Survey of Global History

Course Overview
This course surveys the interactions between the civilizations of Asia, Africa, Europe, and the Americas since 1300, with attention to empires, cultural comparisons over time, and to the impacts of global inter-dependence upon ecosystems and economies, cultures, and geopolitics.

Required Textbooks

Other Readings and Videos will be posted on Brightspace as PdFs. (Free)

How to Succeed in This Class
- Attend class regularly and take notes.
- Complete the readings and assignments.
- Participate in Hotseat questions and small-group discussions.
- Ask questions. Follow up if you are confused.
- Contact me if you get behind so that we can get you back on track. It’s harder to catch up if you are in a big hole.
- You do NOT need Chat GPT or another AI/Large Language Model application to succeed in this class. First, most students find the world load manageable. Second, the course is designed around human interaction: between humans of the past with each other; between you and the humans of the past, and between you and your fellow students. Artificial intelligence still knows less about being human than any of us.

Class Etiquette
- Please be on time.
- Use electronic devices only for class purposes. As examples, it is rude to watch YouTube, sports highlights, text with friends, engage in social media, or do other homework during class. Even when I don’t call it out, I notice.
- Remove earbuds/headphones during class.

Course Requirements

Contact Information
Our emails are listed in the Contact Instructors folder on Brightspace. Please use the Absent Reporting link in that folder to report absences. Absences reported via email tend to get lost or overlooked.

If you are unable to attend office hours, please contact me to make an appointment for another time.

Announcements
Announcements will be posted in Brightspace. Time-sensitive announcements will also be emailed. Check both regularly and always before class. If I need to cancel or modify class, I will post an announcement and email you.

Attendance/Participation Policy
This course follows Purdue’s academic regulations regarding attendance, which states that students are expected to be present for every meeting of the classes in which they are enrolled. Evidence suggests that regular class attendance improves your learning, academic performance, and social and emotional well-being.

Active participation and regular attendance in this course are expected and attendance will be taken. Registering your attendance through Hotseat Participation and Google Docs is your responsibility.

At times, missing class is unavoidable; you are allowed 4 unexcused absences without penalty. Your attendance score will decrease for each absence after 4. You may lose additional points if you do not participate in Hotseat and Google Docs during class.
This course has no proctored or cumulative exams. The course has multiple low-stakes assignments, the purpose of which is to keep you regularly engaged in the course. Your final course grade will be calculated as follows:

**Attendance** (10% of final grade)

Attendance is expected and will be taken daily. It is your responsibility to sign in via Hot Seat and to report any illness, excused absences, or special circumstances. Please read the [Attendance/Participation Policy](#). For record-keeping purposes, please report absences to the link in the Contact Us folder on Brightspace. Do NOT email us about your absences.

**Weekly Online Quizzes** (20%)

- The course has weekly online quizzes, which will be posted in weekly folders (modules) on Brightspace. Quizzes will open after class on Friday and are due before the following Monday’s class (12:00 pm).
- Quizzes cover the in-class material and assigned readings/videos for the week. They are open book; you are allowed and encouraged to use your notes and readings. You should take the quiz individually, not as a group.
- Each quiz will have 10 questions. Questions are multiple choice/multiple answer/true-false. Each question is taken from a random pool; no two quizzes will be identical.
- Each quiz will have one attempt and a 20-minute time limit. Read the textbook before you start the quiz. You will have time to look up a specific answer but will not have enough time to skim to find all the answers.
- Your lowest quiz score will be dropped.

**Friday Discussions** (15-20%)* - This score has two parts:

**Friday Assignments**: Each Friday, a short assignment is due before class (12 pm), usually over the week’s assigned readings or videos. The primary purpose is to prepare you for discussion. These assignments will be posted in the weekly Brightspace folder.

**Small Group Discussions**: On most Fridays, we will be doing small group discussions in class (marked Discussion on the schedule). Make sure that you read any assigned readings or watch the assigned video before class. You will be working together in small groups. You will need a device to access the readings and contribute to your group.

**Discussion Policy**: Small-group discussion is best as a face-to-face activity. To receive credit for discussion sessions (see syllabus for dates), you must attend in class. (See discussion attendance policy.) Remote participation to your group’s document will receive a 0 for the assignment.
- One Discussion grade will be dropped to account for special circumstances.

**Short Essays** (35-40%)* - Three of four assigned essays

- Four assigned short essays (600 - 800 words each). To provide you flexibility, the lowest essay grade will be dropped. Please familiarize yourself with the course late policy. It is in your best interest to save the dropped essay for unanticipated schedule conflicts or illnesses later in the semester.

**For excused absences**: For record-keeping purposes, please report your absence at the link in the Contact Us folder in Brightspace to an absence due to illness or for anticipated absences for university-sponsored activities, religious observances, grief/bereavement, military service, jury duty, parental leave, or job interviews.

**Discussion Attendance Policy**: Small-group discussion is best as a face-to-face activity. Attendance is required to receive credit for Friday discussion sessions (see schedule for dates). One Discussion grade will be dropped.

**Academic Honesty**

Academic dishonesty (cheating, plagiarism, hiring another to do your work, copying and other activities defined by the OSRR) is unacceptable and will not be tolerated in this course. Incidents of academic misconduct will be addressed by the course instructor and referred to the Office of Student Rights and Responsibilities (OSRR) for review at the university level. Any violation of course policies as it relates to academic integrity will result minimally in a failing or zero grade for that assignment, and at the instructor’s discretion may result in a failing grade for the course. In addition, all incidents of academic misconduct will be forwarded to the Office of Student Rights and Responsibilities (OSRR), where university penalties, including removal from the university, may be considered. See also academic honesty links in Purdue Resources tab on Brightspace.

Cheating includes (but is not limited to): turning in someone else’s work as your own, having someone complete assignments or quizzes for you, having someone sign the attendance sheet for you, and sharing quiz questions with other students (in person, on a chat room, or posted to an internet site).

FYI: OSRR can access your internet records from ITaP and from websites like Chegg.

**AI/LLM Policy**: Submitting AI/LLM generated writing or research as your own is academic dishonesty and carries the same penalties as plagiarism. If any portion of your assignment was generated by a
Survey of Global History

Course Schedule

On Brightspace, the course is organized in weekly folders (modules). Each folder contains a Weekly Overview that mirrors the schedule below. The Week Overview in Brightspace will have the most up-to-date information and supersedes the information on the syllabus schedule. Each Brightspace unit includes links to videos, PDFs of primary source readings, and all assignments.

Reading assignments (especially primary source readings) should be completed before Friday’s class.

Week 1: August 21-25 – Introduction and the Mongols (12th and 13th centuries)
Monday: Course Introduction
Wednesday: Empires and Mongols
Friday: Out of Steppes: Genghis Khan

Week 2: August 28 – Sept 1 - The Black Death and the Little Ice Age (14th C)
Monday: Climate and the Plague
Wednesday: Discussion and Lecture: Effects of the Black Death
Friday: Naval Empires and European Exploration in Eurasia
Textbook: Chapter 13

Week 3: September 4-8 – Eurasia and Exploration
Monday: LABOR DAY – NO Class
Wednesday: Ming China and the Voyages of Zheng He
Friday: Discussion: Comparing European and Ming Exploration
Textbook: Chapter 12.2.1, 14 Intro,14.1, 14.2, 14.4, 14.5, 15.2.2

Week 4: September 11-15 – Conquest and Exchange
Monday: Pre-Columbian Americas and European Conquest
Wednesday: Columbian Exchange
Friday: Discussion: Exchange (documents on Brightspace)
Textbook: 14.5, Chapter 16 (all)
Primary Sources: Exchange (on Brightspace)
Essay 1 – due Wednesday, September 20 @ 11:59 PM

Week 5: September 18-22 – Islamic Empires (15th-18th Centuries)
Monday: Ottomans

Final Exam/Essay (15%)
The time, date, and format of the final exam will be announced in October.

* These percentages of these categories may be adjusted slightly within this posted range.

Late Assignment Policy
As an active learning class, your participation in course activities is essential for your success in this course. Because the course is divided into weekly units, assignments in this course have weekly deadlines. The purpose of deadlines is to maintain your consistent involvement in the course and to limit procrastination. Late assignments will not be accepted, except by 

chatbot/AL/LLM application without expressed permission from the instructor, you are in violation of the academic integrity expectations of this course and the university. It may result in a failure or rewrite of the assignment. Serious cases may result in failure of the course. Cases will be reported to the Office of Student Rights and Responsibilities for further review of your status at this University.

The purpose of this policy is not to be punitive, but to make clear that in this class, your own reading, analysis, and writing are more valuable than AL. You are serving as your own historian, a task that AI cannot replace. If I want to know what Chat GPT thinks, I can feed it prompts and read its response. In this class, I am interested in YOUR responses and the maturing of your knowledge, ethics, values, and wisdom.

If you have concerns or questions about the AL/LLM policy, please come speak with me. This technology is new to all of us and quickly evolving. We all are figuring out its positive and negative implication for learning.

This policy may be updated in response to the rapid evolution of AI.

Boiler Cast Recordings
Boilercast class recordings will not be routinely available on Brightspace. Watching class from home is not the same as attending in person. Please contact me if you have an approved absence (see above), a documented disability, or a special consideration that requires you to have access to a Boilercast recording.
Wednesday: Mughal India
Friday: Discussion: Beauty in the Islamic World
Textbook: 14.3.2, 14.6, 15.2, 18.4, 18.5

Week 6: September 25-29 - Religion and Exchange (16th and 17th Centuries)
Monday: Christianity and its Spread
Wednesday: The Spread of Islam and Buddhism
Friday: Discussion: Religious Exchange (primary documents on Brightspace)
Textbook: Chapter 17
Primary Sources: Christianity as a Global Religion (on Brightspace)
Video: The Kingdom of the Kongo

Essay 2 - due Wednesday October 11 @ 11:59 PM

Week 7: October 2-6 - The Atlantic World and the Slave Trade (17th-19th)
Monday: Africa and the Slave Trade
Wednesday: The Americas: Slave Labor and the Slave Trade
Friday: Discussion: Slavery and the Slave Trade
Textbook: Chapter 18.8-18.9, 20.4 to end of chapter, 23.4
Primary Sources: Slavery (Sources on Brightspace)

Week 8: October 9-12 East and West (18th-19th)
Monday: Global Economic Power in the 18th Century
Wednesday: The Opium Wars
Friday: Discussion: Opium Wars Viewed by East and West
Primary Sources: On Brightspace

Essay 3 - due Wednesday, November 1 @ 11:59 PM

Week 9: October 16-20 - Industrial Revolution (18-19th)
Monday: Fall Break
Wednesday: From Muscle to Machine Power
Friday: Cities, Migration, and Immigration
Textbook: Chapter 22, 23

Week 10: October 23-27 - The Scramble for Africa (19th-20th)
Monday: The Scramble for Africa
Wednesday: The Civilizing Mission and its Critics
Friday: Discussion: Reactions of Empire
Textbook: Chapter 24 (all)
Primary Sources: On Brightspace

Essay 4 - due Wednesday, December 1 @ 11:59 PM

Week 11: October 30-Nov 1 - World War 1 as Global Conflict (20th Century)
Monday: Industrial War
Wednesday: Global War
Friday: Discussion: Colonial Soldiers
Textbook: Chapter 26.1-2, 27.2
Primary Sources/Video on Brightspace

Week 12: November 6-10 - Politics of Extremism (20th Century)
Monday: The Interlude: Peace in the Interwar Period
Wednesday: The Rise of Hitler
Friday: The Republics: Turkey
Textbook: Chapter 27.3-27.4, 28.1, 28.3.3

permission of the instructor. Rare exceptions will be made on a case-by-case basis.

Reminders:
- All assignments for this course are low stakes assignments. Each individual assignment is a small percentage of your total grade.
- Your lowest quiz grade will be dropped.
- You must only complete 3 of 4 essay options so that you have the flexibility to plan around other courses, extracurricular activities, and illness/quarantines. (Plan ahead and develop good time-management skills.)
- Be proactive. If you encounter problems, please contact me so that we can find a solution. Earlier is better! Avoid digging yourself in a deep hole that is hard to climb out of.

Contingency Disclosure

Any changes to syllabus or course schedule due to unforeseen events will be communicated in class and on Brightspace announcements.

In the event of a major campus emergency (such as a natural disaster, epidemic, etc.) the requirements, deadlines, and grading policies/percentages as detailed in this syllabus are subject to changes that may be required by an officially revised semester calendar. Any such changes in this course will be posted, once the course resumes, on the course site on Brightspace or can be obtained by contacting the instructor.

University Information

The university provides several resources for student success and well-being. Links to up-to-date university policies and resources can be found on Brightspace. Feel free to contact me, the Office of the Dean of Students, or your advisor with questions about any of these resources:

Student Help and Success
Week 13: November 13-17 – World War II (20th Century)
 Monday: World War 2 – Genocide
 Wednesday: World War 2 – Bombing
 Friday: Discussion: War on Civilians
 Textbook: Chapter 28 – 28.2
 Primary Sources/Video on Brightspace
 Essay 4 - due Wednesday November 22 @ 11:59 PM

Monday November 20: No Class – Work on Essay 4 and Quiz 13

Week 14: November 27-December 1 – Cold War and Decolonization
 Monday: Decolonization
 Wednesday: Chinese Communist Revolution
 Friday: Globalization
 Textbook: Chapter 28.3, 29.2 29.5, 29.6, 29.7
 Video: Freedom Now

Week 15: December 4-7 – Globalization and Migration (20th-21st)
 Monday: Migration
 Wednesday: Discussion: Globalization and Migration
 Friday: Work on Final Essay
 Textbook: Chapter 30, 31

No Quiz
 Time, Date and Format of the Final Exam, to be announced.

Learning Outcomes

By the end of this course, you should be able to:

• Explain significant events and developments in global history.

• Distinguish between secondary and primary sources and be able to understand and critically read both types of sources.

• Synthesize information and arguments from both types of sources.

• Engage in independent historical analysis with the use of primary and secondary sources.

• Write short analytical essays in fluid English prose with thesis statements, clear organization, and appeals to evidence.

The University provides services and resources to students, links to which you can find in Student Help and Success: counselling and psychological services, registrar, financial aid, academic advising, veterans success center, employment, and career services.

Accessibility Information
For information on disability resources and accessibility, see the enclosed link to the Disability Resource Center. Even if you have had the DRC send me your accommodation, please also meet with me so that we can work together to put in place the appropriate accommodations.

University Policies and Resources
Includes grief absences, academic integrity, nondiscrimination, student conduct code, emergency preparedness, violent behavior, and freedom of expression.

Grading Scale

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