

SYLLABUS
HISTORY 103
MODERN WORLD HISTORY
Fall 2009

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Office Hours: TR 9:30-12:00

"Whether we consider the position of the rock layers that envelope the earth, the arrangement of the forms of life that inhabit it, the variety of civilizations to which it has given birth, or the structure of the languages spoken upon it, we are forced to the same conclusion: That everything is the sum of the past, and that nothing is comprehensible except through its history."--Pierre Teilhard de Chardin.

Course Description: The purpose of this introductory general education course is to provide an overview of the history of the human community from the French Revolution through the twentieth century. In particular we will examine major issues that have made the world we live in today, as well as the impact of Western culture and power on the peoples of Eastern Europe, Africa, Asia, and the Americas. We will do so in order to think globally and compassionately about the problems that plague us as we enter the twenty-first century. Global events and the common needs of all humanity are joining diverse cultures and societies to form one world civilization in a shrinking, fragile, and interdependent world. It is my hope that each of you will leave this course with a better understanding of the complex historical issues that have shaped the modern world and have direct impact on the political, economic, and ecological conditions of the world you live in and the one your children will inherit.

Required Readings:

Tignor, et.al., *Worlds Together Worlds Apart*, vol. C
Jung Chang, *Wild Swans*
LeLy Hayslip, *When Heaven and Earth Changed Places*
Alexander Solzhenitsyn, *One Day in the Life of Ivan Denisovich*
John Perkins, *Confessions of an Economic Hit Man*

Students must also keep up with the world news by **reading** newspapers that provide good international coverage, such as *The New York Times* or *The Christian Science Monitor*. A good web source for world news commentary is www.truthout.org. Discussions at the beginning of each class will be centered on the historical antecedents of current affairs such as the global implications of Russia's political and economic problems, redefining defense needs, the Arab-Israeli conflict, tensions with Iran, the war in Iraq, etc.

Course Requirements: The grade will be based on quizzes and discussions, short papers on the books, one mid-term exam and one final exam. **Except for extreme cases, late assignments will NOT be accepted and no make-up quizzes or exams will be given.** These assignments are worth the following percentage of your final grade:

Quizzes and Participation	10%
3 papers (10% ea)	30%
Midterm exam:	30%
Final:	30%

Lectures and discussions are designed to supplement, clarify, and complement reading assignments. Please read all assignments before coming to class. Since we only meet once a week, absences are not tolerated. **You must attend all class meetings and are responsible for any material, announcements, and course changes covered in class.**

If, for **any** reason you miss more than 5 classes, it is an automatic UW—no make-ups, no incomplete, no pleading, no discussion.

*******VERY IMPORTANT INFORMATION:** *Due to drastic budget cutbacks for the California State University system (thank you, Governor Schwarzenegger and state legislators!), faculty are **REQUIRED** to take nine **mandatory unpaid furlough days** each semester. Three of these have already been pre-set by Chico State for the fall semester: **9/8, 10/15, and 11/2**. At this point it is unclear exactly what the remaining six days will be. This syllabus reflects what days I **THINK** I will be forced to stay home. However, this may change over the course of the semester. It is your responsibility to check the syllabus posted online to get the most current furlough days. Even though I may not be in the classroom, you are still responsible for the readings and assignments required for those days.*

Classroom Decorum:

Part of your education includes learning to behave in a professional manner. Therefore, **I expect you to come to class on time, prepared for the day's lesson, and showing respect for your colleagues.** I will do the same. To help create the best environment for all of us, I've developed the following guidelines. If you believe that you cannot adhere to them, **I strongly encourage you to drop this class now.**

1. **We--students and faculty--all contribute to the creation of a classroom atmosphere that encourages the free exchange of thoughts and ideas.** To sustain this atmosphere for the duration of the semester, it is important that all members of the class are treated with dignity and respect

2. **You may bring a computer to class for the purpose of taking notes ONLY.** However, you must sit in the front row. If you choose to look at e-mail, Facebook, or anything not pertinent to the class, you will lose the privilege of using the computer in class.

3. **Cell phones must be turned off and remain out of sight during class. Same with iPods and other similar devices.**

4. **Newspaper reading, texting, listening to music, and prolonged conversations** (in person or on a cell phone) are rude and disruptive. Engage in these activities before or after class, but not during. I will drop frequent offenders from the class roster.
5. **Habitual late arrivals and early departures** are rude and disruptive. If you need to arrive late or leave early for a *bona fide* reason, please let me know. I will drop frequent offenders from the class roster.
6. **There are NO make-ups** for missed quizzes or homework assignments. Make-up examinations **may** be offered at my discretion. Please note that I am under no obligation whatsoever to offer make-up assignments or examinations.
7. **Students with special needs and circumstances** are encouraged to contact Disability Support Services (DSS, x5959). I am happy to accommodate students through DSS, but cannot offer similar support or services independent of that center.
8. **Academic Dishonesty.** Because I value your education, I absolutely do not tolerate cheating including plagiarism. (Please refer to the Chico State Student Judicial Affairs website (<http://www.csuchico.edu/sjd/sja.shtml#Integrity>) for specifics on university policies and procedures. Any cheating will result in a failing grade and I will report you to Student Judicial Services. I mean it. It is not worth it.

Course Schedule and Lecture Topics:

- Week 1:** Aug 25: Introduction
Aug 27: The Enlightenment in Global Context
Reading: Worlds Together Worlds Apart (WTWA), pp. 640-659
- Week 2:** Sept 1: Declining Empires: Russia and Turkey
Reading: WTWA, 659-671 .
Sept 3: The British Empire
Reading: WTWA, 671-682.
- Week 3:** September 8: **Mandatory Unpaid Furlough**
Film: “The Ascent of Money”
September 10: Reformism, Radicalism and Popular Revolutions
Reading: WTWA, 685-716
- Week 4:** September 15: Nations and Empires
Reading: WTWA, 719-734; 739-759
September 17: **Mandatory Unpaid Furlough**
Reading: WTWA, 735-739
Film: “Expo: Magic of the White City”
- Week 5:** September 22 **Mandatory Unpaid Furlough**
Reading: WTWA, 763-784; Chang, 21-42
Film: “Iron-Jawed Angels”
September 24: An Unsettled World
Reading: WTWA, 785-804; Chang 62-203; 256-296; 458-474
*****Papers on Chang Due*****
- Week 6:** September 29 The Great War
Reading: WTWA, 809-820
October 1: The Great Depression and Global Responses

- Reading: WTWA, 821-839; Solzhenitsyn, all**
******One Day in the Life of Ivan Deisivich**** Papers Due**
- Week 7:** October 6 Rising Nationalism in the Colonial World
Reading: WTWA, 839-849
 October 8: WWII
Reading: WTWA, 853-860
- Week 8:** October 13 **MIDTERM EXAM—(NO MAKE-UPS GIVEN)**
 October 15 **Mandatory Unpaid Furlough**
Film “Nanking”
Begin reading Hayslip. (pages 1-291 is all you will be responsible for)
- Week 9:** October 20: The Cold War
Reading: WTWA, 860-865
 October 22: Decolonization
Reading: WTWA, 865-879
- Week 10:** October 27: The Vietnam War
Reading: Hayslip, 1-291. *** *When Heaven and Earth Changed***
Places papers due today***
 October 29 **Mandatory Unpaid Furlough**
Film: “Three Days in October” or “Women in the Vietnam War”
- Week 11:** November 3: Three Worlds
Reading: WTWA, 879-896
 November 5: 1989 and the Reordering of the World
Reading: WTWA, 899-906
- Week 12:** November 10: End of White Rule in Africa
Reading: WTWA, 906-907; Begin reading Perkins
 November 12: **Mandatory Unpaid Furlough**
Film, “The Corporation”
- Week 13:** November 17 **Mandatory Unpaid Furlough**
Reading: WTWA, 907-918 (Keep reading Perkins)
Film, “The Corporation” part 2
 November 19 Globalization, and the New World Order
Reading: WTWA, 918-930 ***Papers on Perkins due today*******
- THANKSGIVING BREAK November 23-27**
- Week 14:** December 1: Genocide and the New World Order
Reading: WTWA, 930-937
 December 3: War and the New World Order
- Week 15** December 8: Human Prospects: Do We Want to Get Where We are Heading?
Reading: WTWA, 941-960
 December 10 **Mandatory Unpaid Furlough**
 Final study groups meet
FINAL EXAM: TUESDAY DECEMBER 15, 10-11:50.