

**WORLD HISTORY SINCE 1500**  
History 2302 10917, Fall 2024  
MW 9:00-10:20, Liberal Arts Bldg. 222

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Office hours: Mon. 10:30 am-11:45 am  
Wed. 1:45 pm-2:45 pm and by appointment

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**Course Description and Objectives:** This course explores the history of the world since 1500 as a global story of interconnection, exchange and conflict. Out of the chaos of facts and details, we will seek out major themes and comparisons that help us make sense of world history as a whole. In addition to teaching you about world history, this course will help develop your ability to think historically and evaluate historical materials.

**Book to purchase:** J. R. McNeill, *The Webs of Humankind: A World History*. Seagull Second Edition, Volume 2. At the bookstore, you can buy the physical book (ISBN: 978-1-324-06163-2) for \$62-\$82, or the ebook for \$49; or you can rent the ebook for \$39. You can also buy the ebook through the publisher for \$40: <https://wnorton.com/books/9781324061632>

**Email:** Please check your UTEP email on a regular basis; I will often send reminders and other messages to the class by email, through Blackboard. Please communicate with me by email ([pedison@utep.edu](mailto:pedison@utep.edu)) rather than Blackboard's messaging system, which doesn't work well for me.

**Requirements and Grading:**

Attendance and participation	15%
Group presentation	4%
14 quizzes	14%
Short assignments	10%
3-page paper	12%
Three in-class exams	45% (15% each)

**Attendance and participation:**

- Attendance is required. Late arrivals and early departures may not get credit for attending a class. Your attendance grade is calculated as a ratio of the number of classes attended to the number of class sessions held. (For example, if there have been 4 classes and you have missed one of them, your attendance grade is 75.) Attendance grades are updated every couple of weeks.
- Before class begins: complete the reading assignment for that day. Reading assignments always include a section of *Webs of Humankind* and primary source documents that are either in *Webs* or available on Blackboard. **It is especially important to read the primary source documents before class.**
- During class: Listen carefully to lectures and discussions, and take notes. I encourage you to take notes by hand: it tends to be more effective when it comes to retaining ideas, and it is not distracting to those around you.
- During class, do NOT use phones or computers unless you are using them for the class. And do NOT use headphones or earbuds! Please try not to leave the classroom for breaks.

- **Participation** is encouraged and will be rewarded. I encourage you to ask questions, make comments, and answer questions during the lectures. I also encourage you to engage respectfully and constructively with each other during class discussions.
- **Group work.** I will often ask you to work in groups in this class. To receive credit for group work, you need to be in class and be willing to engage in discussion with neighbors.

**Group presentation:** In the course of the semester, in a group of three or four people, you will present one or two primary source documents to the class. I will assign groups their document one or two class sessions in advance of the day of the presentation. Presentations should be around five minutes, and should include the following things: some information about the document itself such as the author, the date it was written, its purpose; some historical context; some discussion of what the document says; and conclusions about what we can learn from the document. You do not have to do research for the presentation. You need to closely read the document at least once, take notes on it, and coordinate with your group members who will say what. Ideally, each member of the group will present different information. That means you should talk to each other outside of class or by email.

**Quizzes:** There will be a multiple-choice quiz for each chapter of the textbook and the corresponding lectures. Your lowest score will be dropped. You will take these on Blackboard outside of class. There will be no time limit, but you will need to do the quizzes by their deadlines to get full credit. Quiz deadlines are listed in the schedule below. If you wish, you can practice for the quizzes by using InQuizitive, the on-line quizzing tool designed for the textbook. If you purchase a new hard copy of the book, or buy the ebook directly from Norton, you have free access to InQuizitive. Otherwise you can purchase access to InQuizitive for \$25. I do not base my quizzes on InQuizitive, but there is probably some overlap in the material.

**Short assignments:** There will be several short assignments in the course of the semester. They will usually ask for short answers to a few questions about the primary sources. I will announce these in class and on Blackboard. I accept late submissions, but give them only partial credit, depending on how late they are.

**Three-page paper:** This will be an analytical paper based on primary sources. The due date is Sept. 13. Extensive instructions will be provided separately. I accept late papers, but take points off for every day it is late.

**Three in-class exams.** The exams will test your knowledge of *Webs of Humankind* and class lectures, and your ability to respond to questions about the material. They will consist of short answer and essay questions. The exams are not cumulative. I will provide some indication of what to expect from each exam a week ahead of time. The best way to study for the exams is to do the assigned reading each week and pay close attention to the lectures. To learn effectively, you need to read and listen *actively*, not passively.

Please bring a Bluebook to each exam. (They can be purchased in the UTEP bookstore.) Exams can be made up only in the case of a verified emergency about which you communicate with me immediately, or with prior excuse for official university business. If you miss an exam, you will automatically receive an F in the course.

**Cheating and Plagiarism:** Cheating is unethical and is unacceptable. Plagiarism—passing off the ideas or words of others (whether a person or a machine such as ChatGPT) as your own in a paper or

exam—is cheating and is unacceptable. Please do not cheat or submit work under your name that you did not do yourself. If you are found cheating or plagiarizing, you will be subject to disciplinary action.

**Accessibility:** This class will provide reasonable accommodations for all qualifying individuals. The UTEP Center for Accommodations and Support Services (CASS), located in the East Union Building, Room 106, will process requests for accommodations based on a disability, pregnancy, or parenting. Contact CASS at 915-747-5148, email them at [cass@utep.edu](mailto:cass@utep.edu), or apply for accommodations online via the CASS portal.

Don't hesitate to talk to me (or email me) whenever you have questions or run into problems.

### **Course Schedule (subject to revision)**

	<u>Topics</u>	<u>Reading, quizzes, and exams</u>
Aug. 26	Introduction	
Aug. 28	Maritime revolution Biological globalization	Webs: ch. 15 (649-687); sources 15.1-15.6
Sept. 2	Labor Day: no class	<b>Take quiz 1 by midnight</b>
Sept. 4	Africa and the slave trade	Webs: ch. 16 (695-712); sources 16.1-16.4
Sept. 9	The Americas/Siberia/Oceania	Webs: ch. 16 (712-735); Blackboard: Espinosa; von Fuch <b>Take quiz 2 by midnight</b>
Sept. 11	Cultural upheavals	Webs: ch. 17 (743-775); sources 17.1-17.4 <b>Take quiz 3 by midnight</b>
Sept. 13	not a class day	<b>Submit 3-page paper on Blackboard by 5:00 pm</b>
Sept. 16	Asian Empires	Webs: ch. 18 (784-802); sources 18.1-18.4
Sept. 18	European Empires	Webs: ch. 18 (802-822); source 18.5 Blackboard: Peter the Great <b>Take quiz 4 by midnight</b>
Sept. 23	Global trade and consumption	Webs: ch. 19 (831-850); sources 19.1-19.5
Sept. 25	Banks, companies, plantations	Webs: ch. 19 (850-865) Blackboard: English East India Co. letters; Ligon <b>Take quiz 5 by midnight</b>
Sept. 30	<b>Exam 1</b>	
Oct. 2	Revolution in North America and France	Webs: ch. 20 (873-901); sources 20.1, 20.2, 20.4
Oct. 7	Revolution in Haiti and Spanish America	Webs: ch. 20 (901-914); source 20.3 <b>Take quiz 6 by midnight</b>

Oct. 9	Industrialization I	Webs: ch. 21 (922-945); sources 21.1-21.3
Oct. 14	Industrialization II	Webs: ch. 21 (945-966); source 21.4 Blackboard: Letters from Berlin <b>Take quiz 7 by midnight</b>
Oct. 16	Health and freedom	Webs: ch. 22 (973-1011); sources 22.1-22.4, 25.1 <b>Take quiz 8 by midnight</b>
Oct. 21	Nationalism	Webs: ch. 23 (1018-1030); Blackboard: Renan; Schönerer
Oct. 23	Imperialism	Webs: ch. 23 (1030-1060); sources 24.1-24.4 <b>Take quiz 9 by midnight</b>
Oct. 28	Millenarianism and Rebellion	Webs: ch. 24 (1068-1086) Blackboard: Tenskwatawa, Taiping, Maulvi Syed
Oct. 30	China and Mexico	Webs: ch. 24 (1086-1100); Blackboard: Sun Yatsen, Francisco Madero <b>Take quiz 10 by midnight</b>
Nov. 4	<b>Exam 2</b>	
Nov. 6	World War 1 and Aftermath	Webs: ch. 25 (1107-1135); sources 23.1-23.6
Nov. 11	Fascism, Communism, anti-colonialism	Webs: ch. 25 (1135-1153); sources 25.2-25.4, 26.2 <b>Take quiz 11 by midnight</b>
Nov. 13	World War II	Webs: ch. 26 (1161-1184); sources 26.3-26.5
Nov. 18	World War II	Webs: ch. 26 (1184-1202); sources 26.1 Blackboard: Lévy-Hass <b>Take quiz 12 by midnight</b>
Nov. 20	Cold war	Webs: ch. 27 (1209-1234); sources 27.1-27.3
Nov. 25	Decolonization	Webs: ch. 27 (1234-1255); sources 27.4-27.5 <b>Take quiz 13 by midnight</b>
Nov. 27	East Asia and the Global South	Webs: ch. 28 (1263-1306); sources 28.1, 28.3-28.4 <b>Take quiz 14 by midnight</b>
Dec. 2	Global economy and culture	Webs: ch. 29 (1314-1336); source 28.2
Dec. 4	Politics since 1980	Webs: ch. 29 (1136-1359); sources 29.1-29.4 <b>Take quiz 15 by midnight</b>
Dec. 11	<b>Final Exam:</b> Wednesday, 10:00 am – 12:45 pm	