



Woodblock print of Dutch man taking a walk with his Javanese slave. Japan, late C18

History 2312.03
CRN: 80519
World History Since 1500
Credit Hours: 3
Fall 2019

ABIV 00303
MWF 9-9:50am

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Office Hours:
Mondays 10am-12pm
Wednesdays 5pm-7pm (virtual)
And by appt.

Course Description

This course is an introduction to global history over the past five centuries. Spanning the “Age of Exploration” to contemporary debates around globalization, we will read, think, and talk about how humans have forged connections across cultures, while also paying critical attention to the divisions and borders that continue to shape our geopolitical landscape. Topics to be covered will include comparative land, sea, and commercial empires; the Enlightenment; the Age of Revolutions; Industrialization and the Great Divergence; nationalism and modern imperialism; total war, and the rise of the “global.” The semester is organized chronologically around thematic clusters and is not meant to be comprehensive.

Each week will be organized around three interactive lectures. In addition, there will be regular in-class quizzes, a midterm exam, a final exam, and one book response to *Coolie Woman*. Students should expect to read a textbook chapter plus 2-3 short primary sources per week.

Prerequisites: None

Course Objectives

Historical Knowledge: Gain a working knowledge of the major eras and prominent themes in world history since 1500

Critical Thinking: Integrate the perspectives and actions of a diverse group of actors into the big picture of how history “happens”

Critical Reading: Learn to read a variety of historical sources (official documents, personal accounts, images, and maps) and become comfortable using them comparatively in historical analysis

Communication Skills: Practice the major tenets of historical writing, including formulating a driving questions, crafting arguments, weighing evidence, and developing grounded claims.

Required Reading

Both available from the SHSU Bookstore

Bonnie Smith et al, *World in the Making: A Global History, Vol. 2: Since 1300* (Oxford, 2018)

Gaiutra Bahadur, *Coolie Woman: The Odyssey of Indenture* (Chicago, 2014)

Attendance Policy

Since this is a face-to-face class, I expect you to attend lecture. Being present in lecture will help you succeed in this class, and will also significantly boost your course engagement grade (see below)

Course Assignments and Grading

Course engagement	225 points
<i>Maximum of 15 points per week. Five points for attending office hours, completing self-assessments on blackboard, completing ungraded group quizzes in class, asking question or answering question in class</i>	
Individual quizzes	300 points
<i>Six, lowest will be dropped</i>	
Midterm	100 points
<i>IDs and short essay, 9/27</i>	
<i>Coolie Woman</i> Response	175 points
<i>750 words, due 11/13 at 11:59pm</i>	
Final exam	200 points
<i>Non-cumulative, IDs and short essay, 12/11</i>	

900-1000 points	A
800-899 points	B
700-799 points	C
600-699 points	D
0-599 points	F

Late Work

Most of the assessment in this course will be in class. Unless you have an emergency, I expect you to be in class to take the quizzes, midterm, and final. For the take-home writing assignment on *Coolie Woman*, I will grant a 48-hour extension on a case-by-case basis. Please give me *at least* 48 hours notice if you anticipate needing an extension.

University Policies

Please refer to the University Policies around Academic Dishonesty, Religious Holy Days, Students with Disabilities Policy, and Visitors in the Classroom [here](#)

Classroom Conduct

Please put all phones away and on silent for the duration of our 50-minute lectures. In-class phone use will negatively affect your course engagement grade. If you are taking notes on a laptop, I ask that you sit in the two columns of desks closest to the door. Distracting or inappropriate laptop use will also negatively affect your course engagement grade.

Getting in Touch

I am here as a guide and a resource for the material in this course. My aim is to be as responsive as possible when you have questions or concerns: I will strive to return your email within 24 hrs. If it is sent on the weekends, I may take a little longer.

Class Schedule

Week One (August 21 & 23): Introduction/The World in 1500

Smith ch. 15

Florentine Codex

August 21: Syllabus, What does it mean to be “connected”?

August 23: The World Beyond the West in 1500

Week Two (August 26, 28, 30): Contact, Commerce, and Colonization

Smith ch. 16 & 17 (to p. 627)

De Mercardo, On the Trade in the Blacks of Cape Verde

De Morga, Account of the Philippine Islands

August 26: The World in the West in 1500

August 28: Contact in America

August 30: The Coming of the Atlantic World

Quiz #1

Week Three (Sept 4 & 6 **No Class Sept 2**): Early Modern Empires

Smith ch. 18

Babur, The Baburnama

Gulbadan Banu Begun, Court Etiquette in the Mughal Empire

Sept 4: Ottoman Empire

Sept 6: Mughal Empire

Week Four (Sept 9 & 11 **No Class Sept 13**): Religion and Ordering Difference

Smith ch. 19

De Sandoval, On Restoring Ethiopian Salvation

Luther, To the Christian Nobility of the German Nation

Jahangir, Policy towards the Hindus

Sept 9: The Reformation

Sept 11: Dutch Empire

Quiz #2

Week Five (Sept 16, 18, 20): Age of Absolutism

Smith ch. 20
Bodin, On Sovereignty
Lan Dingyuan, Notes from a County Magistrate

Sept 16: Europe

Sept 18: China

Sept 20: The Enlightenment

Week Six (Sept 23, 25, 27): Commodities and Slavery

Smith pp. 627-634, ch. 21

Casebook: Coerced Labor in the Early Modern World

Equiano, The Case Against the Slave Trade (1789)

Sept 23: Wealth and the Environment

Sept 25: Wealth and Human Bondage

Sept 27: Midterm

Week Seven (Sept 30, Oct 2, & 4): Age of Revolutions

Smith ch. 22

Declaration of the Rights of Man

De Gouges, Declaration of the Rights of Women and the Female Citizen

Belgrano, Autobiography

Sept 30: What is a Revolution?

Oct 2: America & France

Oct 4: Latin America & the Caribbean

Quiz #3

Week Eight (Oct 7, 9, 11): The Industrial Revolution and the Great Divergence

Smith ch. 23

Contrasting Views: Debates over Industrialization

Oct 7: Industrialization

Oct 9: The Great Divergence

Oct 11: Manchester

Week Nine (Oct 14, 16, 18): The Modern Nation and Empire-Building

Smith ch. 24

Renan, "What is a Nation?"

Fabri, Does Germany Need Colonies?

Kipling, The White Man's Burden

Morel, The Black Man's Burden

Oct 14: The Nation-State

Oct 16: Imperialism

Oct 18: Buenos Aires

Quiz #4

Week Ten (Oct 21, 23, 25): The Age of Mobility and Empire

Bahadur, Coolie Woman, Pt 1 and 2

Oct 21: Maritime Empires: Britain

Oct 23: Land Empires: Russia

Oct 25: Discussion: Coolie Woman

Week Eleven (Oct 28, 30, Nov 1): The Shock of the Modern

Smith ch. 25

Bahadur, Coolie Woman, Pt. 3

DuBois, The Negro Problem

Oct 28: Mass Culture and Mass Politics

Oct 30: Race-Thinking

Nov 1: The Global First World War

Quiz #5

Week Twelve (Nov 4, 6, 8): Interwar Crisis

Smith ch. 26

Kollontai, The Autobiography of a Sexually Emancipated Communist Woman

Mussolini, Born of a Need for Action

Sellasia, Appeal to the League of Nations

Nov 4: Nations in Crisis

Nov 6: Fascism

Nov 8: Tokyo

Week Thirteen (Nov 11, 13 **No lecture Nov 15**): Global Cataclysm

The Atlantic Charter and Third World Nationalism

Gandhi, Quit India Declaration

Levi, Survival in Auschwitz

Nov 11: The Global Second World War

Nov 13: The Holocaust

Coolie Woman Response due

Week Fourteen (Nov 18, 20, 22): The Three World Order (1945-1989)

Smith ch. 27

Frantz Fanon, The Wretched of the Earth

Nasser, Denouncement of the Proposal for a Canal Users' Association

Havel, The Power of the Powerless

Nov 18: The Cold War

Nov 20: Decolonization

Nov 22: Dubai

Quiz #6

Week Fifteen: The End of History

Nov 25: The End of History

Week Sixteen (Dec 2, 4, 6): The Millennial Age

Smith ch. 28

Planet Money: Bangladesh's T-Shirt Economy (Podcast)

Maathai and Robinson, Women Can Lead the Way...

Dec 2: Global Islam

Dec 4: Politics of Fracture

Dec 6: Bangladesh

Final Exam: 12/11 9:30am-11:30am