World Societies in Flux:
Major Themes in World History, 1500--2000

“The good historian is like the giant in the fairy tale. He knows that whenever he catches the scent of human flesh, there his quarry lies.”

--Marc Bloch, *The Historian's Craft*, 1941

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Statement of Purpose:
The history of the world in the last five hundred years is a history of constant change, be it political, religious, economic, social, cultural, military, or cultural transformation. While we can in no way hope to cover all of those changes in the course of one semester, together we will delve into the most important events, movements, transformations and personalities in the story of humanity’s last half millennium. Despite the dominance of Europe (and later the United States) in the history of this period, we will endeavor to include all of the world’s peoples in our studies. In addition to increasing your factual knowledge of the past of this planet you call home, you will develop the intellectual skills to analyze and interpret history. This development will enable you to excel in a number of areas, including reading comprehension, persuasive writing, and critical thinking. Hopefully, if you have done your job and I mine, by the end of the semester, you will have the skills and background to embark on a more detailed, further study of history at the university level, if you so desire. Whatever the outcome, I hope you come to appreciate the ever changing nature of this thing we call history.

Mechanics of the Course:
For the majority of class time, the instructor will lecture on the course material. Lectures WILL NOT NECESSARILY come from or follow the textbook’s track—the two (your reading of the text and
listening to and think about lectures) are independent and you will have to synthesis them in order to truly understand our topic. Audio-visual materials may be used during certain classes to stimulate understanding and discussion. The schedule of topics and the reading assigned to complement the lectures follows below. It is IMPERATIVE that you have the reading done before class each week to be able to follow the lectures more precisely. Read the class schedule below and listen for class announcements for changes in this general format.

**Required books to purchase (available at the USM Textbook Center):**


**Bluebooks & Scantron Forms:**

Each student should purchase six “blue books” and a package of scantron forms to be used for examinations. Both are available at the Hub Bookstore and may also be available at various vending machines on campus. Students must purchase these items at the beginning of the semester and submit the blank blue books and scantron packets to the instructor by Friday, 27 January 2006. Do not write or put your name on the blue books, but be sure I check you off as having turned the items in. Blue books and scantron forms will be randomly re-distributed for class examinations as needed.

**Assignments, Attendance, & Grading:**

The first assignment is the careful reading of this syllabus. Attentive and informed reading of all class readings is necessary for the satisfactory completion of the course.

Attendance at ALL classes is MANDATORY. Attendance will be taken at most class meetings and unexcused absences will hurt your final grade. Excessive unexcused absences (i.e. more than three) will result in the loss of a letter grade or even failure for the course. Absences are excused in the event of a true emergency (sleeping in or feeling “under the weather” DO NOT qualify) or with the prior approval of the instructor. In all cases, I require written documentation from the appropriate authorities (dean’s office, athletic coaches, doctors, etc.). Please note: If you stop attending class, but do not withdraw from the course at the Registrar’s Office, the instructor reserves the right to issue a failing grade for the course.

The omission of any major class requirement (exam, paper) will result in automatic failure for the course—in other words, you must turn in every assignment in order to pass the course. There will be two map quizzes given during the class, worth a total of 5% of your final grade. The first, centering on the Atlantic World (Europe, Africa, North & South America), will be on Friday, 3 February 2006, while the second, based on the Pacific World and Asia, will be on Friday, 17 February 2006. No make-up Map Quizzes will be given--for any reason. Students will be given further information early in the semester in order to start studying.
Almost every week, homework assignments are due from the exercises in the primary document reader by Polushin. Each week’s homework assignment is listed on the course schedule and the due date for the homework, usually the Monday of the following week, is also listed. Follow ALL the directions for the exercises and turn in the entire bundle of homework (carefully torn out of the book, stapled together, with your name on each page) each week at the due date. As some of the homework weeks overlap—students are advised to look ahead in the reader and make copies of extra pages as necessary. Overlapping homework pages IS NOT an excuse not to turn in all of your homework. The homework, counted together, is worth 15% of your total grade. Note: As many of the homework assignments ask students to highlight certain text passages, students are advised to purchase a few good highlighter markers in at least three different colors.

There will be two short (4-5 pages) papers for this class, based on the course readings and lectures. The first paper will be due on Friday, 24 February 2006, while the second will be due on Wednesday, 19 April 2006. The paper questions and other details on the paper topics will be handed out well in advance of the due date, to ensure students start working on papers early. History papers MUST be argumentative (have a strong thesis), conform to all rules of grammar and spelling, and document their sources. Students are strongly encouraged to read and apply the lessons in the required text *The Pocket Guide to Writing in History* in order to ensure success on papers. More information on papers (mechanics, etc.) is listed below in “Course Policies.”

There will be three examinations during the course, two midterm exams (Monday, 20 February and Friday, 31 March 2006) and a final exam (Thursday, 11 May 2006 from 2:00 PM–4:30 PM). Examination questions will be drawn from the lectures, textbook, and reader—exams will not be cumulative except for a small portion of the final exam. Exams will be made up of multiple choice and identification questions. The midterm exams will each count as 15% of your final grade, while the final exam will be worth 20%. If you are unable to take an exam, be sure to discuss it with the instructor in advance. If you are ill on the day of an exam, be sure to call before the exam and leave your phone number so I can reach you. Official documentation (such as a doctor’s note, dean’s memo, etc.) must be produced before a student may take a “make-up” exam. If you have any questions about this policy or the instructor’s policy on receiving an Incomplete (I) grade for the course, please see the instructor during office hours.

The History Department sponsors a World Civilization Film Series during the semester. Students who wish may write up to three extra credit movie reviews based on movies in the film series. The reviews must be 2 pages in length, follow all rules for a history paper as outlined in this syllabus, and offer a critical review of the historical accuracy of the film—using information from your textbook as a source. Students with questions about the optional reviews should email the instructor or see him during office hours. A flyer listing the movies and dates will be handed out early in the semester. This is the only way to earn extra-credit in the class—students are encouraged to take advantage of the opportunity.

**Grading Breakdown:**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Component</th>
<th>Percentage</th>
<th>Points</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Weekly Homework</td>
<td>15%</td>
<td>150 Points</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Map Quizzes (2)</td>
<td>5%</td>
<td>50 Points</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>First Midterm Exam</td>
<td>15%</td>
<td>150 Points</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Second Midterm Exam</td>
<td>15%</td>
<td>150 Points</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>First Paper</td>
<td>15%</td>
<td>150 Points</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Second Paper</td>
<td>15%</td>
<td>150 Points</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Final Exam</td>
<td>20%</td>
<td>200 Points</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
<td><strong>100%</strong></td>
<td><strong>1000 Points</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Class Grading Scale:
A=1000-900 points;
B=899-800 points;
C=799-700 points;
D=699-600 points;
F=below 600 points.

**As strict as this scale seems, improvement in grades over the semester MAY be taken into account when assigning the final grade.** This is a learning process and if you can demonstrate that you have improved your skills by posting better grades at the end of the course, you will be rewarded.

A Note about Office Hours:

I hold office hours for any interested students at posted times (see page one, above, for days and times) and will be happy to arrange a different time for you to come in and see me if those times do not fit into your schedule. If for some reason I must miss my office hours, I will try to announce it in class and I will post it on my office door. This is time I have set aside for you to come in and talk about your questions or comments about the class, history, writing, the university, or whatever (including "The West Wing"). It is a great time to come in and discuss paper topics or questions. If you're interested in majoring in history or even thinking of someday going to grad school, come in and chat. It is unfortunate that more students don't take advantage of faculty office hours--we're not just available in the classroom.

Course Policies:

1. Class Climate: This course is designed to give you a chance to explore an academic area of interest through lectures, intensive reading, writing, and discussion. While formal group discussions are impossible in such a large class, almost every class periods will include some academic interaction between students, between student and professor, or between student and teaching assistant. We will create and maintain an atmosphere of mutual respect in which everyone’s ideas can be heard.

2. Pagers and Cell Phones: All pagers and cell phones must be turned to silent mode (vibrate) or off when in class! If you must take or make an EMERGENCY call, leave the classroom (and re-enter) quietly so you will not disturb others. The second time a cell phone rings in class, and any time thereafter, the instructor reserves the right to give an immediate quiz on the current lecture. Cell phones are ABSOLUTELY prohibited in class on examination days and will be confiscated if seen—NO EXCEPTIONS!

3. USM Email and WebCT: All students must check their USM email and our class WebCT site regularly—students who do not set up their accounts or respond to USM email will lose participation points and suffer a lower grade. I will use these online resources to post assignments, keep you up-to-date on class activities, and possibly even give you portions of your exams. Each student will be enrolled on the WebCT class roll for this class. Simply go to:

http://www.usm.edu/de/studentresources/firststep.htm
and follow the instructions to set up your student account. After that, students should simply log in at:

http://distancelearning.usm.edu/webct/ticket/ticketLogin?action=print_login&request_uri=/webct/homearea/homearea/

4. Papers: Students are required to hand in **TWO COPIES** of each paper: one hard printed copy, which must be handed in at the place and time indicated on the course schedule, and one electronic copy, which must be submitted to www.turnitin.com under the correct class and assignment. More information on Turnitin.com is below.

5. Support and Documentation in Papers: Support your paper arguments with specific text references. You must use footnotes for all papers. Follow the *Chicago Manual of Style* format and documentation; also know as the Turabian method. For help and examples, see the USM Libraries’ web page at http://www.lib.usm.edu/research/guides/turabian.html and Mary Lynn Rampolla’s *A Pocket Guide to Writing in History* for information.

6. Paper Preparation: All papers should be computer-generated (12pt font, Times New Roman) and should be double-spaced with one-inch margins. Papers should always be handed in with the pages numbered and stapled together. Proofread carefully. Clearly place your name, the course, a description of the paper, and date of each assignment in the upper right hand corner of the first page.*

*Sample heading for papers (Note: Right-hand placement):

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Student Name</th>
<th>History 102</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Paper One</td>
<td>March 3, 2006</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

7. Copies of Papers: It is your responsibility to keep a copy of each paper that you submit. In the unlikely event that I--A) misplace the hard copy and B) delete the electronic copy of the same paper, you should be able to produce your copy that same day. Students unable to produce the requested copy will fail the assignment.

8. Late Papers: Papers submitted between one and four days (weekend days count) after the due date will be penalized one full letter grade. Papers submitted five to seven days after the due date will be penalized two full letter grades. Papers submitted more than one week after the due date WILL NOT BE ACCEPTED (NOTE—ALL CLASS ASSIGNMENTS MUST BE TURNED IN AND ACCEPTED TO PASS THE COURSE). Extensions of a paper due date will be granted only in the event of a documented medical, athletic, academic, or personal emergency and only in advance of the paper due date. Decisions on the validity of the documentation are within the sole purview of the instructor.

9. Academic Dishonesty: Scholastic dishonesty will not be condoned under any circumstance. See the current Undergraduate Bulletin for a good definition of such behavior. Cheating on an exam or plagiarism on a paper will automatically lead to a grade of “F” for the course and can result in dismissal from the college. The instructor reserves the right to use electronic resources, such as turnitin.com, to detect plagiarism. If you have questions or concerns about this policy—please see the instructor during office hours.
10. **Students with Disabilities:** If you have any disabilities that might affect your performance in this class, please let me know. If a student has a disability that qualifies under the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) and requires accommodations, he/she should contact the Office for Disability Accommodations (ODA) for information on appropriate policies and procedures. Disabilities covered by ADA may include learning, psychiatric, physical disabilities, or chronic health disorders. Students can contact ODA if they are not certain whether a medical condition/disability qualifies. Mailing address: 118 College Drive # 8586, Hattiesburg, MS 39406-0001; Telephone: (601) 266-5024; TTY: (601) 266-6837; Fax: (601) 266-6035 or at: http://www.ids.usm.edu/ODA/default.asp

11. **A Resource for Improving Writing:** While your teaching assistant and I are available to discuss your ideas and look over drafts well before paper due dates, I would also encourage you to use the following resource:

   History students at USM have a special opportunity to get help writing history papers, studying for history exams, and/or doing historical research. The History Department sponsors a History Writing Lab (HWL). The HWL is staffed by advanced graduate students who can assist at any stage of studying or writing, from generating ideas to polishing final drafts, and with any type of history writing project, from book reviews to research papers to preparing for exams. Be aware, the HWL does not provide an editing service where the consultants only correct grammatical errors and typos—the goal of every consultation is to help students become better writers, a process that happens gradually and that occurs through the active participation of students in consultations. If you need some help or guidance, call or email to make an appointment or just stop by for a free, friendly consultation. The History Writing Lab: Room 453, Liberal Arts Building (LAB); phone: 601-266-4121; email: historywritinglab.usm@gmail.com. Opens: 23 January 2006.

12. **Syllabus:** This syllabus is a mutual contract between the professor and student and the student and professor. It will not be altered lightly, however, if circumstances make it necessary, the changes will be made as far in advance as is possible and in writing.
**What is Turnitin?** USM has recently purchased a subscription to the Web-based plagiarism detection software Turnitin. Colleges and universities around the world have found that using Turnitin helps stop and prevent plagiarism of Internet material.

**Here's how it works:**
-- Students (or their instructors) submit electronic copies of assignments to the Web site [http://www.turnitin.com](http://www.turnitin.com).
-- Turnitin compares the student's paper to a range of other sources, including a large database of other students' writing, the Web in general, and many common full-text journals that are available through USM Libraries' online databases.
-- Turnitin then generates an Originality Report for each paper submitted, which shows the percentage of text within that paper that matches text taken from one or more other sources. Using the reports, instructors can compare the text of the student's paper side-by-side with the secondary source. When a substantial amount of text in a student paper matches text in one or more other sources, this may be an indicator of plagiarism.

**The main purpose of Turnitin is:**
-- to ensure that students do their own work
-- to keep students from relying too heavily on secondary sources.
-- to deter intentional or unintentional plagiarism in the future - either by making students aware that they are submitting electronic copies of their work to be checked, or by providing them with an opportunity to learn about what constitutes plagiarism.

Turnitin is not a surefire way to detect plagiarism; it simply points out where text in a submitted paper closely resembles text from other sources. Once Turnitin has identified any discrepancies, it is up to the instructor to determine whether the student has properly cited the source.

**Class Information for History 102—Sec. 01 Spring 2006, Dr. Zelner:**

Class ID Number: **1437742**  Class Password (case sensitive): **history**

You will need this information to log-on and create an account on the Turnitin web site, **which is required of all students in the class by 27 January 2006**. If you need help, surf over to: [http://www.lib.usm.edu/research/plag/turnitin/index.php](http://www.lib.usm.edu/research/plag/turnitin/index.php)
Course Schedule

WEEK 1: THE OLD WORLD MEETS THE NEW WORLD

Weekly Reading Assignment: None.

Weekly Homework Assignment: Fill out, remove, and return to instructor by Friday the “HIS 102 Initial Survey” on p. 275 of Polushin, ed. *Exploring the Sources of World Societies*.

Wednesday, January 18—Course Introduction

Friday, January 20—Lecture
**HIS 102 Survey Due**

WEEK 2: REFORMATION & COUNTER-REFORMATION IN EUROPE


Weekly Homework Assignment: Polushin: Section V, Exercise D (p. 299); Section VI, Exercises B (p. 334), and C (p. 338).

Monday, January 23—Lecture

Wednesday, January 25—Lecture

Friday, January 27—Lecture
**Course Bluebooks/Scantron Packets Due**
**Students Must Register with Turnitin.com**

WEEK 3: ASIAN AND OTHER EMPIRES


Weekly Homework Assignment: Polushin, Section VI, Exercise I (p. 359); Section IX Exercises A (p. 428) and C (p. 436).

Monday, January 30—Lecture
**Week Two Homework DUE**

Wednesday, February 1—Lecture

Friday, February 3—**Map Quiz One** and Lecture
**WEEK 4: POLITICS AND ECONOMICS IN EUROPE**


Weekly Homework Assignment: Polushin, Section VI Exercises D (p. 340), E (p. 342), F (p. 347), and H (p. 357).

Monday, February 6—Lecture  
**Week Three Homework DUE**

Wednesday, February 8—Lecture

Friday, February 10—Lecture and History Writing Workshop

**WEEK 5: AFRICA AND THE SLAVE TRADE**


Weekly Homework Assignment: Polushin, Section V Exercises F (p. 307) and H (p. 311).

Monday, February 13—Lecture/Film  
**Week Four Homework DUE**

Wednesday, February 15—Lecture/Film

Friday, February 17—**Map Quiz Two** and Lecture

**WEEK 6: REVOLUTIONS AROUND THE WORLD**


Weekly Homework Assignment: Polushin, Section VII Exercises A (p. 370), B (p. 373), and C (p. 377-378).

Monday, February 20—**Mid-Term Exam One**

Wednesday, February 22—Lecture  
**Week Five Homework DUE**

Friday, February 24—Lecture  
**Paper One Due**
WEEK 7: INDUSTRIAL REVOLUTION

Weekly Reading Assignment: Upshur, World History, pgs. 627-640, 689-698; Polushin, ed. Exploring the Sources of World Societies, pgs. 393-416.

Weekly Homework Assignment: Polushin, Section VIII Exercises A (p. 397), B (p. 406) and F (p. 416).

Monday, February 27— No Class— Mardi Gras Holiday!

Wednesday, March 1—Lecture
**Week Six Homework DUE**

Friday, March 3—Lecture
**Last day to drop full-semester classes without academic penalty**

WEEK 8: THE WORLD IN TURMOIL


Weekly Homework Assignment: Polushin, Section IX Exercises E (p. 439), G (p. 442), and H (p. 445).

Monday, March 6—Lecture
**Week Seven Homework DUE**

Wednesday, March 8—Lecture

Friday, March 10—Lecture

WEEK 9: NATIONALISM & IMPERIALISM


Weekly Homework Assignment: Polushin, Section IX Exercises K (p. 449), L (p. 454), and M (p. 458).

Monday, March 13—Lecture
**Week Eight Homework DUE**

Wednesday, March 15—Lecture

Friday, March 17—Lecture
WEEK 10: WORLD WAR I
Weekly Reading Assignment: Upshur, World History, pgs. 749-773; Polushin, ed. Exploring the Sources of World Societies, pgs. 472-482.

Weekly Homework Assignment: Polushin, Section X Exercises C (p. 479-480).

Monday, March 20—Lecture
**Week Nine Homework DUE**

Wednesday, March 22—Lecture

Friday, March 24—Lecture

WEEK 11: THE INTERWAR YEARS

Weekly Reading Assignment: Upshur, World History, pgs. 773-780, 785-824; Polushin, ed. Exploring the Sources of World Societies, pgs. 482-500.

Weekly Homework Assignment: Polushin, Section X Exercises E (p. 486), F (p. 491), and H (p. 499).

Monday, March 27—Lecture
**Week Ten Homework DUE**

Wednesday, March 29—Lecture

Friday, March 31—**Mid-Term Exam Two**

WEEK 12: WORLD WAR II

Weekly Reading Assignment: Upshur, World History, pgs. 850-887; Polushin, ed. Exploring the Sources of World Societies, pgs. 500-510.

Weekly Homework Assignment: Polushin, Section X Exercises K (p. 505) and M (p. 510).

Monday, April 3—Lecture
**Week Eleven Homework DUE**

Wednesday, April 5—Lecture

Friday, April 7—No Class!

WEEK 13: SPRING BREAK

Monday, April 10—No Class!
Wednesday, April 12—No Class!
Friday, April 14—Good Friday Holiday—No Class!
WEEK 14: THE COLD WAR IN EUROPE


Weekly Homework Assignment: Polushin, Section XI Exercise A (p. 522).

Monday, April 17—Lecture
**Week Twelve Homework DUE**

Wednesday, April 19—Lecture
**Paper Two Due**

Friday, April 21—Lecture

WEEK 15: POST-WAR CHANGE IN THE REST OF THE WORLD

Weekly Reading Assignment: Upshur, World History, pgs. 901-946; Polushin, ed. Exploring the Sources of World Societies, pgs.523-524.

Weekly Homework Assignment: None.

Monday, April 24—Lecture
**Week Fourteen Homework DUE**

Wednesday, April 26—Lecture

Friday, April 28—Lecture

WEEK 16: ON TO A NEW MILLENNIUM


Weekly Homework Assignment: None.

Monday, May 1—Lecture

Wednesday, May 3—Lecture

Friday, May 5—Lecture
**Last day of full semester classes**

Final Exam: Thursday, 11 May 2006, 2:00--4:30 PM