

Imperial Valley College

History 101 “Modern World History”

Professor: Bradford W. Wright, Ph.D.

Fall 2012

Meeting days/times: Tuesdays and Thursdays, 1:30-2:55

Class Location: Room 504

Prerequisites: None

Office 301 Hours: Mon. 4:30-6:00
Tues. 3:30-4:30
Wed. 12:45-1:15
Thurs. 3:30-4:30

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Course Description and Objectives:

This is an introductory course in modern world history from approximately 1500 to the present. Through a combination of lectures, class discussions, and video documentaries, we will cover such topics as the Scientific Revolution and Enlightenment, the rise of capitalism, imperialism, liberal constitutionalism, political revolutions, world wars, cold war, the modern global economy, and transnational popular culture. We will explore the part played by all kinds of people—important leaders and common folk alike—in the political, economic, military, social, and cultural developments that have shaped modern world history. Our discussion of players in world history will range from kings, warlords and philosophers to peasants, workers, and rock bands.

History is not simply the memorization of names and dates. The study of history gives us a richer understanding of our own times and ourselves by connecting with the people, events, and ideas of the past. It allows us to situate our own experiences to those of the people who came before us. To better understand the context of the past is to better understand and appreciate our own lives in the present.

Students should come out of this course with a good basic understanding of the major themes and developments in modern world history. And in the process, students will have the opportunity to sharpen their own critical, argumentative, and analytical skills, which will help them in whatever career or personal path they choose to pursue.

Student Learning Outcomes: Students will be able to (1) identify and recall key information from a historical text and/or a documentary film; (2) describe the causes and/or impact of a historical event; and (3) evaluate a primary or secondary history source by the end of the course.

Required Texts

Jerry Bentley, *Traditions and Encounters*, v. II

George Orwell, *1984*.

Grading

Final grades will be determined according to the following distribution:

Exam I:	20%	200 points
Exam II:	20%	200 points
Exam III:	20%	200 points

Exam IV:	20%	200 points
Short Paper 1:	10%	150 points
Short Paper 2:	10%	150 points

Total:	100 %	1000 points

Exams will consist of short answer questions (identifications of terms) and essays. A study guide will be distributed prior to each exam, and these should greatly help students prepare for the exams.

The two short papers will be based on assigned questions and topics.

Class participation (including attendance, involvement in class discussions, and other positive contributions to learning in the course) is strongly encouraged. Good class participation will be taken into account in cases where a student finishes the course with a borderline grade. (i.e.: an 89 may be entered as a grade of "A," if the student in question had a good attendance record and participated positively in the class.) Disruptive behavior in class, including frequent tardiness, getting up and leaving before the end of the class, and poor attendance will also be taken into account, negatively, in evaluating a student's class participation.

Class Policies and Procedures:

Attendance:

Regular class attendance is expected. If you should miss a class meeting for any reason, you are still responsible for any material and/or class announcements discussed in your absence. Excessive absences (over three) will hurt your class participation grade and effectively cancel any possibility of rounding up your final grade in borderline instances.

You are also expected to arrive at class on time and remain for the duration of the class.

Failure to do so will be considered the same as an absence. It is also simply rude. If you must leave early for a valid reason, I simply ask that you let me know ahead of time. Please be courteous.

Make-Up Exams: You should do everything possible to take the exam at the regularly scheduled time and place. If, however, you must miss an exam because of an extreme illness or family emergency, you may be permitted to make up the exam. **Any make-up exam not completed within one week of the regularly scheduled exam date will automatically be penalized a full letter grade (10 points).** The make-up exam will be based on the same study guide, but may or may not consist of the same questions. **Again, I emphasize that the right to take a make-up exam is not absolute and is open to my discretion.** You are expected to take the exam in class on the regularly scheduled date.

Quizzes cannot be made up for any reason.

Classroom Courtesy:

I ask you to respect the rights of your colleagues to learn in a productive, respectful, and disciplined classroom environment and to respect the job that I do to ensure such an environment as I teach. Behavior such as arriving late, leaving early, answering cell phones, text-messaging, listening to iPods, and carrying on personal conversations disrupts the class, interferes with my job as a teacher, and deprives your colleagues of their right to learn. I ask students to remove cell phones from their desks during class. **Cell phone usage in class has become a major problem. It is extremely distracting for myself and for students. If I see a student using a phone in class, I will ask them to stop. If the behavior continues, I will ask them to leave.** Please use common sense and take responsibility for your behavior. **Be courteous and considerate! Don't be rude!** That is all I ask.

Accommodation for Students:

I am happy to work with all students so that each can achieve his/her educational objectives. Any student with a documented disability who may need educational accommodations should notify me and the Disabled Student Programs and Services (DSP&S) office as soon as possible (DSP&S), Health Sciences Bldg. 2100, 355-6312).

Dropping the Course:

If for any reason you decide not to complete the course, remember that it is your responsibility to drop the class. If you simply stop coming to class and do not log on to the WebSTAR and officially withdraw from the course, you will receive an "F" as a final grade.

Academic Honesty:

The college and I take the issues of student dishonesty, cheating, and/or plagiarism very seriously. There are severe penalties arising from acts of academic dishonesty and student misconduct, up to and including dismissal from the college. For a complete discussion of disciplinary procedures for academic dishonesty or other student misconduct, please refer to the current IVC General School Catalogue.

Cheating may include: looking on another student's paper during an exam, the use of additional materials beyond those allowed for an exam, or turning in a paper that was not written by the student, and other acts of plagiarism.

I trust my students to do their work honestly. Please do not betray the trust that I have placed in you.

Course Schedule and Reading Assignments:

Aug. 21: Introduction

Aug. 23: The Age of Discovery and Conquest

Bentley, 367-385; 411-429

Aug. 28: The European Renaissance and Reformation

Bentley, 387-400

Aug. 30: The Scientific Revolution and Enlightenment

Bentley, 400-408

Sep. 4: Africa and the Islamic World, 1450-1750

Bentley, 431-448; 471-486

Sep. 6: South Asia, Southeast Asia, and East Asia, 1450-1750

Bentley, 451-469

Sep. 11: The Age of Revolution: America and France

Bentley, 491-501

Sep. 13: The Age of Revolution: Latin America

Bentley, 501-504

Sep. 18: Exam 1

Sep. 20: The Industrial Revolution

Bentley, 515-533

Sep. 25: Industrial Age Ideologies and Nationalism

Bentley, 504-513; 535-553

Sep. 27: Imperialism in Africa, South Asia, and the Middle East

Bentley, 555-571

Oct. 2: China, Japan, and Russia, 1750-1914

Bentley, 572-578

Oct. 4: The First World War

Bentley, 583-593

Oct. 9: The First World War and Revolution in Mexico and Russia

Bentley, 593-600

Oct. 11: Exam II

Oct. 16: Revolution and Nationalism in Asia, Africa, and Latin America

Bentley, 619-635

Begin reading Orwell

Oct. 18: The Rise of Fascism and Nazism in Europe

Bentley, 603-617

Oct. 23: The Second World War in Europe

Bentley, 637-643

Oct. 25: The Second World War in Asia and the Pacific

Bentley, 643-655

Finish reading Orwell

Oct. 30: The Origins of the Cold War

Short Paper 1 Due

Bentley, 657-666

Nov. 1: Postwar China, Japan, and Korea

Bentley, 666-671

Nov. 6: Exam III

Nov. 8: Decolonization, Independence, and Conflict in Africa and the Middle East

Bentley, 671-676

Nov. 13: Revolution and Conflict in Latin America, 1945-1973

Bentley, 676-677

Nov. 15: Popular Music and the Global Youth Revolt

Nov. 20: The End of the Cold War and the Rise of the New Europe

Bentley, 677-682

Short Paper 2 Due

Nov. 22: Thanksgiving Day—No class

Nov. 27: Conflicts in the Middle East and Africa

Bentley, 685-699

Nov. 29: Challenges and Opportunities in the Contemporary World

Bentley, 699-703

Dec. 3-7: Final Exam Week