

Modern World History
Christian Raffensperger
History 106C/H – 3W
Spring Semester
MWF 8:00–9:00 A.M.
Hollenbeck 318

As our world grows smaller with each new technological advance, it becomes increasingly important to know and understand that world and our place in it. Modern world history will help you to learn the origins of nations, religions, philosophical systems, and even the conflicts that occupy the world around you. The class begins with the Mongol world empire which controlled the majority of Asia and Europe for over 100 years. Its dissolution led to the creation of a var

provide? How does the author know what he or she knows? How does that information coincide with what you've learned in class and from the textbook? Your analysis should grow and improve over the course of these papers, as should your understanding of history and historical method. For each of the papers, I also expect you to use footnotes to cite your evidence (per Chicago Manual of Style guidelines). But you will not need to use any sources outside of the book/reading, your textbook, and class lecture.

There will also be a number of quizzes spread out (unannounced) over the course of the semester. These quizzes will be on both lecture and reading, and will require you to keep current with both. Focus in particular on the maps in the book, as there will often be a map component to these quizzes.

If you have any questions about any of these assignments, please come see me during my office hours or make an appointment. Finally, this syllabus is subject to change by the instructor, if changed, the students will be informed with sufficient notice to complete assignments.

The grades will be weighted as follows:

Attendance: 5%

Participation: 5%

Exam 1: 15%

Exam 2: 15%

Book Analysis Paper 1 (*Emperor of China*): 7%

Book Analysis Paper 2 (*Ivan Denisovich*): 8%

Short Analysis Papers: 15%

Quizzes: 10%

Final Exam: 20%

Required Books

Robert Tignor et al., eds., **Worlds Together, Worlds Apart** (hereafter Tignor)

Jonathan Spence. *Emperor of China*.

Solzhenitsyn. *One Day in the Life of Ivan Denisovich*.

There will also be primary source readings from online sources (chiefly the Modern Sourcebook at www.fordham.edu/halsall/source) that you will be expected to read when they are assigned. Follow the syllabus and Moodle for the correct web pages.

Schedule of Meetings and Assignments

Week 1 (January 11, 13, 15): The World around 1300

(Tignor, ch. 10)

Introduction to the course; A world apart—the Americas; The Mongol World Empire

Week 2 (January 20, 22, No class January 24): Ibn Battuta and Dar al-Islam

(*The Travels of Ibn Battuta* excerpt [Moodle]; Tignor, 429-33, 478-898)

Sub-Saharan Africa; Islamic Empires

Week 3 (January 25, 27, 29): Western Christendom and Ming China

(Tignor, 446-54, 474-78, 490-507; “Two Sources on the “Black Death” [Moodle])

Eurasia united by Plague; Rise of states in Western Europe; End of Mongol Rule; Ming Dynasty; Renaissance

Week 4 (February 1, 3, 5): Overseas Exploration and Expansion

(Tignor, 505-7, 511-37; “Extracts from Columbus’ journal” [Moodle])

Zheng He; Indian Ocean trade; Rebirth of the Silk Road?; Portuguese Exploration; Christopher Columbus; Conquistadors and the “New World”

Week 5 (February 8, 10, 12): The Changing Face of Europe

(Tignor, 537-43, 553-83, 586-95; “Luther’s 95 Theses” [Moodle])

The Reformation; War in Europe; Exploitation of the colonies; Imperial states; Slave trade

Week 6 (February 15, 17, 19): The Struggle for East Asia (Ex)

(Emperor of China; Tignor, 543-49, 578-86)

The Rise of the Manchu; Qing Dynasty; Tokugawa Shogunate; European intervention and expansion

Week 7 (February 22, 24, 26): Cultural Change and Interaction (Paper 1 Due Monday, 2/22)

(Tignor, ch. 14; “Colonial Lima from 1748” [Moodle])

Enlightenment; Revitalization of Islamic Culture across Eurasia; The experience of interaction in the Americas

Week 8 (March 1, 3, 5): The Birth of the Modern World?

(Tignor, ch. 15; “Edmund Burke’s Reflections on the French Revolution” [Moodle])

American Revolution; French Revolution; Napoleon and the Napoleonic Wars; The “Old World” revamped

Week 9 (March 15, 17, 19): Nations and Nationalism

(Tignor, 719-39, 751-59; “Russia’s Imperial Destiny” [Moodle])

The construction of modern American states; The birth of Germany and Italy; A new order in Russia and Japan

Week 10 (March 22, 24, 26): Imperialism and its Discontents

(Tignor, 739-51, 762-76; “Yao Chen-Yuan: My Adventures During the Boxer o 2t2; N.15789(r)2

Attendance Policy

As part of your grade for this class, and to get the most out of the class, you are required to attend on a regular basis. Attendance in this class is worth 5% of your grade, and attendance will be taken on a regular basis. If you are going to miss class, let me know in advance. If you accumulate 5 absences over the course of the semester, you will receive a grade of F for your attendance. If you miss 10 or more classes over the course of the semester you will receive a grade of zero for your attendance, much worse than an F when calculating your final grade. You are solely responsible for signing the attendance sheet, or notifying me of your absence, as proof of your presence in class.

Paper Rewrite Policy

Quantity:

You will be allowed to rewrite each of the two book