

History 10400-002: Introduction to the Modern World

Fall 2015

Class Meeting Times: Tuesday and Thursday, 9:00-10:15 AM
Class Location: Stanley Coulter Hall 239

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COURSE OBJECTIVES

This course will introduce major events, themes, and developments in early modern and modern European history: we begin in the 16th century, with the Reformation and overseas exploration, and we will conclude with the Cold War in the mid-late 20th century. Using both our textbook and selected primary source readings, we will examine the political and military clashes that shaped the modern world, but we will also devote particular attention to the religious, economic, cultural, and psychological changes that accompanied these conflicts. In other words, we will explore the most influential events and developments seen during this time period as well as the everyday experiences and responses of ordinary Europeans.

This class is intended to make you think about historical processes, the forces that shaped the world we live in today, and our ongoing connections to the past. So, just as we examine historical content, we will also discuss and develop historical thinking skills. We will learn to analyze historical sources and evidence (both primary and secondary sources), and we will make connections between various developments, ideas, and societies. We will employ chronological reasoning: we will identify, analyze, and evaluate the relationships among multiple historical causes and effects. In lectures, discussions, learning checks, and exams, you will learn to create an argument and support it using relevant, appropriate, and accurate historical evidence.

Please note: this class will be more interactive than your typical lecture class at Purdue. You will do much of the work, both at home and in class, not sitting in your seat passively while I dump knowledge into your heads. You will have to think and articulate your thoughts, both orally and in writing. You should be prepared to play an active role in your education, and if you're not, then this will not be the right class for you. Keep in mind that active participation in this class does not always mean providing a correct answer during class discussions. It does mean that you've done the work and are ready to examine—critically, carefully—the materials we're covering.

COURSE TEXTS AND MATERIALS

Two textbooks are required for this class. They have been packaged for you and are available via Amazon and the University Book Store with the following ISBN numbers: 1-319-04331-3 and 978-319-04331-5.

1. **McKay, Hill, Buckler, Crowston, Wiesner-Hanks, and Perry, *Understanding Western Society: A History. Second Edition, Volume 2: From the Age of Exploration to the Present***
 - You must buy this particular edition.
 - A copy of this text has also been placed on Reserves at the HSSE Library in Stewart Center.
 - On the reading schedule, this text is indicated as “McKay.”
 - You do not have to bring your textbook to class with you unless I tell you in class or indicate on the syllabus that you should bring your book.

2. **McKay, Hill, Buckler, Crowston, Wiesner-Hanks, and Perry, *Sources for Western Society, Volume 2: from the Age of Exploration to the Present. Third Edition.***
 - On the reading schedule, this text is indicated as “Reader.”
 - Copies of this text have also been placed on Reserves at the HSSE Library in Stewart Center.
 - You should bring this book with you to class, as we will use it for discussions and possible learning checks.

Other required materials will be made available on our class Blackboard site. On the reading schedule, they are indicated as “B.”

COURSE REQUIREMENTS AND GRADING

Your grade in the course will be determined as follows:

Exam 1 (in-class):	20%
Exam 2 (in-class):	20%
Exam 3 (during exam week, exact date/time TBA):	20%
Learning checks, both scheduled and unannounced throughout the semester	40%

Learning checks

- Learning checks are intended to ensure that you are completing assigned readings and processing the material. They constitute a significant portion of your grade in this class and will be scheduled as well as impromptu/unannounced. You should expect at least one learning check a week. Only a few are listed on the syllabus. Learning checks may be administered any point in class: the beginning, middle, or end.

- Learning checks will cover both readings and lecture materials, and they may pertain to either that day’s topics or the topics covered in previous classes. The best way to prepare for them is simple: read the assigned materials for that day’s class and regularly review your class notes and other materials from previous class meetings.

- Your two lowest learning check grades, whether due to poor performance or an absence from class, will be dropped. Please see below (regarding the use of electronic devices in class) for an important exception to this policy.

- There will be no make-ups for learning checks. If you miss a learning check for any reason, you will receive a 0 (zero) for this particular learning check.

- Your learning check grades will be posted on Blackboard, and, before the exam for that particular unit of the course, you will receive your graded learning checks. I highly suggest that you review these graded learning checks as preparation for your exams.
- If your final learning check grade in the course is between two grades, regular class participation will boost you to a higher grade.

Exams

- A week before each exam, you will receive exam study guides intended to help you prepare. Please read these carefully. These review sheets will narrow the scope of what you are expected to know for the exam. So, although learning checks may cover all aspects of that day's readings, your review sheets should allow you to narrow your focus to the material we've covered, in detail, in our class meetings.
- Exams in this course are not cumulative. Note that individual exams count less than your total learning check grade. If you miss all learning checks in this class and receive perfect scores on each exam, you will still be unable to achieve a passing grade in this class.
- Exam grades will be posted on Blackboard but only after exams have been returned in class. It is your responsibility to review your returned exam and verify that the grade posted on Blackboard matches the paper copy of your exam.
- There will be only one make-up opportunity for the first two in-class examinations. This one make-up is intended for the most serious of emergencies, such as a death in the family or a serious illness, and students will be asked to provide documentation in support of their excuse for missing the original examination. This make-up exam will be given during our regular class time on Tuesday, November 24. This is the **ONLY** opportunity for you to make up either exam, and since this is the Tuesday before Thanksgiving, I suggest you plan holiday travel accordingly.
- Those who do not complete this make-up exam will be given a zero for the exam. Under no circumstances will students be allowed to take two make-up exams.

General notes re: grades:

- Every exams and learning check will be assessed out of a 100 point scale, so, 89/100, 70/100, etc.
- Final grades in the course will be assessed according to the plus/minus scale.
- Neither exam grades nor course grades in the course will be provided or discussed via email. If you would like to discuss your exams, grades, and/or your coursework in general, please do not hesitate to see me or our teaching assistant during office hours. We will be happy to go over your grades with you at any point in the semester and/or after the semester has concluded. We cannot help you, however, if you never contact or come see us or if you wait to do so until the night before exams.

CLASS POLICIES

- I expect you to arrive in class on time, ready to work, and to stay until the end of class. If you arrive late, leave early, or begin packing up your things before the end of class, you will not be able to earn participation points for that day.

- In every class, you should be familiar with both the textbook reading and any documents assigned for that day. You may expect learning checks to cover all material presented in class and in the assigned readings, including and especially the readings due that day. If you fall behind on readings, you will find it difficult to succeed on learning checks and in this class.
- So that we can examine primary sources together, you must bring your document reader to class. Copies of assigned documents will also suffice for these purposes. As noted above, you need not bring your textbook with you to class unless the syllabus explicitly tells you to do so. If you do not bring your document reader to class, you will be unable to participate in class discussions and will therefore be unable to earn participation points for that day.
- Lecture/discussion outlines will be posted on Blackboard before class, and Powerpoint slides will be posted after class. However, you cannot rely on these materials alone. Good note-taking is essential for your success in this class, as is reviewing your notes on a regular basis.
- Any changes to the syllabus will be announced in class or via email, as circumstances allow.
- Email will be the preferred mode of contact outside of regular classroom hours and office hours. Please feel free to contact me directly (i.e., not via Blackboard's email option) at any point. I will also create a class email list which I will use to send course-related announcements as needed. For this reason, I expect you to check your Purdue email account at least once a day.
- I will not take attendance at our class meetings. However, as I will be using a seating chart in this class, I will know whether you've been attending class. Regular attendance is absolutely critical for your success in this class.
- If you miss a class, it is your responsibility to obtain lecture notes and any written materials from that day. Other than what I normally post on Blackboard, I will not make my lecture notes available nor will the teaching assistant.
- Cell phones are not to be used in class at any time. This means that your phone should be turned off before class, and it should remain off for the duration of the class. If I see you texting or otherwise using your phone, your previous learning check score will revert to a zero. If your previous learning check is already a zero, the learning check before that will become a zero. These zeros will not be dropped. Please note that I may or may not call you out on it during class time, but I will take note of it, as will the TA.
- Laptops and all other electronic devices are not permitted in this class. If a recognized disability or other condition necessitates the use of a laptop or other electronic device, you should present me with DRC-issued documentation to these ends.
- In the event of a major campus emergency, course requirements, deadlines, and grading percentages are subject to changes as necessitated by a revised semester calendar or other circumstances. Any necessary changes will be announced via email and/or the class Blackboard page.

- During the last two weeks of the semester, you will be provided an opportunity to evaluate this course and my teaching. You will receive an official email from evaluation administrators with a link to the online evaluation site, and you will have two weeks to complete this evaluation. I consider your feedback vital, as does Purdue University. Your professors have access to these online evaluations only after grades are due.

ACADEMIC INTEGRITY

- As a student in this class and at Purdue, you are expected to uphold the standards of academic integrity. Plagiarism, cheating, and other forms of academic dishonesty are serious offenses and will be treated as such in this class.
- Academic dishonesty includes, but is not limited to, the following: the use of papers or books not authorized by the instructor during examinations, learning checks, and other written assignments; consulting classmates and/or their work without express permission to do so; giving or receiving answers during or in preparation for examinations and learning checks; and failing to cite sources employed for writing assignments. If you have a question about whether a certain act or behavior constitutes academic dishonesty, you should consult with me before you commit such an act.
- Those who engage in such practices should expect to fail the course. This is non-negotiable: if I find that you have committed academic dishonesty, you will fail the course—period. Please do not put yourself in this situation. In addition, I will report the violation to the Office of Student Rights and Responsibilities (OSSR) for review at the university level, and the OSSR may consider additional penalties.

SCHEDULE:

- Tues. Aug. 25 Introduction to the Course, Syllabus, and Topics
- Thurs. Aug. 27: The Reformation, Part I
- Chapters from *Pocket Guide to Writing in History*: “Introduction: Why Study History?”, “Working with Sources”, and selections from “Approaching Typical Assignments in History” (B)
 - “Reformations and Religious Wars, 1500-1600”: 390-404 (B)
- Tues. Sept. 1: The Reformation, Counter-Reformation, and Religious Wars
- Learning check:** Map of contemporary (today’s) Europe and all material covered thus far (*Pocket Guide to Writing in History*, Thursday class discussion, etc.)
- “Reformations and Religious Wars, 1500-1600”: 404-422 (B)
 - McKay: pages liii-lv
- Thurs. Sept 3: Exploration and Conquest
- McKay Ch. 14: 410-441
- Tues. Sept. 8: Exploration and Conquest, Cont’d, with Document Discussion; Absolutism
- Reader: Ch. 14: 209-223
 - McKay Ch. 15: 444-465

- Thurs. Sept. 10: Constitutionalism
- McKay Ch. 15: 473-481
 - Reader Ch. 15: 224-232, 237-243
- Tues. Sept. 15: A New Worldview: the Scientific Revolution and the Enlightenment
- McKay Ch. 16: 484-496
 - Reader Ch. 16: 244-250
- Thurs. Sept. 17: The Enlightenment, Cont'd
- McKay Ch. 16: 497-513
 - Reader Ch. 16: 252-260
- Tues. Sept. 22: Agricultural and Demographic Developments in a Changing Europe
You will receive Exam #1 Guidelines and Review Sheet today.
- McKay Ch. 17: 516-543
 - Reader Ch. 17: 261-274
- Thurs. Sept. 24: Daily Life in the Eighteenth Century
- McKay Ch. 18: 546-573
 - Reader Ch. 18: 275-284
- Tues. Sept. 29: **Exam #1**
- Thurs. Oct. 1: Political Revolution in France, Part I
- Mc Kay Ch. 19: 576-590
 - Reader Ch. 19: 290-300
- Tues: Oct. 6: The French Revolution, Cont'd
- McKay Ch. 19: 590-607
 - Reader Ch. 19: 300-311
- Thurs. Oct: 8 The Revolution in Energy and Industry
Learning Check: French Revolution
- McKay Ch. 20: 610-637
- Tues. Oct. 13: **No class: Fall Break**
- Thurs. Oct. 15: **No class: Document reading on own**
French Revolution learning checks available with TA
- Reader Ch. 20: 312, 317-331
- Tues. Oct. 20: Nineteenth Century Ideologies and Upheavals
- McKay Ch. 21: 640-671
 - Reader Ch. 21: 332, 335-348
- Thurs. Oct. 22: Urban Development and Life in the Modern City
- McKay Ch. 22: 674-703
 - Reader Ch. 22: 353-366

- Tues. Oct. 27: Mass Politics in the Age of Nationalism
You will receive your Review Sheet for Exam #2 today.
- McKay Ch. 23: 706-717, 723-737
 - Reader Ch. 23: 373-385
- Thurs. Oct. 29: The West and the World, aka Modern Imperialism and its Discontents
- McKay Ch. 24: 740-748, 752-769
 - Reader Ch. 22: 367-372 and Ch. 24: 386, 389-401
- Tues. Nov. 3: **Exam #2**
- Thurs. Nov. 5: World War One, Part I
- McKay Ch. 25: 772-785
 - Reader Ch. 25: 402-408
- Tues. Nov. 10: The Great War, Cont'd
- McKay Ch. 25: 786-790
 - Reader Ch. 25: 408-413
- Thurs. Nov. 12: Revolution in Russia
- McKay Ch. 23: 719-721 and Ch. 25: 791-805
 - Reader Ch. 25: 413-416
- Tues. Nov. 17: The "Age of Anxiety"
- McKay Ch. 26: 808-830
 - Reader Ch. 25: 416-420 and Ch. 26: 421-430
- Thurs. Nov. 19: Depression and Dictatorships, Part I: From Lenin to Stalin
- McKay Ch. 26: 831-837 and Ch. 27: 840-851
 - Reader Ch. 26: 431-438 and Ch. 27: 439, 442-444
- Tues. Nov. 24: **Make-up Exams for Exam #1 and #2**
- See explanation in syllabus above: this is the only opportunity for students to take a make-up for either exam.
 - **For those who do not need to make up an exam, there will be no class this day.**
- Tues. Dec. 1: More Dictatorships: Mussolini and Hitler
Learning Check
- McKay Ch. 27: 852-862
 - Reader Ch. 27: 440-441, 450-451
- Thurs. Dec. 3: World War Two and Occupied Europe
Learning Check
- McKay Ch. 27: 863-875
 - Reader Ch. 27: 444-450, 452-455
- Tues. Dec. 8: Post-war Recovery Meets Cold War Conflict
- McKay Ch. 28: 878-892 (**see over**)

- Reader Ch. 28: 456-459, 465-466

Thurs. Dec. 10: The Cold War, Cont'd (and Ended!)

- McKay Ch. 28: 893-911
- Reader Ch. 28: 459-465, 467-471 and Ch. 29: 474-475, 477-480

TBA, during week of Dec. 14-19: **Exam #3**