

SYLLABUS: World Civilizations since 1500

Dr. Emily Wakild
MWF, 11:00-11:50
Room: Tribble B117

SPRING 2008 HIST 104D

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General Overview:

This course focuses on Latin America's position in World History. It meets divisional requirements for humanities and cultural diversity. We will survey representations of Latin America through the eyes of foreign travelers from European contact in the fifteenth century to the revolutions of the twentieth century. Using the insights of chroniclers, slaves, scientists, economists, and writers, we will examine the role of Latin American peoples, products, and philosophies within the broader context of world history. The aim of the course is to elicit how global trends of cultural exchange, economic expansion, societal development, environmental change, and political consolidation influenced people's daily lives and shaped the current world situation. In other words, we will investigate both local and global forces for change and continuity.

This is a reading and writing intensive course aimed at developing your critical thinking and argumentation skills. Readings, lectures, and in class activities are designed to provide a varied amount of evidence as to the actions of people, in the past. You will be asked to develop arguments about these actions. The main texts for this course are primary sources including journals, personal testimonies, and images; secondary sources of historical monograph introductions and scholarly articles written by historians; and a textbook that synthesizes broad patterns. The purpose of this wide variety of texts is to examine the many ways of getting at historical processes. The daily and weekly reading loads are often uneven in that there are some weeks with much heavier reading loads than others. Plan ahead and stay on top of the readings, there is no room to lag behind and catch up.

Course Objectives:

This course aims for students to:

1. Understand that history involves a series of debates constructed around evidence.
2. Examine significant primary texts and use these texts as sources of historical evidence.
3. Develop the skills to discuss major issues and processes of world history in both oral and written formats.

Required Readings:

The bulk of your learning in this class will take place through the assigned readings which consist of books, articles, and documents. We will read a major portion of all of the following books and the assigned readings should be completed by the date they are

listed on the syllabus unless otherwise noted. Always bring the reading materials with you to class, along with your notes on the readings.

The main texts available for purchase at the Campus Bookstore are:

Robert Marks, *Origins of Modern World*

Bernal Díaz de Castillo, *The Conquest of New Spain*

Olaudah Equiano, *The Life of Olaudah Equiano, or Gustavus Vassa, The African*

Charles Darwin, *Voyage of the Beagle*

Mike Davis, *Late Victorian Holocausts: El Niño Famines and the Making of the Third World*

John Perkins, *Confessions of and Economic Hit Man*

Jamaica Kincaid, *A Small Place*

Assignments:

All assignments are designed with your growth as a historian in mind. They give you an opportunity to showcase your writing talents and to critically analyze the materials. Please see individual assignment descriptions for further details. In order to earn credit for this course, you must turn in all of the assignments. They are due on the date listed in the syllabus. Late papers will be penalized.

Class participation	20%
Two foreign traveler analysis papers 4-5 pages each (compare Diaz to Equiano: Darwin to Perkins)	15% ea
Outside historical traveler analysis (see list) 4-5 pages, due any time up until last day of class	15%
Midterm (take home essay)	15%
Final (take home essay)	20%
Total	100%

Additional materials including maps, handouts, primary documents, and articles may be distributed in class or posted on Blackboard. You are responsible for acquiring and reading these materials. I reserve the right to add or remove items to the syllabus. I will also make an effort to place course materials, including handouts, announcements and lecture powerpoint slides, on the Blackboard site. Please check it regularly.

Participation and Attendance:

Dynamic, engaged participation and attendance are required in every class discussion. More than four (4) absences a semester will result in an automatic deduction of 1/3 of a grade from your participation grade. If you miss class you are unable to participate. Questions relevant to the readings and discussion will be posted on Blackboard prior to Friday discussions. Use these questions as a guide to prepare your own ideas for contribution during class. Participation includes active listening, asking questions about reading and lecture material, responding to ideas of your classmates, taking notes, offering ideas and comments, completing reading assignments, engaging in intellectual

debates, and considering alternative points of view. You must participate to succeed in this class.

Office Hours:

I welcome visits to my office during the listed office hours to discuss course material. If you are unable to make it to my office during those hours, I am available a limited number of other hours by appointment. I much prefer in-person inquiries to email questions unless you are asking for a minor clarification. I will not respond to emails that discuss absences, missed work, or grades. Appropriate uses of email include appointment scheduling and clarification of assignments.

Drafts and Grade Disputes:

I am willing to look over paper drafts if I receive your draft (by email or hardcopy) at least 48 hours before the assignment is due. Please feel free to also take your essays to the writing center for additional assistance. I also welcome discussions about comments on graded papers, particularly if you have a mind towards improvement. Such conversations will often help you improve on future assignments. In the very rare cases where a student wishes to dispute the grade he or she earned, I require a written statement of at least one page outlining the specific reasons for reconsidering the grade earned.

Electronic Devices:

Electronic devices of any sort are allowed only with my permission. Cell phones and music players must be turned off and put away during class. The use of computers is a privilege and is only permissible if you disable your wireless connection. Students found using the internet or instant messaging during class will forfeit their privilege of in-class computer use for the remainder of the semester.

Special Needs:

If you have a disability that may require an accommodation for taking this course, please contact the Learning Assistance Center (758-5929) within the first two weeks of the semester. Additionally, please meet with me as soon as possible.

Academic Honesty:

Plagiarism, or representing another person's ideas as your own, will not be tolerated regardless of circumstances. It will result in a failing course grade and possible disciplinary action. For questions about plagiarism and suggestions on how to avoid it, visit the library's guide at <http://zsr.wfu.edu/research/guides/plagiarism.html>

Emergencies:

In the case of a natural disaster or pandemic crisis that prevents classes from meeting students should continue to follow the reading outlined on the syllabus and continue working on paper assignments. If the university closes during exam periods (midterm or final) those exams will be done at home and sent back to the professor. Participation will be graded on classes that did meet.

Class Schedule:

All readings should be completed by the date they are listed on the syllabus. Author's last names are listed in ALL CAPS followed by an abbreviated title and pages when applicable. Please note some readings refer to articles or documents posted on the class Blackboard site.

Part I: Early Modern World

Week One

1. January 16 w Introduction—
2. January 18 f MANN 1491 (Blackboard); MARKS 1-19

Week Two

January 21 NO CLASSES

3. January 23 w MARKS, 21-66
4. January 25 f LEED and PRATT (Blackboard)

Week Three

5. January 28 m DÍAZ, 7-26 and 44-57
6. January 30 w DÍAZ, 57-113 and 119-125 and 140-188
7. February 1 f DÍAZ, 189-277

Week Four

8. February 4 m DÍAZ, 278-352 Film Excerpt, *Aguirre, Wrath of God*
9. February 6 w DÍAZ, 353-413; MARKS, 67-84
10. February 8 f EQUIANO, Note -49

Week Five

11. February 11 m EQUIANO, 50-96 KLEIN, "European Organization of the Atlantic Slave Trade" (Blackboard)
12. February 13 w EQUIANO, 97-133 Film Excerpt *Amistad*
13. February 15 f EQUIANO, 134-180

Part II: Science and Imperialism

Week Six

14. February 18 m **DÍAZ – EQUIANO PAPER DUE**
15. February 20 w DARWIN, 1-34 and 378-399
16. February 22 f DARWIN, 41-76;

Week Seven

17. February 25 m DARWIN 83-114; MARKS 95-121
18. February 27 w **TITLE OF OUTSIDE TRAVELER DUE**
DARWIN 171-240
19. February 29 f DARWIN 268-290 and 357-377

Week Eight

20. March 3 m **DISTRIBUTE MIDTERM IN CLASS**
MARKS 123-154
HOBSBAWM, "The Nation as Novelty" (Blackboard)
21. March 5 w **MIDTERM DUE AT START OF CLASS**
22. March 7 f DAVIS 1-59

March 10-15 NO CLASSES

Week Nine

23. March 17 m DAVIS 61-115
24. March 19 w DAVIS 119-209

March 21 NO CLASSES

Week Ten

25. March 24 m DAVIS 277-310
26. March 26 w DAVIS 311-376
27. March 28 f DAVIS 377-394

Part III Nationalism and Development

Week Eleven

28. March 31 m MARKS 155-170
29. April 2 w GRANDIN "Your Americanism and Mine" (Blackboard)
30. April 4 f FILM: *Motorcycle Diaries*

Week Twelve

31. April 7 m FILM: *Motorcycle Diaries*
32. April 9 w FILM and Discussion: *Motorcycle Diaries*; PERKINS xi-39
33. April 11 f PERKINS, 43-113

Week Thirteen

34. April 14 m PERKINS, 117-176; MARKS 170-197
35. April 16 w PERKINS, 179-213;
36. April 18 f PERKINS, 214-277; Testimonies from Nehru, Castro, Nkrumah, Nasser (Blackboard)

Week Fourteen

37. April 21 m **PERKINS-DARWIN PAPER DUE** MARKS 199-207
38. April 23 w KINCAID 1-37
39. April 25 f KINCAID 41-81

Week Fifteen

40. April 28 m Outside traveler presentations discussion (A-L last names)
41. April 30 w Outside traveler presentations discussion (M-Z last names)
- OUTSIDE TRAVELER ANALYSIS DUE**
- DISTRIBUTE FINAL EXAM**

FINAL EXAM DUE: **Saturday May 3, 2008 by 2pm.**

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