



## Syllabus

### HIS 122 - Modern World History

#### General Information

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**Date** May 1st, 2023

**Author** Robert Brown

**Department** Social Science

**Course Prefix** HIS

**Course Number** 122

**Course Title** Modern World History

#### Course Information

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**Catalog Description** A survey of modern world history since 1500; from the European colonization of the Americas in the 16th-17th centuries, to the 18th century Atlantic Revolutions, the 19th century Latin American Wars of Independence and the "Scramble for Africa," the Ming and Qing dynasties of China, the Meiji Restoration in Japan, the Russian Revolution, the 20th century age of total War, the Arab-Israeli conflict, the Chinese Cultural Revolution, and the Fall of the Soviet bloc Significant attention will be given to the frequent, and consequential, interactions between global civilizations and cultures during the "Age of Overseas Discovery," the "New Imperialism" of the Victorian era, World Wars I and II, the Great Depression, the birth of the atomic age, the Cold War, the post-1945 era of decolonization, and emergence of the European Union and the Third World.

**Credit Hours** 3

**Lecture Contact Hours** 3

**Lab Contact Hours** 0

**Other Contact Hours** 0

**Grading Scheme** Letter

#### Prerequisites

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None

## Co-requisites

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None

## First Year Experience/Capstone Designation

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**This course DOES NOT satisfy the outcomes applicable for status as a FYE or Capstone.**

## SUNY General Education

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**This course is designated as satisfying a requirement in the following SUNY Gen Ed category**

World History and Global Awareness

## FLCC Values

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### **Institutional Learning Outcomes Addressed by the Course**

Inquiry and Interconnectedness

## Course Learning Outcomes

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### **Course Learning Outcomes**

1. Students will identify some of the major events, issues and themes of modern world history.
2. Students will describe the distinctive features, and historical development, of at least one modern civilization or culture in relation to other regions of the world.
3. Students will describe the structures, systems, and interrelationships among civilizations and cultures after 1500, and their impact on well-being and sustainability during the modern era.

## Outline of Topics Covered

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### **New Encounters & European Exploration**

- The Age of Global Exploration
  - Aztec & Inca Empires
  - The “Columbian Exchange”
  - Portuguese and Spanish Empires
  - The British, French & Dutch Colonialism

- Africa & the Slave Trade
- The "Little Ice Age"

### **Europe Enters the Modern Age**

- Renaissance, Reformation & Scientific Revolution
- Absolutism & Constitutionalism
- The Scientific Revolution & Enlightenment
- The French Revolution & the Age of Napoleon

### **The Muslim Empires**

- Ottoman Empire & Islam
- The Safavid Empire (Persia)
- The Mughal Empire (India)

### **The East Asian World**

- Southeast Asia: Indonesia & Malaysia
- The Ming Dynasty in China
- The Qing Dynasty (Manchurians)
- Japan – From Civil War to the Tokugawa Shogunate
- Korea – Under the Chinese Shadow

### **19<sup>th</sup> Century Atlantic World**

- American Revolution
- Wars for Independence in Latin America

### **Industrialization, Nationalism and Reform in 19<sup>th</sup> Century**

- Global Impact of the Industrial Revolution

- Technological Change: Transatlantic (Telegraphic) Cable to the Transcontinental Railway
- Marxism, Socialism and Class Conflict
- The Victorian “Great Age of Reform”
- Nation-Building in Europe & the Western Hemisphere
- Russia Under the Czars

### **"New Imperialism" in Southeast Asia, India, Africa**

- Motivations & Means
- *Pax Britannica*: The Apogee of the British Empire
- The Raj, the Development of India and the Indian Mutiny of 1857
- French Indochina
- The "Scramble for Africa"
- South Africa: The Boer War & Creation of Apartheid System

### **The Fall of China & Rise of Japan**

- Qing Collapse
- Sun Yat-sen and the Republic of China
- Opium War & the Boxer Rebellion
- Japan – Westernization & the Meiji Restoration

### **First World War, 1914-19**

- Short-Term & Long-Range Causes
- Trench Warfare & the Western Front
- The Eastern Front & Peripheral Theaters (Africa & the Middle East)
- Lenin, the Bolshevik Revolution of 1917 & Communist Ideology
- Paris Peace Treaties , Mandates & the Postwar World Settlement

### **Interwar Period, 1920-39**

- India: Gandhi & Nehru, Muslims & Hindus
- Ottoman Collapse & the Creation of the Modern Middle East
- Chiang, Mao & the Emergence of Communist China
- Women's Suffrage and Mass Consumerism
- The Great Depression
- Imperial Japan
- Nazi Germany & Fascist Italy
- Stalinist Russia

### **Second World War: The Global Perspective, 1939-45**

- Revisionism & Road to World War II
- Spanish Civil War
- War in the Western Europe, Africa and the Middle East 1939-45
- The Holocaust
- Eastern Front, 1941-45
- Pacific War, 1941-45
- Hiroshima & the Birth of the Atomic Age
- Tehran, Yalta, Potsdam & Wartime Diplomacy

### **The Cold War and a Bipolar World**

- The Iron Curtain & Emergence of the Soviet Bloc
- The Global Effects of "Americanization" and Bipolarity
- NATO, Warsaw Pact & the U.N.
- From Stalin to Brezhnev Era
- East Asia in Transition, 1950-1976
  - Mao Zedong, Communist China, the "Great Leap Forward" and the "Cultural Revolution"
  - The Korean War
  - Vietnam War

- Decolonization and Independence in India, Africa, and Middle East
- The Global “Space Race”

### **Post-Cold War World**

- Collapse of the Soviet Bloc
- Collapse of Yugoslavia and Resurgence of Serb Nationalism
- Arab-Israeli Conflict, Arab Nationalism and the Transformation of the Islamic World
- Global Interdependence in the Modern Era
- European Integration and the EU
- China's Market Reforms and Shifting Foreign Policy
- Third World
- 9/11 and the global "War on Terror"
- Pandemics and Climate Change