

GEORGIA STATE UNIVERSITY
HISTORY 1112
(*Computer Numbers 12416 & 12419*)
SURVEY OF WORLD HISTORY SINCE 1500
Spring Semester 2009
Mondays, Wednesdays, and Fridays
9:00 AM to 9:50 AM Class
&
10:00 AM to 10:50 AM Class

Dr. Joseph L. Meeler, Instructor

Office Hours: Mondays & Wednesdays 1:45 PM to 2:45 PM and by appointment

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Course Content:

This course introduces students to the history and heritage of world civilizations and to the profession of history. It will survey major political, economic, social, and intellectual developments in world history from 1500 to the present. Students will gain a chronological sense of major historical events and movements as well as an understanding of why and how they took place. We will examine the histories of specific civilizations, cultures, and world regions, but also study the interactions of these peoples and societies over time, wherein lie the roots of today's global interdependence. There will be an emphasis on the achievements and impact of Western civilization, from which our own American society descended, but we will be examining it in a global context, seeking interconnections and mutual influences between the West and the rest of the world. Due to the enormous expanse of time and events to be covered, the course represents only a selection of topics, cultures, and regions.

Class lectures and textbook readings will give you a general chronological framework. The documents from your textbook, films, and videos shown in class will provide deeper insight into particular problems and periods. You will improve basic verbal and written skills by taking part in class discussions and by writing essays. You will be learning how to read comprehensively, take notes, and derive meaning from texts. You will learn about a variety of ways in which one can study history and experience different types of historical sources, including videos and novels. The idea is not just to memorize the "facts" of history, but also to be able to think about them, synthesize them, and formulate your own interpretations. These skills will be invaluable to you in other courses as well as in your future career path.

As world geography is an important part of this course, tests and quizzes will include maps. (Although the maps in the text are adequate for this course, students may wish to study the *Magellan Geographic World History Atlas* as a supplement to the maps in this volume.)

Required Readings:

Text: *Traditions and Encounters: A Brief Global History, Volume II, 1st edition* (called "Text" in the syllabus) by Jerry H. Bentley, Herbert F. Ziegler, and Heather Streets. **Additional Reading: *Ragtime* by E.L. Doctorow. Even if you must be absent, you are responsible for all assigned readings, the content of any films shown in class, and any information handed out in class.**

The course schedule is a guide to this course, outlining your reading schedule and the subjects of discussion for each class period. Students should complete all assigned readings before class. Do not fall behind on reading assignments. Although there will not be enough time to discuss all assigned readings in a particular class, the information in each assignment may be included on examinations.

The course schedule is subject to change. Students are responsible for any amendments to the reading list that the instructor may announce in class during the semester.

Attendance:

The instructor will take roll on a regular basis. A student's class participation grade will be based his or her individual contributions to classroom discussions and classroom attendance. ***Each class absence over four (4) will reduce the student's class participation grade by twenty (20) percent.*** Excessive absences will result in a lower class participation grade and surely impair your ability to succeed on examinations. When necessity prevents your class attendance, assure that you obtain notes from a reliable source. Valid reasons for excused absences include personal illnesses, with documented evidence from a health-care professional, and certified deaths in the family, evidenced by obituaries from newspapers or other verifiable documentation

Assignments and Evaluations:

In order to effectively participate in class discussions and fully comprehend the materials presented in class, students must read all assignments. **READ, READ, READ!** You are responsible for all information presented, so take notes during lectures, discussions, and films. Students should complete their work on schedule, and actively participate in class discussions. Though the daily subjects reflected in the course schedule will usually reflect the topic of that day's lecture, intermittently, lectures and activities may vary from your prescribed reading agenda.

Students will earn grades for this course based on the following scheme:

First Exam: 25%
Second Exam: 25%
Final Exam: 25%
Participation: 10%
Quizzes and Writing Assignments: 15%

The instructor will give quizzes on a random basis to discern reading diligence. **Students who are absent from class on the day of a quiz cannot take it on a later date.** The course schedule lists examination dates. **Students must obtain prior permission (before the scheduled date of the test), from the instructor, to reschedule an examination.** Without such an arrangement or a valid excuse (personal illness verified by documentation from a health-care professional or a documented death in the family), students cannot make up a missed examination.

On examinations, grammar or spelling mistakes will not count against you, nevertheless, your writing must be legible and comprehensible, and your responses should be well organized and reasoned. If the instructor cannot make sense of an answer, there will be no credit given for that response.

The grading scale for this course is as follows:

A+ = 95% or above = 4.3
A = 90% or above = 4.0
A- = 88 % to 89% = 3.7
B+ = 85% to 87% = 3.3
B = 80% to 84% = 3.0
B- = 78 to 79% = 2.7
C+ = 75% to 77% = 2.3
C = 70% to 74% = 2.0
C- = 68% to 69% = 1.7
D = 60% to 67% = 1.0
F = 59% and below = 0

Honor Code:

Observe the honor code. Your student handbook and GSU catalog thoroughly explain Georgia State University's stance on cheating and **plagiarism**. This instructor will enforce all stipulations of this code. Do your own work! Even one incidence of plagiarism by a student is enough of an infraction of the honor code for the instructor to give that individual an **F** for the entire course.

Office Hours:

Students should bring questions concerning readings, lectures, themes, or general concepts, and any other course-related matters to the instructor's attention. Students can visit the instructor during office hours (see the first page of this syllabus). If these hours conflict with an individual's schedule, that student may arrange a meeting at another time. Students can see the instructor after class, make contact by E-mail, or leave a message in this instructor's mailbox in the History Department in order to arrange such a conference.

Learning Disabilities:

Students with learning impairments should inform the instructor of their disabilities at their first opportunity, so that student and instructor can arrange a meeting to discern the accommodations necessary to insure an optimal learning environment for that individual.

The instructor prohibits student use of laptop computers and any other *sound-reproducing device* in the classroom before during or after class.

Students should keep their cell phones in their pockets, packs, or purses, turning the ringer to vibrate or silent before entering the classroom. If a student's cell phone should ring while he or she is in the classroom, that individual should turn it off immediately and directly put it away. However, if the phone call is important, he or she should leave the classroom and answer it outside in the hall. When that phone call is finished, the student should quietly return to his or her seat. No student should have a cell phone in his or her hands for any other reason while he or she is in the classroom.

Course Schedule History 1112– Spring Semester 2007

- 1. Monday, 5 January: “Get acquainted” – go over syllabus – discuss goals**
- 2. Wednesday, 7 January: Transoceanic Encounters and Global Connections**
Text: Chapter 20
- 3. Friday, 9 January: The Transformation of Europe**
Text: Chapter 21
- 4. Monday, 12 January: Continuation**

5. **Wednesday, 14 January: New Worlds: The Americas and Oceania**

Text: Chapter 22

6. **Friday, 16 January: Continuation**

Monday, 19 January: HOLIDAY, (NO CLASSES)

7. **Wednesday, 21 January: Video: “Human Bondage” and writing assignment**

8. **Friday, 23 January: Africa and the Atlantic World**

Text: Chapter 23

9. **Monday, 26 January: Continuation**

10. **Wednesday, 28 January: Tradition and Change in East Asia**

Text: Chapter 24

11. **Friday, 30 January: Continuation**

12. **Monday, 2 February: The Islamic Empires**

Text: Chapter 25

13. **Wednesday, 4 February: Continuation**

14. **Friday, 6 February: Revolutions and National States in the Atlantic World**

Text: Chapter 26

15. **Monday, 9 February: Continuation**

16. **Wednesday, 11 February: Continuation and catch up and review for the exam**

17. **Friday, 13 February First Exam.**

18. **Monday, 16 February: The Making of Industrial Society**

Text: Chapter 27

19. **Wednesday, 18 February: Continuation**

20. **Friday, 20 February: No Class/Catch-up on Reading for Book Review**

21. **Monday, 23 February: The Americas in the Age of Independence**

Text: Chapter 28

22. **Wednesday, 25 February: Continuation**

23. **Friday, 27 February: Continuation**

2 March thru 6 March: Spring Holidays!

(2 March is the last day to withdraw without academic penalty.)

24. Monday, 9 March: Continuation
25. Wednesday, 11 March: The Building of Global Empires
Text: Chapter 29
26. Friday, 13 March: Continuation
27. Monday, 16 March: Continuation
28. Wednesday, 18 March: **Discuss *Ragtime*/ Book Review due!**
29. Friday, 20 March: The Great War: The World in Upheaval
Text: Chapter 30
30. Monday, 23 March: Continuation
31. Wednesday, 25 March: (Continuation and catch up and review for the exam)
32. Friday, 27 March: **Second Exam**
33. Monday, 30 March: **Film: “Paths of Glory” and a writing assignment**
34. Wednesday, 1 April: Continuation of **“Paths of Glory”**
35. Friday, 3 April: The Age of Anxiety, 1919-1939
Text: Chapter 31
36. Monday, 6 April: Continuation
37. Wednesday, 8 April: Continuation
38. Friday, 10 April: New Conflagrations: World War II and the Early Cold War
Text: Chapter 33
39. Monday, 13 April: Continuation
40. Wednesday, 15 April: Continuation
41. Friday, 17 April: The Bipolar World
Text: Chapter 34
42. Monday, 20 April: Continuation

43. Wednesday, 22 April: Continuation

44. Friday, 24 April: The End of Empire and the Emergence of a World without Borders

Text: Chapter 35

**45. Monday, 27 April: Catch-up and review for the final examination.
(Last Day of Class)**

Final Exam Schedule

CRN 12416: 9:00AM to 9:50AM Class:

Friday, 1 May, 8:00-10:00 AM

CRN 12419: 10:00AM to 10:50AM Class:

Monday, 4 May, 10:15-12:15 PM