**Twentieth Century World**

Svanur Pétursson History 213 – Section 104

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Office: Conklin Hall 337 (Rutgers) Kupfrian Hall 104

Office Hours: Mondays: 2.30-3.30 and by appointment Spring 2018

**Course Description:**

This course introduces students to some of the major, political, economic, cultural, and social developments that have shaped the history of our contemporary world. The course offers an interdisciplinary and comparative view of twentieth century world history. As the history of the world is too broad to do justice to over one semester we will look at a variety of case studies that we will use to illuminate the major events, processes, and developments of the twentieth century; from two world wars and economic troubles to the Cold War and globalization.

**General Education Goals:**

*History 213* is affirmed in the following General University Requirement Category:

200 level Cultural History. The corresponding General Goal is as follows:

Students will understand historical events and movements in the world, both

Western and non-Western, and assess their subsequent significance.

**Course Objectives:**

The students of the course will analyze historical events and movements of the 20th century and assess their subsequent significance. Students will use critical thinking and problem solving skills to analyze information and develop their writing skills by

producing a historically themed research paper. Additionally students will learn

how to synthesize historical and geographical information acquired through the

understanding of maps and primary source information.

**Course Goals:**

Upon completion of this course, students should specifically be able to do the

following:

* Demonstrate knowledge of some of the fundamental concepts and theories of historical events and ideas related to the 20th Century World.
* Evaluate global exchanges and perspectives in context of social, political, religious, and intellectual traditions.
* Read, analyze, organize and synthesize, evidence, historical problems, and interpretations connected to the history of the 20th Century World.

**Measurable Course Performance Objectives (MPOs):**

Upon successful completion of this course, students should specifically be able to

do the following:

* Demonstrate knowledge of some of the fundamental concepts and theories of historical events and ideas related to human societies, including but not limited to Africa, India, China, Latin America, Europe, and the United States.
  + Identify and describe key terms, names and places of major events of the 20th Century World.
  + Evaluate the validity of various interpretations of historical events and institutions.
* Clarify and summarize information pertaining to historical events and ideas in a Research Paper.
  + Read, Analyze, organize, and synthesize evidence, historical problems, and interpretations connected to the history of the 20th Century World
  + Use primary and secondary sources to show how historical problems are confronted.
  + Conduct research and explore reliable resources on the history of the 20th Century World

**Required Textbook:**

Findley, Carter and Rothney, John Alexander. Twentieth Century World Sixth 0r

Seventh Edition.

The book is available through the NJIT bookstore, online retailers, or through the publisher (http://www.coursesmart.com/IR/3712872/9780547218502?\_\_hdv=6.8)

**Grading;**

In-class participation 10%

Midterm Exam 20%

Pop Quizzes (5% each) 15%

Film Worksheets (5% each) 10%

Research Paper 20%

Final Exam 25%

Grade scale is as follows:

A: 90 points and higher

B+: 85-89.99

B: 80-84.99

C+: 75-79.99

C: 70-74.99

D: 60-69.99

F: 59.99 and lower

**Attendance:**

Attendance is required and attendance will be taken at the start of every class.

If you plan to claim a religious holiday as an excused absence, you must inform me of this fact within the first two weeks of class.

After four unexcused absences, your overall course grade will be lowered by a partial grade (from B+ to B, for example) for every further unexcused absence. With eight absences, the stakes change: Any student who misses eight or more sessions through any combination of excused and unexcused absences will have missed more than a quarter of the class time and will not earn credit in this class. Such students should withdraw from the course to avoid an F.

Unexcused lateness counts as ½ of an absence. Leaving class early also counts as ½ of an absence.

**Academic Integrity:**

Plagiarism is passing off someone else’s work as your own and will not be tolerated. Students are expected to write their own original work and to give credit in the form of footnotes (i.e. citations) for any material that is not their own. Plagiarized papers will be given an automatic “0” with no possibility of a rewrite. This will most likely result in a failing grade for the entire course. Violations will be brought to the immediate attention of the Dean of Students and adjudicated in accordance with the NJIT Honor Code.

**Schedule of Topics and Readings**:

**Week 1**

January 22nd: Introduction

Readings: *Twentieth-Century World:* Chapter 1 (skim)

**Week 2**

January 29th: Origins of the Twentieth Century – Imperialism; Path to War

Readings: *Twentieth-Century World:* Chapter 2

Readings: *Twentieth-Century World:* Chapter 3

**Week 3**

February 5th: World War I

In class Viewing:

Film: The Grand Illusion (1937)

Director: Jean Renoir

**Week 4**

February 12th: The Russian Revolution and the NEP Era; Economic and Cultural Difficulties after WWI

Readings: *Twentieth-Century World:* Chapter 4

Readings: *Twentieth-Century World:* Chapter 5

Lenin, “April Theses”

<http://www.marxists.org/archive/lenin/works/1917/apr/04.htm>

In class viewing: The Crash of 1929

**Film Worksheet due on Moodle by 6pm.**

**Week 5**

February 19th: The Rise of Fascism in Italy and Germany; Latin America and European Influence

Readings: *Twentieth-Century World:* Chapter 6

Mussolini, “What is Fascism?”

<http://www.fordham.edu/halsall/mod/mussolini-fascism.html>

Adolf Hitler. “Mein Kampf” (Moodle)

*Twentieth-Century World:* Chapter 7

Eva Peron, “History of Peronism”

<http://www.fordham.edu/halsall/mod/1951evaperon.html>

**Week 6**

February 26th: Sub-Saharan Africa under European Sway; Asian Struggles for Independence

Readings: *Twentieth-Century World:* Chapter 8

*Twentieth-Century World:* Chapter 9

Mohandas K. Gandhi, “Letter to Lord Irwin”

<http://www.bl.uk/reshelp/findhelpregion/asia/india/indianindependence/indiannat/source3/>

**Midterm Review Guide is Distributed**

**Week 7**

March 5th: **MIDTERM EXAM**

**Week 8**

March 12th: **SPRING BREAK!**

Assignment: **HAVE FUN!**

**Week 9:**

March 19th:Final Paper Research Session I

This class will be held at the Rutgers University Library. **We will meet outside Kupfrian Hall at 6pm** and then walk together down to the library

Second Half of Class: World War II

Readings: *Twentieth-Century World:* Chapter 10

**Week 10**

March 26th: Final Paper Research Session II

This class will be held at the Rutgers University Library. Please come to the computer lab at the Rutgers Library at 6pm.

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**Week 11**

April 2nd: The Holocaust and the Impact of World War II; The Beginning of the Cold War

Readings: *Twentieth-Century World:* Chapter 11

Harry S. Truman, “The Truman Doctrine”

<http://avalon.law.yale.edu/20th_century/trudoc.asp>

In class viewing: *Night and Fog* (1955)

**Week 12**

April 9th: Early Decolonization

In class viewing:

Film: The Battle of Algiers (1966)

Director: Gillo Pontecorvo

**FINAL PAPER DRAFT DUE (optional)**

**Week 13**

April 16th: The Cold War Continues; Post Colonialism – Latin America

Readings: *Twentieth-Century World:* Chapter 12

Readings: *Twentieth-Century World:* Chapter 13

Fidel Castro, “On the Export of Revolution” <http://www.fordham.edu/Halsall/mod/castro-revolution.asp>

**Film Worksheet due on Moodle by 6pm.**

**Week 14**

April 23rd: Post Colonialism – Africa; The Middle East Since World War II

Readings: *Twentieth-Century World:* Chapter 14

Readings: *Twentieth-Century World:* Chapter 15

Ayatollah Khomeini, “The Uprising of Khurdad”

<http://www.fordham.edu/halsall/mod/1979khom1.asp>

**FINAL PAPER DUE**

**Week 15**

April 30th: Asian Resurgence; End of the Cold War and the World Since 1990

Readings: *Twentieth-Century World:* Chapter 16

Readings: *Twentieth-Century World:* Chapter 17

Ronald Reagan. “Evil Empire Speech”

<http://millercenter.org/president/speeches/speech-3409>

**Final Exam Review Guide Distributed**

**FINAL Exam:** Due date to be decided based on final exam schedule