

SYLLABUS

History 1060: World History II since 1500

Dr. Wolar

Spring, 2009

MWF - 11 a.m.

Room 145

REQUIRED TEXTS:

J.M. Roberts, The New Penguin History of the World, Fully Updated and Revised Edition (Oxford: Oxford University Press, 2007).

RECOMMENDED RESOURCES:

David Christian, Maps of Time: An Introduction to Big History (Berkeley: University of California Press, 2004).

Niall Ferguson, The War of the World: Twentieth-Century Conflict and the Descent of the West (New York: Penguin, 2007).

CATALOG DESCRIPTION:

This course will analyze the impact of social, economic, political, cultural, and intellectual changes in the context of world civilizations from the beginning of the 16th century until the contemporary period. Specific historical trends within the Middle Eastern, Asian, African, European, and Western Hemispheric contexts from the 16th century until the present will be studied.

OBJECTIVE:

To critically analyze the political, social, economic, and cultural issues pertinent to world civilizations from the beginning of the 16th century until the present.

OUTCOMES:

The student will be intellectually exposed to a variety of cultural values, institutions, and traditions. The student will demonstrate historical knowledge and critical thinking skills in preparation for transfer to a four-year college or university. Additionally, the student will acquire rudimentary library skills and apply effective writing skills in pursuance of the above-stated objectives.

SCHEDULE OF READING:

Week of January 12: Roberts, Book Five – “Introduction”; and, chapter 1: “A New Kind of Society: Early Modern Europe”.

Week of January 19: Roberts, chapter 2: “Authority and Its Challengers”; and, chapter 3: “The New World of Great Powers”.

Week of January 26: Roberts, chapter 4: “Europe’s Assault on the World”; and, chapter 5: “World History’s New Shape”.

Week of February 2: Roberts, chapter 6: “Ideas Old and New”; and, Book Six - “Introduction”.

Week of February 9: Roberts, Book Six, - “Introduction”; chapter 1: “Long-Term Change”; and, chapter 2: “Political Change in an Age of Revolution”.

Week of February 16: Roberts, chapter 3: “Political Change: A New Europe”; and, chapter 4: “Political Change: The Anglo-Saxon World”.

Week of February 23: Roberts, chapter 5: “The European World Hegemony”; and, chapter 6: “European Imperialism and Imperial Rule”.

Week of March 2: Roberts, chapter 7: “Asia’s Response to a Europeanizing World”.

Week of March 9: Roberts, Book Seven – “Introduction”; and, chapter 1: “Strains in the System”.

- March 9-13 – Spring Break – No Classes.

Week of March 16: Roberts, chapter 2: “The Era of the First World War”; and, chapter 3: “A New Asia in the Making”.

Week of March 23: Roberts, chapter 4: “The Ottoman Heritage and the Western Islamic Lands”; and, chapter 5: “The Second World War”.

Week of March 30: Roberts, chapter 6: “The Shaping of a New World”.

Week of April 6: Roberts, Book Eight – “Introduction”; and, chapter 1: “Perspectives”.

Week of April 13: Roberts, chapter 2: “A New World Order”; and, chapter 3: “Crumbling Certainties”.

Week of April 20: Roberts, chapter 4: “The Closing of an Era”.

Week of April 27: Roberts, chapter 5: “Openings and Closures”.

Week of May 4: Final Examination Week.

EXAMINATION/CRITICAL REVIEW SCHEDULE:

First Critical Film/Book Review – February 23

First Midterm Examination – March 2

Second Midterm Examination – March 16

Second Critical Book Review – April 20

INSTRUCTIONAL METHODS:

The course will be conducted predominantly in a lecture format, with Socratic questioning and discussion incorporated within the course presentation. Occasional use will be made of computer-assisted materials, handouts, and maps.

EVALUATION:

The midterm examinations are worth 25% of the course grade. The critical film/book reviews are worth 35% of the course grade. The final examination is worth 40% of the course grade.

The midterm examinations will consist of identification of names/terms/interpretive perspectives of historical significance. The final examination, comprehensive in nature, will be written on examination “blue books” on sale at the campus bookstore.

The critical book reviews will consist of critical analysis of two scholarly monographs pertinent to the subject matter and chronology of this course. Appropriate books may be obtained from the instructor. Prior approval of your choice must be obtained from the instructor. If you cannot find a suitable book consult with the instructor for further advice.

The critical book reviews are to be formally organized per the requirements of the Chicago Manual of Style (summarized in Kate Turabian’s Manual for Writers). Therefore, each paper is to be double-spaced, footnoted (endnotes are a suitable alternative), and reflect appropriate margin spacing. Each paper is to be 6-8 pages in length. Students taking the course WI must do two 8-10 page critical book reviews.

All critical reviews must be turned in during the class period on the appropriate deadline date, unless alternatively advised by the instructor.

--- Optional Evaluative Track: The student may choose to write a 4-5 page critical film review in lieu of the first critical book review. The film is to be chosen from the film list, below, or through consultation with the instructor. The required subsequent book review must be on the identical topic as the reviewed film. For example, if the student chose to review the film “Reds”, the student’s subsequent book review would need to be on the Russian Revolution or the World War I era. The critical film review is worth 15% of the course grade, while the subsequent critical book review is worth 20% of the course grade under this Optional Evaluative Track. The student must notify the instructor in writing, by January 30, of the student’s wish to pursue the Optional Evaluative Track.

--- Films:

Gandhi	The Last Samurai	Doctor Zhivago
Seven Samurai	Reds	Water
Kagemusha	Europa Europa	The Reader
Ran	Schindler’s List	Dersu Uzala
The Last Emperor	Sophie’s Choice	Earth
Gallipoli	Lawrence of Arabia	Fire
The Mission	The Killing Fields	A Man For All Seasons
Letters From Iwo Jima	Elizabeth/Elizabeth I	

Make-up examinations are NOT offered, except under extraordinary circumstances and with the prior consent of the instructor.

All critical film/book reviews are to be turned in during the class period of the appropriate deadline date, unless alternatively advised by the instructor. Email submissions are acceptable, as long as the email submissions are forwarded no later than 11:50 a.m., C.S.T., on the appropriate deadline date. Critical film/book reviews may be mailed through the USPS, but must be postmarked no later than the appropriate deadline date. Late critical film/book reviews will NOT be accepted – no exceptions.

For evaluative purposes, the student is accountable for ALL assigned readings and ALL class presentations. Therefore, to maximize your potential in the course you are strongly advised to regularly attend class.

All electronic recording devices are prohibited in class unless the instructor grants, upon good cause, prior approval for the use of such devices. Turn cell phones off during class.

For evaluative purposes, the following grade scale is used:

A = 90-100

B = 80-89

C = 70-79

D = 60-69

F = 50-59

The instructor views the above grades as reflective of the following academic standard of achievement:

An “A” grade is an honor grade indicating excellence, and is equivalent to a consistently superior performance in the course. The issuance of an “A” grade reflects the instructor’s professional judgment that the student has mastered the essential facts, issues, and themes of the college-level history course and the interconnections between such facts, issues, and themes in proper chronological sequence.

A “B” grade is an honor grade equivalent to a competent performance that is less than the substantive mastery expected for an “A” grade, yet clearly above the average performance expected within the confines of a “C” grade. The issuance of a “B” grade reflects the instructor’s professional judgment that the student has a good, but not superior, grasp of the relevant facts, issues, and themes, as well as the interconnections between such facts, issues, and themes in proper chronological sequence.

A “C” grade is equivalent to an average or satisfactory performance in the course and professionally reflects an adequate comprehension of the essential facts, issues, and themes, as well as the interconnections between such facts, issues, and themes. The issuance of a “C” grade indicates that the student has exhibited sufficient ability to warrant entering sequential courses in the discipline of history.

A “D” grade is equivalent to a passing, but less than satisfactory, performance in the course and reflects no more than minimal comprehension of the essential facts, issues, and themes, and no more than a minimal comprehension of the interconnections between such facts, issues, and themes. The issuance of a “D” grade indicates that the student is not likely to be successful in a higher level history course and would not meet prerequisite requirements.

An “F” grade is a failed performance that reflects neither a minimal comprehension of the essential facts, issues, and themes of the course nor any viable comprehension of the interconnections between such facts, issues, and themes of a college-level history course.

WITHDRAW FROM CLASS PROCEDURE:

If the student fails to attend class, he/she must complete the withdrawal form with the Student Services office. A “W” will appear on the transcript. Students failing to formally withdraw from the course may receive an “F” as a letter grade on the permanent transcript.

PLAGIARISM:

Students are encouraged to review the latest MPCC Student Handbook, re: plagiarism. Plagiarism occurs when a student secures the ideas and/or writings of another without attribution to the original author. Plagiarism jeopardizes the integrity of the scholarly experience and is not to be tolerated.

DISABILITIES:

Mid-Plains Community College is committed to providing a discrimination-free environment for its students with disabilities. Students with learning or physical disabilities are encouraged to request assistance from administrative staff at the following numbers: 535-3710 or 535-3706.

OFFICE HOURS:

MWF / 10 a.m.

T/Th 8:30 a.m.

Room 145A

308-535-3763

wolarg@mpcc.edu

<http://www.geocities.com/gwolar/>

If the above office hour is unsatisfactory, please arrange to meet with the instructor at an alternative time. Please leave your phone number or email address when attempting to communicate with the instructor. Alternatively, arrange to meet with me immediately prior to, or immediately subsequent to, the class session. Do not hesitate to contact me as soon as it becomes apparent that you are experiencing academic difficulty.

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