

The World in the 20th Century
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Instructor

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Office Hours: B Days 12 – 2 PM; C Days 1-3 PM; I Days 1-3 PM

Text(s)/Materials:

Lerner et al., *World Civilizations* Vol 2 (background resource)
Modern History Sourcebook (online)

Major Primary Readings:

Rousseau, *Essay on the Origin of Inequality* (Book I)
Wollstonecraft, *Vindication of the Rights of Women* (selections)
Blake, *Songs of Innocence and Experience*
Darwin, *Origin of Species*, chap 3
Marx, *The Communist Manifesto*
Nietzsche, *The Genealogy of Morals* (selections)
Freud, *The Sexual life of Human Beings* (selections)
Kipling, “White Man’s Burden”, “Glory of the Garden”
Conrad, *Heart of Darkness* (selections)
Brittain, *Testament of Youth*
Lenin, *State and Revolution*
Woolf, *A Room of One’s Own*
Remarque, *All’s Quiet on the Western Front*
Gandhi, *Hindu Swaraj* (and other selections)
Mao Zedong, *Analysis of Chinese Classes* (and other selections)
Mussolini, *What is Fascism*
Hitler, *Mein Kampf* (selections)
Nehru, *Non-Alignment* (and other selections)
The Arab-Israeli Reader (documents from 1920 – 1980)
Sulzberger, *A Long Row of Candles* (selections)
Ho Chi Minh, *Declaration of Independence*
Mandela, *Opening Statement in Court*

Plus, a selection of maps, political documents, and a lot of artwork

Assessment Practices

The History Department places special emphasis on the development of analytical writing skills, so the majority of assessments will support this goal. Students will write at least four short formative papers in which they confront source material on their own, before class discussion. Such papers give students the opportunity to make their own conclusions about the subject matter and to practice writing and the construction of arguments. Two longer summative papers, dealing with more substantial issues, will be due in the final quarter. Finally, some short identification quizzes will assess student note-taking and command of course detail.

Assessments:

Short Papers: 30%
Major papers: 40%
Exams: 20%
In Class Work and Discussion: 10%

Schedule of Topics and Activities

PART I -- Foundations of Modern Ideology

The Enlightenment Background

Locke, *Second Treatise of Government*
Rousseau, *Discourse on the Origin of Inequality*
Wollstonecraft, *Vindication of the Rights of Women*
Jefferson, *Architecture of the University of Virginia*

Diagnostic paper: Darwin and the Enlightenment

The Romantic Response

Rousseau, *Discourse on the Origin of Inequality*
Blake, *Songs of Innocence and Experience*
Shelley, *Frankenstein*
Paintings of Delacroix, Friedrich, Goya, Turner

Industry, Marx and the Middle Class

Marx, *The Communist Manifesto*
Paintings of Courbet, Daumier, Manet, Renoir, Monet, Cassat

Formative paper: Influences on Marx

The Limits of Reason

Nietzsche, *The Genealogy of Morals*

Freud, *The Sexual Life of Human Beings*

Paintings of Van Gogh, Gauguin, Early work of Picasso

PART II -- Imperialism and World War

The Growth of European Empire

Mapwork: Africa, Asia

Kipling: “The Glory of the Garden”, “The White Man’s Burden”

Conrad, *Heart of Darkness*

Formative paper: Kipling, Conrad and Imperialism

Alliances, Conflict, and Tragedy

Entente Cordiale, 1903

Chirico, “The Philosopher’s Conquest”

Austrian Ultimatum to Serbia, 1914

Wilfred Owen, War Poems

Pessimism, Optimism, Feminism

Remarque, *All’s Quiet on the Western Front* (selections)

Brittain, *Testament of Youth*

Woolf, *A Room of One’s Own*

Paintings of Grosz

Major paper: War and the Growth of the Modernist Sensibility

A New World Order

Treaty of Versailles

Charter of the League of Nations

Lenin, *State and Revolution*

Gandhi, *Hindu Swaraj*

Mao Zedong, *Classes in Chinese Society*

Major paper: Asian Adaptation of European Ideology

PART III – Armageddon and Aftermath

Fascism and Militarism

Mussolini, *What is Facism*
Hitler, *Mein Kampf* (selections)
Munich Treaty, 1938
Mapwork: Europe and China in 1939

The Second World War in Asia and the Pacific

Mapwork: Rise and Fall of Japanese Empire
Images: Greater East Asia Co-Prosperity Sphere
Eyewitness Accounts: Bataan, Guadalcanal, Saipan, Hiroshima

Cold War and De-Colonialism: 1945-52

Berlin Airlift, Truman Doctrine, and the roots of the Cold war
Indian Independence
 Nehru, *Speech on the Granting of Indian Independence, Non-Alignment*
First Arab-Israeli War
 Israeli-Arab Reader, pp. 65-89
Founding of People's Republic of China
 Mao Zedong, *Quotations*
Korean War

PART IV – Emergence of Contemporary Geopolitics

Cold War and Superpower Confrontation: 1952-72

Sinai, 1956
Hungary, 1956; Czechoslovakia, 1968
Cuba, 1962
Arms Race: nuclear and conventional

Southeast Asia: 1952-75

French and Viet Minh
 Ho Chi Minh, *Declaration*
Division of Vietnam
American involvement and escalation
Consequences: Vietnam; Cambodia and the Khmer Rouge

Emergence of Modern Africa: Nigeria, Kenya, South Africa

Kenyatta, *Selected Speeches*
Mandela, *Court Address, 1964*