

## The Modern World

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**HIST 1050 80**

**Online Course**

**3 Weeks: December 26, 2018 through January 14, 2019**

### Contact

Professor Navyug Gill

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*\*\*\*Although this is an online course, it has all of the content, rigor and expectations of a regular, in-person course. Indeed, since there are no scheduled classes, you must be even more disciplined, motivated and organized in order to be successful. That includes completing each day of readings, going through the posted lecture notes, and submitting all assignments on time. Perhaps most importantly, you must take the initiative to reach out to me via email if you need any help with the course.\*\*\**

### Description

This course is designed to introduce students to the past three centuries of remarkable political, economic and cultural interactions that produced our modern world. We will explore a series of significant ideas, individuals and events, and their linkages between different regions across Europe, Africa, Asia, and North and Latin America from the mid-eighteenth century to the present. Specific themes include: the American, French and Haitian revolutions; the expansion of European imperialism; the development of modern science, industry and culture; the emergence of capitalism and its opponents; the rise of nationalism and anti-colonial liberation movements; and the new struggles for gender, racial and migrant justice. We will conclude by reflecting upon the novel connections and divergences that structure modernity in the early twenty-first century. It is important to recognize that this course is not exhaustive. Rather, it is intended to be a provocative survey that connects certain moments from the past to provide a narrative of how our world came to be the way it is, as well as how it might have been otherwise.

This syllabus may change throughout the semester. I will notify you well in advance of any adjustments in readings or assignments.

### Objectives

*At the end of this course students should be able to:*

- Identify and articulate the major issues and events of modern global history.
- Critically analyze a range of secondary texts as well as primary and visual sources.
- Develop and convey historical arguments supported by evidence in clear writing.

## Evaluation

Reading Analysis (10 total) 60%

This assignment asks you to write a short (1-2 paragraphs) analysis on nearly each day of class readings. Rather than summarize the entire text, you should discuss any single aspect that you think is interesting or confusing, or that relates to the present-day. Be sure to include a specific quotation from the text. Your reflections are due at the times noted in the schedule, and should be submitted on Blackboard.

Final Take-Home Exam 40%

The final exam will be a take-home essay. You will choose one out of three possible themes. Your essay should be 4-5 pages in length, double-spaced, size 12 Times New Roman font with 1-inch margins. You will have at least five days to complete it, which will be due at the time noted below and submitted on Blackboard. It will cover material from the entire course.

## Texts

Robert Tignor, et al., eds., *Worlds Together, Worlds Apart: Volume C: 1750 to the Present*, Fourth Edition (New York: W.W. Norton, 2014).  
ISBN: 9780393922127

The Tignor book is available for purchase at the WPU Bookstore, online at various booksellers and for six-hour loan at the Cheng Library. All other class readings are available on the course website on Blackboard.

## Policies

### *Grading*

All writing assignments will be evaluated on three criteria:

- Writing Style (spelling, punctuation, structure and clarity).
- Textual Engagement (using evidence from the readings with appropriate citations).
- Creative Interpretation (expressing a well-reasoned perspective on a specific issue).

The letter-to-number grade scale is as follows: A = 93-100, A- = 90-92, B+ = 87-89, B = 83-86, B- = 80-82, C+ = 77-79, C = 73-76, C- = 70-72, D+ = 67-69, D = 63-66, D- = 60-62, F = <60

### *Lateness*

Assignments are due online on Blackboard at the time specified in the schedule. Late assignments will be penalized one-third of a letter grade (i.e. B+ to B) for each day they are late, and will not be accepted after five days from the due date.

### *Integrity*

I expect all work you hand in to be your own. You will earn zero credit for plagiarized work (intentional or accidental), or work that is otherwise academically dishonest, and I will be forced to report the incident in accordance with WPU Academic Integrity Policy. If you do not know what constitutes plagiarism, please read the 2016-17 Student Handbook (p. 74-78), or visit the following links:

- Academic Integrity Policy: [wpconnect.wpunj.edu/catalog/front.cfm?section=AIN](http://wpconnect.wpunj.edu/catalog/front.cfm?section=AIN)  
WPU Homepage → Academics → Undergraduate Catalogue → General Information → Academic and Related Regulations → Academic Integrity Policy
- Avoiding Plagiarism: [www.youtube.com/watch?v=asHqcz1kxTU](http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=asHqcz1kxTU)  
WPU Homepage → Academics → Library → Workshops & Tutorials → Tutorials → Avoiding Plagiarism @ WPU

*If you have any questions about plagiarism, it is your responsibility to contact me by email, and I will explain in more detail.*

## **Schedule**

### Lecture 1:

Robert Tignor, et al., eds., *Worlds Together, Worlds Apart* (New York: W.W. Norton, 2014), Chapter 15: Reordering the World, 1750-1850,” p. 555-573.

*\*Reading Analysis #1 due July 2 at 11:30pm on Blackboard.*

### Lecture 2:

Tignor, “Chapter 16: Alternative Visions of the Nineteenth Century,” p. 595-607 and p. 613-618.

### Lecture 3:

Tignor, “Chapter 16: Alternative Visions of the Nineteenth Century,” p. 619-625.

*\*Reading Analysis #2 due July 4 at 11:30pm on Blackboard.*

### Lecture 4:

Tignor, “Chapter 16: Alternative Visions of the Nineteenth Century,” p. 607-613.

*\*Reading Analysis #3 due July 5 at 11:30pm on Blackboard.*

### Lecture 5:

Tignor, “Chapter 17: Nations and Empires, 1850-1914,” p. 629-637 and p. 644-656.

*\*Reading Analysis #4 due July 6 at 11:30pm on Blackboard.*

### Lecture 6:

Karl Marx & Friedrich Engels, *Manifesto of the Communist Party* (1848), part 1.

### Lecture 7:

Karl Marx & Friedrich Engels, *Manifesto of the Communist Party* (1848), part 2.

*\*Reading Analysis #5 due July 10 at 11:30pm on Blackboard.*

### Lecture 8:

Tignor, “Chapter 18: An Unsettled World, 1890-1914,” p. 667-688.

Lecture 9:

Tignor, "Chapter 19: Of Masses and Visions of the Modern, 1910-1939," p. 705-730.

*\*Reading Analysis #6 due July 12 at 11:30pm on Blackboard.*

Lecture 10:

Tignor, "Chapter 20: The Three-World Order, 1940-1975," p. 743-767.

Lecture 11:

Tignor, "Chapter 20: The Three-World Order, 1940-1975," p. 767-781.

*\*Reading Analysis #7 due July 16 at 11:30pm on Blackboard.*

Lecture 12:

Tignor, Chapter 21: Globalization, 1970-2000," p. 785-813.

*\*Reading Analysis #8 due July 17 at 11:30pm on Blackboard.*

Lecture 13:

Tignor, Chapter 21: Globalization, 1970-2000," p. 813-821.

*\*Reading Analysis #9 due July 18 at 11:30pm on Blackboard.*

Lecture 14: (LAST CLASS)

Tignor, "Epilogue: 2001-The Present," p. 825-847.

*\*Reading Analysis #10 due July 19 at 11:30pm on Blackboard.*

**FINAL EXAM**

**Due XXX at 11:30pm on Blackboard.**