role of political, social, economic, and cultural issues in world history
- assess the role of ideas and technologies in world history
- compare and connect the historical experience of select countries
- understand and evaluate historical debates
- analyze primary and secondary sources
- engage with peers in informed discussions of historical problems
- expand critical thinking and formulate historical arguments

Assessment

Method	Weight
Weekly Quizzes	10%
Weekly E-Journaling	10%
Group Work	15%
Critical Essay	20%
Primary Source Interpretation	20%
Take-Home Exam	25%



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Spring Term 2020

TR 10:30-11:45 pm (online via Zoom)

Instructor: Dr Petra Dolata

Email: pdolata@ucalgary.ca

Zoom office hours: Tuesday & Thursday
1-3 pm

TA: Yolanda Osondu

Email: yolanda.osondu1@ucalgary.ca

Zoom office hours: by appointment

Required Text

James Carter & Richard Warren.
*Forging the Modern World: A
History*. 2nd ed. Oxford & New York:
University Press, 2019.

For purchase here:

https://www.calgarybookstore.ca/buy_textbooks.asp?

Details of additional readings will be posted on D2L.

Deadlines

22 May 2020

critical essay

5 June 2020

Primary source interpretation

15 June 2020

Group Presentation

22 June 2020

Take-Home Exam

Weekly deadlines

Quizzes & E-Journaling

Course Format

This course will be taught **remotely** and is delivered in a **hybrid format** combining **asynchronous** and **synchronous sections**. Students will **read** the respective chapters in the **textbook** in their own time and at their own pace. In preparation for the weekly **synchronous sessions**, they will also read **two additional – primary and secondary – sources** per week. Lectures will be taught via **lecture videos** that are uploaded onto D2L and can be watched individually and at any time. Students are expected to attend **synchronous classes** every **Tuesday** and **Thursday from 10:30 to 11:45am**. These will be delivered via Zoom (details will be provided on D2L). In these synchronous classes, there will be further **discussions of key concepts as well as additional sources** that students were requested to read for those specific classes. During these synchronous classes, there will also be **group discussions** and **group work**, which will be facilitated through Zoom breakout rooms. Throughout the term, **students are members of one working group**. These groups will automatically and randomly created via D2L. There will be five students to one group. Each group will also have their **dedicated group discussion areas on D2L**.

D2L

This course is taught through D2L, UCalgary's Learning Management System. The course's D2L site will be the most important and central point of information. You will find every detail concerning this course there, including lecture videos. It will always feature the most up-to-date information. The instructor will communicate through D2L using both the announcements within D2L and the "email class" function (so please make sure to install D2L notifications and regularly check your UCalgary emails, as D2L will always use your official UCalgary email address). Students will upload all their assessments onto D2L and grades and feedback will equally be uploaded onto D2L.

Students are encouraged to check D2L daily.

Course Policies

- Students are expected to complete all assignments. Deadlines are firm. Two percentage points will be deducted from your grade for every day your paper is late.
- Assignments should be submitted electronically on D2L in a word document format.

Zoom Classroom Policies

- Students are expected to arrive on time and prepared to learn and discuss material.
- Discussions depend upon students being able to refer to the readings in class, so have them there with you.
- Students are expected to be visible during Zoom sessions and start the video.
- Students should be considerate when attending classes and use the Zoom Group Chat function (which will be monitored by the TA) or the prompts under the Participants section to ask questions or raise their hand.

Assignment Descriptions

Weekly Quizzes:

At the beginning of every week, students will have to complete a quiz on D2L which is based on the textbook readings for the entire week (normally two chapters). This is a multiple choice test with 20 questions. Students will have 60 minutes to complete the quiz once they have started it. The deadline is Mondays at the end of day. That means students will have to start the quiz before Monday at 11:59pm to be able to complete it. There will be five such quizzes starting in week 2, each is worth 20 points and the maximum total that can be achieved is 100 points. These quizzes are worth 10 percent of the overall grade and they will be immediately and automatically graded through the D2L system. In the first week there will be a slightly different quiz entitled "a little about you ..." which will be graded as either passed or failed and counts as a bonus (10 points) toward the other quizzes.

Weekly E-Journaling:

At the end of every week, students will write a one-page reflection on the readings and discussions of the week. These reflections could be in response to the "questions to consider as you read this chapter" that are suggested

by the textbook or more openly address any aspect or issue that came up during reading or discussing the course material. The deadline is Fridays at the end of day. Students are open to use their own journals (word documents or photos of handwritten journals) and upload them onto D2L or they can use Sway, which is offered through UCalgary (office365.ucalgary.ca) and which they share with the instructor to view. There will be six such e-journal entries starting in week 1. They are worth 10 percent of the overall grade and will be graded as either passed or failed.

Critical Essay:

Based on the textbook's "Historians Explore" sections, students will write one 1,500 word essay on a historical controversy. The essay is worth 20 percent of the overall grade. By discussing and comparing 2-3 academic articles in peer-reviewed scholarly journals, the primary source interpretation will explain what constituted the historiographical debate and what arguments and counterarguments were put forward by which historians. A list of readings for each topic, from which students have to choose, will be provided on D2L. A rubric will also be made available. The paper should conform in style to the standards laid out in the History Student's Handbook located on the Department of History web site at <http://hist.ucalgary.ca/sites/hist.ucalgary.ca/files/EssayHandbook.pdf>. Detailed instructions will be uploaded onto D2L.

Primary Source Interpretation:

Students will write one 1,500 word primary source interpretation. It is worth 20 percent of the overall grade. Students will choose one primary source from a list that will be made available on D2L. A rubric will also be made available. A good primary source interpretation discusses both the time at which the source was produced and the source itself. The primary source needs to be contextualized through textbook and other secondary source readings while the actual interpretation of the source itself is based on a very close reading of the historical document. The paper should conform in style to the standards laid out in the History Student's Handbook located on the Department of History web site at <http://hist.ucalgary.ca/sites/hist.ucalgary.ca/files/EssayHandbook.pdf>. Detailed instructions will be uploaded onto D2L.

Group Work

Throughout the term, groups of five students will create a presentation (power point or YuJa video) on one world exhibition. Intended to showcase the technological and cultural achievements of nations, international exhibitions provide an important snapshot of the world political landscape, the technological progress and prevalent cultural ideas of the time. They serve both as a microscope and symbol of their times while they envisioned the future. Using the various steps of the Digital Storytelling Process, each group will research "their" exhibition, write a script and develop a storyboard, gather and create images, audio and video and put together a multimedia presentation on "their" exhibition referencing arguments and historical developments from the textbook. All presentations will be displayed in our last class on 16 June. The group work is worth 15 percent of the overall grade, all steps will be individually graded. Documented research, script & storyboard, and multimedia presentation will be worth 5 percent each. Every member of a group will receive the same grade. Detailed instructions will be uploaded onto D2L.

Take-Home Exam

There will be a take home exam, which includes a choice of eight essay questions, two of which must be answered in 1,000 words each. Both essay answers must make at least two references to passages in the textbook and one reference to one of the primary sources that were discussed at the synchronous meetings.

Writing:

All written assignments and written exam responses are assessed partly on writing skills. Writing skills include surface correctness (grammar, punctuation, sentence structure, etc.) and general clarity and organization. Research papers must be properly documented according to the format described in the History Student's Handbook located on the Department of History web site at <http://hist.ucalgary.ca/sites/hist.ucalgary.ca/files/EssayHandbook.pdf>.

Class Schedule

The topics correspond to chapters 6-13 of the textbook.

Week	Date	Topic / Approach	Assignments/Due Dates
1	7 May	Introduction	
2	12 May	New Order for the Ages	
	14 May	Engines of Industrialization	
3	19 May	Modernity Organized	critical essay (22 May)
	21 May		
4	26 May	Globalization & Its Discontent	
	28 May	Total War & Mass Society	
5	2 June	The Ongoing Crisis of Global Order	primary source interpretation (5 June)
	4 June		
6	9 June	Hot Wars, Cold Wars & Decolonization	
	11 June	The Many Worlds of the 21st Century	
7	16 June	Conclusion	group project (15 June)
8			take-home exam (22 June)

Departmental Grading System:

The following percentage-to-letter grade conversion scheme is used in all Canadian Studies, History, and Latin American Studies courses, except for HTST 200.

Percentage	Letter Grade	Grade Point Value	Description
90-100	A+	4.00	Outstanding performance
85-89	A	4.00	Excellent performance
80-84	A-	3.70	Approaching excellent performance
77-79	B+	3.30	Exceeding good performance
73-76	B	3.00	Good performance
70-72	B-	2.70	Approaching good performance
67-69	C+	2.30	Exceeding satisfactory performance
63-66	C	2.00	Satisfactory performance
60-62	C-	1.70	Approaching satisfactory performance.

Percentage	Letter Grade	Grade Point Value	Description
56-59	D+	1.30	Marginal pass. Insufficient preparation for subsequent courses in the same subject
50-55	D	1.00	Minimal Pass. Insufficient preparation for subsequent courses in the same subject.
0-49	F	0	Failure. Did not meet course requirements.

Program Advising and Student Information Resources:

- For program advising in the Faculty of Arts, contact the Arts Students Centre (ASC) in SS 102, call 403-220-3580, email artsads@ucalgary.ca, or book an appointment with an ASC advisor at <https://arts.ucalgary.ca/current-students/undergraduate>.
- For further information on academic advising and degree planning for arts students, see <https://arts.ucalgary.ca/current-students/undergraduate/academic-advising>.
- For registration issues, paying fees, and assistance with MyUofC, contact Enrolment Services in MacKimmie Tower Room 116, call 403-210-ROCK (7625), or visit <http://www.ucalgary.ca/registrar/>.
- Attention history majors: History 300 is a required course for all history majors. You should normally take it in your second year.
- Registration Changes and Exemption Requests: <https://www.ucalgary.ca/registrar/registration/appeals>

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. Please see *The History Student's Handbook*.

Plagiarism may take several forms:

- Failing to cite sources properly
- Submitting borrowed, purchased, and/or ghostwritten papers
- 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, even when referenced properly, unless the essay is a critical analysis of those works

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 Art's associate deans of students who will apply the penalties specified in the *University of Calgary Calendar*, Section K.

Academic Accommodations:

The student accommodation policy can be found at: ucalgary.ca/access/accommodations/policy.

Students needing an accommodation because of a disability or medical condition should contact Student Accessibility Services (<https://www.ucalgary.ca/access/>) in accordance with the Procedure for Accommodations for Students with Disabilities ucalgary.ca/policies/files/policies/student-accommodation-policy.

Students needing an accommodation based on a protected ground other than disability should contact, preferably in writing, the course instructor.

Copyright:

The University of Calgary has opted out of the Access Copyright Interim Tariff proposed by the Copyright Board. Therefore, 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. 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 consult books on reserve at the library. For more information on the University of Calgary's copyright policy, see <http://library.ucalgary.ca/copyright>.

Other Useful Information:

Please see <https://www.ucalgary.ca/registrar/registration/course-outlines> for information on:

- Wellness and Mental Health
- Student Success
- Student Ombuds Office
- Student Union (SU) Information
- Graduate Students' Association (GSA) Information
- Emergency Evacuation/Assembly Points
- Safewalk

- **Department Twitter @ucalgaryhist**

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