

Department of History
Description of Themes for
HIS 1040 and HIS 1050
Fall 2008

General Descriptions:

HIS 1040 Themes in Pre-Modern World History

An exploration of significant historical themes in the development of several world civilizations up to the 18th century. The course will examine points of contact among these classical civilizations and investigate the dynamics of cultural interaction in the pre-modern world. Through the analysis of primary historical sources, both literary and visual, the course will look at the multi-faceted ways these world cultures expressed themselves through art, literature, architecture, and socio-political institutions. The latter may include a broad spectrum of social formations, from family and marriage to urbanization, class structure, and state formation.

HIS 1040-001 Themes in Pre-Modern World History
CRN 21863 MWF 10:30-11:20 am Dr. Haas

History 1040 "Crossroads of Empires: The World in A.D. 600" This course journeys across the expanse of Eurasia just prior to the rise of Islam and traces cultures ranging from St. Patrick's Ireland to the cosmopolitan imperial civilization of T'ang China. The cultures of the Nile valley, including Axumite Ethiopia and Coptic Egypt, are also surveyed. Three exams, two map quizzes, and a book review are required.

General Descriptions:

HIS 1050 Themes in Modern World History

This course introduces students to some of the major historical moments and themes in the political, economic, and cultural transformation of diverse nations and regions of the world during the past several centuries. Rather than seeking to be a comprehensive world history or western history course, the course adopts a topical and interpretive approach. Recent centuries have witnessed extraordinary historical change and conflict. Agricultural, peasant-based economies became capitalist, industrial and post-industrial economic systems. Political movements arose to challenge kings or despots, or to seek ways to include or mobilize the common people in politics. Intellectual revolutions transformed the ways people understood the natural world, human society, and the individual. Groups searching for a national identity gave rise to nationalist movements and conflicts. War, imperialism, colonialism and decolonization have altered the balance of power and global politics. Modern urban society, mass culture, changes in gender roles and attitudes redefined the relationship between individuals and their society. Recognizing that no course can adequately cover such a broad field, this course selects some of these major themes for in-depth and cross-cultural examination. Its goal is to provide students with a historical context as they explore the origins and implications of the changes that have come to characterize the "modern" world.

HIS 1050-001 Themes in Modern World History
CRN 21326 MW 3:00-4:15 pm Dr. Sanders

This course surveys themes in modern world history, with a particular emphasis on world trade and empire-building. Throughout the course students will consider the multitude of the peaceful and violent forms of contact that brought peoples across the world together, as well as the exchanges that drove those interactions: of ideas, goods, and persons.

Building upon the insights of the new subfield of world history, we will explore how disease, geography, and environmental factors contributed to the modern world in the first half of the course. In the latter half, we will examine how empire-building forged new connections and disconnections worldwide.

Class time will be divided between lectures and discussion of reading materials, which will include both a textbook and several primary sources.

The class materials and assignments are designed in order to help you develop an understanding of historical practice (how to analyze primary sources and identify elements of continuity and change in the past) and an ability to recognize the factors that shaped the choices people made throughout time.

HIS 1050-002

Themes in Modern World History

CRN 21327

TR 2:30-3:45 pm

Dr. Ricci

During the Fall semester, students in this course will study four major revolutions in modern world history. Each Revolution constitutes a specific course theme. Topics include The American Revolution, The French Revolution, The Chinese Communist Revolution, The English Revolution of the 1640s, The Russian Revolution of 1917, and the Islamic Revolution in Iran. The Revolutions selected for study vary every Fall semester. Students will have a Mid-Term Examination, a Book Quiz, a Research Report, and a Final Examination.

HIS 1050-003
CRN 21328

Themes in Modern World History
MWF 12:30-1:20 pm Staff

HIS 1050-004
CRN 21329

Themes in Modern World History
MWF 8:30-9:20 am Dr. Mogan

The theme for our course will be the “The Global Struggle for Human Rights.” The struggle for human rights occupied Enlightenment thinkers and revolutionaries and yet we are still struggling with many of the same questions today. For example, one question that still resonates clearly today is: How do nation-states balance individual liberty and human rights against security concerns? The development of a modern conception of human rights will be traced through the Atlantic World and Revolutions, the Industrial Revolution, the World Wars, the Cold War, and finally to the modern, globalized society of today.

This course will focus on the theme of power, oppression, and revolution. In doing so, it will explore the agents and manifestations of power and change, both evolutionary and revolutionary. It will also examine the forces that resisted allegedly radical transformations. The course analyzes both revolutionary and reactionary individuals and groups and assesses how the definition of oppression and radicalism can change over time.

HIS 1050-005
CRN 21330

Themes in Modern World History
TR 1:00-2:15 pm Staff

HIS 1050-006
CRN 21331

Themes in Modern World History
MWF 9:30-10:20 am Dr. Steege

Theme: Violence

This course will explore the centrality of violence in the modern world. Subthemes will include industrialization, imperialism, and war. In addition to considering the how violence becomes normal, we will also explore possibilities for resistance to and and an ethics of opposition in the face of these destructive forces.

HIS 1050-007
CRN 21332

Themes in Modern World History
TR 11:30-12:45 pm Staff

HIS 1050-008
CRN 21333

Themes in Modern World History
MW 4:30-5:45 pm Dr. Sanders

This course surveys themes in modern world history, with a particular emphasis on world trade and empire-building. Throughout the course students will consider the multitude of the peaceful and violent forms of contact that brought peoples across the world together, as well as the exchanges that drove those interactions: of ideas, goods, and persons. Building upon the insights of the new subfield of world history, we will explore how disease, geography, and environmental factors contributed to the modern world in the first half of the course. In the latter half, we will examine how empire-building forged new connections and disconnections worldwide.

Class time will be divided between lectures and discussion of reading materials, which will include both a textbook and several primary sources.

The class materials and assignments are designed in order to help you develop an understanding of historical practice (how to analyze primary sources and identify elements of continuity and change in the past) and an ability to recognize the factors that shaped the choices people made throughout time.

HIS 1050-009
CRN 21334

Themes in Modern World History
MWF 11:30-12:20 pm

Dr. Little

This course examines imperialism and revolution in the modern world and emphasizes the ideological, economic, political, and cultural causes and consequences of colonization and resistance.

HIS 1050-010
CRN 21335

Themes in Modern World History
MWF 9:30-10:20 am

Dr. Gallicchio

The main theme of this course is the role of global interactions in the creation of the modern world. We will explore how trade, travel, conflict and communication transformed the old regimes of the 18th century and shaped the globalizing society of the 21st century. This is not a survey course in which we view history as "one darned thing after another." Instead of using standard text books we will use readable but challenging books and articles in which historians present and defend sophisticated arguments about the past. Throughout the course we will examine and discuss the various approaches historians have employed to understand the period from 1500 to the present. There will be several quizzes, two in class exams and a final, and one or two short papers.

HIS 1050-011
CRN 21336

Themes in Modern World History
(Power, Oppression and Revolution)

TR 4:00-5:15 pm

Dr. Hartnett

Course Description: This course will focus on the theme of power, oppression, and revolution. In doing so, it will explore the agents and manifestations of power and change, both evolutionary and revolutionary. It will also examine the forces that resisted allegedly radical transformations. The course analyzes both

revolutionary and reactionary individuals and groups and assesses how the definition of oppression and radicalism can change over time.

His 1050-012 Themes in Modern World History
CRN 21337 TR 2:30-3:45 pm Dr. Bailey

The primary theme for this course is “the city in history”. As centers of social, cultural, political and economic activity, cities are useful lenses to examine aspects of continuity and change in broader historical processes. Some of the topics to be considered in the course include: the importance of perspective in history, urbanization and its consequences, wealth and poverty, public order, cities and circulation (of people, capital, goods and ideas), and cities as “crucibles of creativity”.

HIS 1050-013 Themes in Modern World History
CRN 21864 MWF 10:30-11:20 am Prof. Lesko

The course will cover the history of the world's major cultures from approximately 1789 C.E. to Today. This historical period witnessed the emergence of political, economic, cultural and military engagements between Western Europe and Islamic Societies of the Ottomans, Qajars, and Mughal Empires. It was these critical historical encounters which constructed and influenced current conceptualizations of the formation and character of national identities, characterizations of "otherness", challenges to established religious practices and the character of social identities (i.e. Class, nationhood, etc.) We will examine the causes and consequences of these historical processes in an effort to better comprehend contemporary political and cultural debates concerning the idea of a modern day "Clash of civilizations" between Islam and the West.

HIS 1050-100
CRN 21338

Themes in Modern World History
TR 6:00-7:15 pm

Dr. Swidler

The theme of this section is the writing of history itself. We all have assumptions, often unconscious, about other peoples, other places and other times. We also have assumptions about whom and what is important in history. While reading and learning about some of the important turning points of the last five hundred years, this semester we will also consider how these assumptions shape the storyline of world history, and how other ways of thinking about the participants and actors in history can build a different picture of the past and present.

HIS 1050-101
CRN 21339

Themes in Modern World History
M 6:10-8:50 pm

Dr. Casino

Full-time A&S students require permission of the Dean.

In the wake of the demise of Communism, new global relations are forming that pit those who fear, against those who embrace, globalism. This course introduces you to some of the major historical moments and themes in the political, economic, and cultural transformation of diverse nations and regions of the world during the past several centuries that have led to this dichotomy. Rather than seeking to be a comprehensive world history or western history survey, the course adopts a topical and interpretive approach. Its goal is to provide you with a historical and cross-cultural context as you explore the origins and implications of the changes that have come to characterize the "modern" world, and a better understanding of those who long for a more "traditional" society. Several case studies in Asia, Africa, the Americas, and Europe will be used to explore what happens when people of one culture meet and interact with people of another culture for the first time. What are the biological, religious, political, economic, social, and psychological dimensions and consequences of cultural contact and interaction? Essentially, we will be exploring the nature of so-called

"traditional" cultures, what happens to them when faced with the intrusion of unknown elements, and how this interaction has shaped the modern world.