

History 120: World History Since 1500

Prof. James Adams
Fall, 2009: Wed & Fri, 12:15-1:30

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Course Objectives: This course is designed to accomplish two particular tasks. The first is to provide the students with a general overview of the history of non-America, non-European civilizations from the dawn of European expansion to the present. The second task is to provide students with an opportunity to experience the “way” historians reconstruct the past. The course will focus on specific periods and themes, utilizing both secondary and select primary sources to illustrate not only particular events and trends but also to provide practice in historical research. By the completion of the course, the students should have a general understanding of the way contact between civilizations shaped the development of societies outside of Europe.

Source Papers: Two three-page papers have been assigned on outside readings. The first, due on September 25th, covers de Las Casas’s *A Brief Account of the Destruction of the Indies*; the second, due on November 11th, will be on H. Rider Haggard’s *She*. Both of these works were produced in the eras that we are studying, and both stand as wonderful examples of primary-source cultural artifacts that reflect the social zeitgeist of the period. When writing these papers, think not only about what *exactly* the author is saying, but also what he is *not* saying; in other words, you should ask yourself why exactly the author chose to write this particular piece at this particular time. More details about these papers will be supplied in class. Your course grade will reflect their general quality. Each entry must be typed and submitted at the start of class on the day they are due, typed, printed, and stapled. **Email copies will not be accepted!**

Final Paper: The capstone for this course is a five-page term paper that links everything we have learned in the class. Rather than a formal analysis of a particular primary source, you will instead attempt to answer a general question about ALL the course readings/viewings, be they primary sources or secondary sources. More details about the final paper will be provided in class. A typed, printed, and stapled copy of your final paper is due in my mailbox on-campus (located in the History Department, second floor, Robinson Hall) **no later than 1:15 PM on Wednesday, December 16th – NO EXCEPTIONS WILL BE GRANTED!!! Email copies will not be accepted!**

Exams: There will be two quizzes, on September 30th and November 13th. The format for the quizzes will be as follows. The first quiz will test your knowledge base and absorption of historical details from the readings and course discussion. There will be 20-25 identifications (in which you identify a term/person/place/thing in two sentences) and 5-10 fill-in-the-blank (in which I provide a short statement in which select words have been excised, and it is up to the student to – literally – fill in the missing words). The second test will be more theoretical. Out of ten essay questions, each student will select five to answer. Each test may contain a toss-up question such as map identification (write the name of a place on a printed map), and/or item identification (identify and describe the significance of an item based off of its photo/picture) – there are no guarantees in regards to toss-ups! The final ½ hour of the class BEFORE the exam (i.e. September 25th and November 11th) will be review sessions for the quizzes.

Attendance Policy

Attendance for this course is important. A portion of your final grade is based on your participation in the class discussion regarding that week’s readings. Partial attendance credit will be granted for those students who arrive more than ½ hour late or leave more than ½ hour early. For every three class sessions that a student misses, their final grade will be reduced by one level (e.g. from a B- to a C+). Regardless of if you are absent or not, you are still responsible for the work due on that day (papers, quizzes, etc.) If an absence is unavoidable, you must notify me by email at least one hour before the start of class. Work handed in late will still count, although a slight penalty will apply (no more than a single grade drop [e.g. from a B to a B-] if turned in the next week). **Work more than two weeks past due will not be accepted!** Acceptable excuses for absences include familial death, hospitalization, incarceration, and religious obligations. Make-up exams and coursework extensions can be arranged in the most extreme circumstances, and at my discretion.

Grades

Grades for this course will be calculated as follows:

Quizzes	40%
de Las Casas Paper	15%
Haggard Paper	15%
Final Paper	20%
Attendance and Participation	10%

Books: The following are required and should be purchased at the bookstore:

Strayer, *Ways of the World, Vol. II: From 1500* (Textbook)

H. Rider Haggard, *She* (Oxford World's Classics)

Bartolome de Las Casas, *A Brief Account of the Destruction of the Indies* (Echo Library)

Any additional readings that are *not* found in these books can be found on-line in BLACKBOARD. Students are strongly urged to print out these readings and bring them to class, as we will be discussing them within the context of our textbook.

Course Schedule

- September 2: Introduction and Course Overview
- September 4: Europe and the World
Reading: Strayer 491-495
Guest Lecturer – Dr. William Carrigan, Rowan University
START READING DE LAS CASAS!
- September 9: Planting the Seeds: European Colonialism in North America
Reading: Strayer 403-404, 415-417, 429
Allen – From Cabot to Cartier
Adam Smith – Of Colonies
Adams Smith – The Cost of Empire
- September 11: The Dance of Empires: Europe vs. Asia
Reading: Strayer 417-429
Wong – European Differences
- September 16: For God, King, and Country: The Rape of South America
Reading: Strayer 404-415
Pizarro Propaganda
Aztec Account of the Spanish Conquest of Mexico
- September 18: The “Dark” Continent: Europe and Africa
Reading: Barbosa – A Description of the Coasts of East Africa and Malabar 1-31
- September 23: Global Commerce
Reading: Strayer 433-448, 457
England, India, and the East Indies
Mun – England’s Treasure by Foreign Trade
Five Early Modern Trade Products at <http://bell.lib.umn.edu/Products/Products.html>
- September 25: BOOK REPORT ON DE LAS CASAS DUE!
Global Commerce
Reading: Montesquieu – The Spirit of Laws 1-24
Hobson – Imperialism 4.1-3
- September 30: QUIZ #1
- October 2: Slave Trade
Reading: Strayer 449-457
Lavater – Physiognomy 109-129
- October 7: Slave Trade
Reading: Benezet – Historical Account
- October 9: Religion
Reading: Strayer 461-477
The Maryland Toleration Act of 1649
Religion and Spanish America
The Chinese Rites Controversy
Pere Gerbillon – A Visit to a Lama

- October 14: Science
 Reading: Strayer 477-487
 Franklin – Experiments With Balloons
 Voltaire – Letters on Newton
- October 16: The Revolutionary World
 Reading: Strayer 499-516, 520-524
 Thomas Paine – Common Sense (Selections)
 START READING HAGGARD!
- October 21: Nationalism/Independence
 Reading: Strayer 516-520
 Fei Ch'i-hao – Boxer Rebellion
 Voltaire – *Patrie*
 Arndt – The German Fatherland
 Price – Discourse on the Love of Country
 Mazzini – Essay On the Duties of Man
- October 23: The Industrializing World
 Reading: Strayer 527-555
 Friederich Engels – Industrial Manchester
- October 28: Global Tensions
 Reading: Strayer 559-586
- October 30: The New Colonialism
 Reading: Strayer 589-614
 Extent of Colonialism
- November 4: The Collaps of Europe
 Reading: Strayer 625-657
- November 6: Decolonialization
 Reading: Strayer 691-704
 Statute of Westminster 1931
 Proclamation of the Algerian National Front
 France – The Loi-Cadre of 1956
 United Nations – Declaration on Granting Independence
- November 11: **BOOK REPORT ON HAGGARD DUE!**
Independence Problems
 Reading: Strayer 705-719
 United Nations – Universal Declaration of Human Rights
 Sherif Mohammed – Freedom of Speech, Freedom from Speech
- November 13: Independence Problems cont'd
 Reading: President Kenneth Kaunda of Zambia – African Development and Foreign Aid
 Kwame Nkrumah – I Speak of Freedom
 Buckley – Wife Inheritance Spurs AIDS Rise in Kenya
 Bonner – India's Masses (1959)
 Vernon – Kashmir, The Unanswered Question
 Davis – The Odyssey of Identity

- November 18: QUIZ #2
- November 20: Cold Warriors
Reading: Strayer 659-688
- November 25: Cold Warriors
Reading: Nehru – Marxism, Capitalism, and Non-Alignment
Winston Churchill & Joseph Stalin – “The Iron Curtain” and Response
The Truman Doctrine
Eisenhower Doctrine on the Middle East, 1957
Adlai Stevenson & V. A. Zorin – Cuban Missile Crisis Debate
The Forgotten – Vietnam, Burma, Japan, and Malaysia
- November 27: Thanksgiving Recess – NO CLASS
- December 2: Globalization
Reading: Strayer 723-734
Barber – Jihad vs. McWorld
Friedman – The World of *The World of Coca-Cola*
- December 4: Multiculturalism – The Race Problem
Reading: Two Scholars Discuss Afrocentrism
Sundiata – Afrocentrism: The Argument We’re Really Having
Henry Louis Gates Jr. – Backlash?
African Multiculturalism
Kreyche – A Pox On Multiculturalism
Samir – Multiculturalism, Islam, and The West
- December 9: Multiculturalism – Feminism
Reading: Strayer 734-747
Female Genital Mutilation
Women in China
- December 11: Multiculturalism – Environmentalism
Reading: Strayer 747-752
Wapner – Sovereignty of Nature
Pieces of Perplexio
- December 16: FINAL PAPER DUE