

WORLD HISTORY SINCE 1500
History 2302 11069, Fall 2023
MW 10:30-11:50, Liberal Arts Bldg. 323

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Office hours: Mondays 12:00-2:00 pm
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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 Edition, *Volume 2*. You can get the physical book (ISBN: 978-0-393-41756-2) at the bookstore for \$75. Or you can rent the ebook (ISBN: 978-0-393-42879-7) through the publisher for \$36: <https://wwnorton.com/books/9780393417562>

Email: You should 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) rather than Blackboard's messaging system, which doesn't work well for me.

Requirements and Grading:

Attendance	7%
Notebook	10%
Group presentations	4%
Six quizzes	10%
Six or more short writing assignments	24%
Three in-class exams	45% (15% each)

Attendance: 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. 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 some primary source documents that are 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. You will need to take notes by hand (see notebook below). Note-taking by hand tends to be more effective when it comes to retaining ideas, and it is not distracting to those around you. If for some reason you must use a computer to take notes, you must get approval from me.
- During class, you may use a computer or a phone to access primary source documents when we are discussing them.
- Otherwise, during class, do NOT use phones or computers. And do NOT use headphones. Please try not to leave the classroom for breaks.

Notebook: You will need to take notes at all classes and on many readings, and to provide those notes to us from time to time for assessment. Note-taking is a valuable skill that you should constantly be using and improving, and that is being lost because of technology. I ask that you purchase a notebook devoted solely to this purpose, so that all your notes for this class are together and run sequentially, and you can submit it at any time. Your notebook should have your name in it and begin with notes you are taking right now, or with an entry for the readings for this Wednesday (clearly labeled with the name of the reading). The next entry should be a dated entry for notes on Wednesday's lecture. And so on.... If you take a lot of notes (which I encourage but do not require) each of your entries might be several pages long. Your notes can be in outline form or full sentences. They might include questions that occur to you as you do your reading and listen to lectures. They can include notes that you take on primary sources while preparing for your writing assignments (see below). I don't expect notes on each and every assigned reading. For the purposes of assessment, I expect an entry, of at least a few lines, for *something* from each day's assigned readings, and an entry, of at least a few lines, of each lecture.

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. Presentations should be 5 to 10 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 your main conclusions about what we can learn from the document. Groups should meet outside of class to discuss the document and decide on what parts of the presentation each person will be responsible for. Ideally, each member of the group will present different information. I will assign documents to groups early in the semester.

Quizzes: There will be six multiple-choice quizzes, based mainly on information in the textbook. 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 credit. Quiz deadlines are listed in the schedule below.

Writing assignments: 6 to 8 short writing assignments are intended to build reading comprehension, analytical skills, and appreciation for primary sources. Most of these will be done outside of class (you will post on Blackboard) but some will be in class. Each assignment will have its own instructions and will range from 100 to 600 words. The probable due dates are indicated on the schedule below. I accept late submissions, but give them only partial credit.

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 qualified individuals with disabilities. It is the student's responsibility to register with the Center for Accommodations and Support Services in the East Union Building, Room 106.

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

Course Schedule (subject to revision)

	<u>Topics</u>	<u>Reading and Assignments</u>
Aug. 28	Introduction	Webs: Preface, and pages 589-98
Aug. 30	Maritime revolution Biological globalization	Webs: 598-628; Blackboard: Zheng He, Anonymous Journal, Xajilá Writing assignment 1
Sept. 4	Labor Day	no class
Sept. 6	Portugal's trading empire Spain's territorial empire	Webs: 629-40, 757-61, 646-53; Blackboard: He Ao, Mbemba, Broken Spears, Sepúlveda
Sept. 11	Silver and the global economy Americas/Siberia/Oceania	Webs: 763-766, 653-69; Blackboard: Espinosa, Arzáns, Church, Von Fuch Writing assignment 2 Take quiz 1 by midnight
Sept. 13	Cultural upheavals	Webs: 671-705; Blackboard: Luther, Galileo, Wang Yangming, Ricci
Sept. 18	Asian empires	Webs: 706-729; Blackboard: Closed Country Edict, Kangxi, Jahanghir, Busbecq
Sept. 20	Russia & Europe Population and economy	Webs: 729-47, 748-57; Blackboard: Peter the Great, von Guericke, Louis XIV
Sept. 25	New forms of business	Webs: 640-646, 761-63, 767-83; Blackboard: Phillips, Ligon, Equiano, English East India Company letters Take quiz 2 by midnight
Sept. 27	Exam 1	
Oct. 2	Revolution in North America and France	Webs: 785-814; Blackboard: Prince Hall, Treaty with sachems, Declaration of Rights of Man, Olympe de Gouges Writing assignment 3
Oct. 4	Revolution in Haiti and Spanish America	Webs: 814-829; Blackboard: Declaration of Independence, Bolivar
Oct. 9	Industrialization	Webs: 830-859, 862; Blackboard: Sadler Committee, Conditions in the mines, Machine-breaking in Saxony

Oct. 11	Global/domestic consequences	Webs: 860-874; Blackboard: Toshiaki, Proudhon, Letters from Berlin Take quiz 3 by midnight
Oct. 16	Health and freedom	Webs: 875-914; Blackboard: Equiano, Walsh, Douglass
Oct. 18	Nationalism and racism	Webs: 915-928; Blackboard: Renan, Schonerer Writing assignment 4
Oct. 23	Imperialism	Webs: 928-958; Blackboard: Jules Ferry, Royal Niger Co., Prince Ukhtomskii
Oct. 25	Millenarianism and Rebellion	Webs: 959-978; Blackboard: al-Wahhab, Sahib, Zexu
Oct. 30	China and Mexico	Webs: 978-992; Blackboard: Qihao Take quiz 4 by midnight
Nov. 1	Exam 2	
Nov. 6	World War 1	Webs: 993-1007; Blackboard: Fourteen Points, Form A. 2042, God, how I hate you
Nov. 8	Peace and aftermath	Webs: 1007-21; Blackboard: Communist Decrees, Suffragist, Advertising, Kemal
Nov. 13	Fascism, communism Anticolonialism	Webs: 1021-1040; Blackboard: Mussolini, Stalin, Gandhi Kenyatta Writing assignment 5
Nov. 15	World War II	Webs: 1041-53; Blackboard: Such Pretty German Toys
Nov. 20	World War II	Webs: 1053-70; Blackboard: Lévy-Hass, UN Convention Take quiz 5 by midnight
Nov. 22	Cold war	Webs: 1071-1087; Blackboard: Kennan, Truman
Nov. 27	Decolonization	Webs: 1088-1105; Blackboard: Senghor, Mandela Writing assignment 6
Nov. 29	East Asia	Webs: 1105-1126; Blackboard: Crook
Dec. 4	Environment and population	Webs: 1127-1146; Blackboard: Carson, Climate
Dec. 6	Politics and economy	Webs: 1146-1168 Take quiz 6 by midnight
Dec. 15	Final Exam: Friday, 10:00 am – 12:45 pm	