

Grande Prairie Regional College
HI120: The Modern World (3 Credits)

Section:

Office: C404 **Office Hours:** Mondays 1-4pm, Wednesdays 1-4, or by appointment
Phone: 539-2828 (office)

Dept. of Arts and Education
Winter, 2006

Instructor: Duff W. Crerar, Ph.D.

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Introduction: The course is an introduction to global history, covering the major political, cultural, intellectual and economic development of the world from 1815 to the present. Its goal is to provide a foundation for advanced study in history and related disciplines. Students will encounter a variety of historical documents (including original sources), critical issues for investigation, and research methods, as well as construct and write their own critical and research essays. Keeping caught up with the readings and consistent attendance is essential for success in this course. Students will as acquire better research and essay writing skills by paying close attention to both the written and spoken comments on this subject, and applying them to the craft of academic writing.

Texts: [Check the GPRC Bookstore **after** you check the IV Used Book Sale!]
Brummett, Edgar, Hackett, etc., **Civilization: Past and Present, Vol. 2: from 1300.**
Tenth Edition: Longman, 2006. (This is a NEW text, with chapter contents re-organized and shifted around). You also need Richard Marius and M. Page, **Short Guide to Writing About History** (either 4th or 5th edition): a valuable guide to understanding both historical research and writing. You will be using ***both*** texts on a regular and frequent basis.

Course Outline: *(page references are for **Civilization**, unless otherwise noted)*

January 6: Misery and Memories: the Revolutionary Legacies (492-502, 635-641)

January 9: Liberalism or Nationalism? (662-670, 751-762; also **Short Guide**, 1-15)

January 13: Europe: Age of the Middle Class -- and the Masses (pp. 642-659)

January 16: Machines or People? (642-654, 659-662; also **Short Guide**, 16-57)

January 20: Imperial Africa (561-585, 673-690; also **Short Guide**, 57-84; 209-220)

January 23: Middle East and Empire (587-598, 690-704)

January 27: Old Empires in the Far East (598-616; also **Short Guide**, 85-114)

January 30: Asia and Imperialism: Britain, Japan and America (707-725)

February 3: Hope and Hate in Latin America (727-749)

February 6: The Mighty Continent Falters (pp.762-793; also **Short Guide**, 114-153)

February 10: Counting the Costs of Global War (797-830)

February 13: Europe: Democracy in Crisis (833-862)
 February 17: Asia: Sleeping Dragons Awake (865-883)

February 20-25: READING WEEK (YIPPPPEEEEEEEEEEE!) Now! Right the Essay!

February 27: Middle Eastern/African Nationalism (885-906; also *Short Guide*, 153-192)
 March 3: All Hell Let Loose on the Earth (except Antarctica) (909-932)

March 6: A World Divided (938-960)
 10: Is it, US *versus* THEM, or US *with* THEM? (963-1001, *Short Guide*, 193-208)

March 13: **Mid-Term Test!**
 17: Scorpions in one bottle? Persians, Arabs, Israelis (1003-)

March 20: New Africa? (1017-1028)
 24: Yankee go Home! (1028-1038)

March 27: Asian Emergence (1041-1064)
NBBB: Last day to accept Research Papers! (Without my permission, that is!)
 April 3: India: World's Largest Democracy – to some (1064-1071)

April 6: Canada in a new Millennium. Hopes and Fears in the New World Order.

April 10: Retrospect and Assessment

April 13: Exam Prep

Requirements and Grading:

Mid-term Test: written in class	20%
Historical Article Review	20
Major Research Essay (approximately 2000 words)	30%
Final Exam: written in April during exam sessions	30%

Warning: Late assignments will be penalized *heavily* for each week they are late unless there is a compelling written reason.

Article Review Essay: You will find in the Library a variety of historical periodicals (academic magazines or journals) filled with articles on a wide variety of topics in the history of the planet. Choose ONE of these articles (from AFTER 1800) and submit a ten-page, double-spaced, typed critical analysis of the thesis, argument and use of evidence by the historian who wrote the article. Your paper should identify the historical problem, its key elements, and how this historian improves our knowledge of that problem. You also should include why or why not you would recommend that I suggest this article to future students for their research essays. I must have assignments handed in on time, **or else I will not provide a mark for this part of the course.** So take this very seriously: it's worth 20% of your final grade.

Research Paper:

History has plenty of mysteries. Every scholar wants to solve at least one of them and try to understand that part of the past more completely. Your mission is to identify some topic of interest, an important controversy or issue that you want to become an expert on, then research and write your own conclusion in the form of an essay. To do this you will need to read and make good notes on **at least 5** historical books or articles, as well as other sources your professor may suggest. You will need to come up with some background, how perhaps some other historians have offered their solutions, and how your proposition (your THESIS), backed by your research, relates or not to their work. Or you may simply decide (and PROVE) that one or more historians already have demonstrated an adequate solution, and you will defend them from other critics who have attacked their thesis. You must have your topic proposal, a sample bibliography and a working hypothesis ready for my approval, handed in by THE SECOND WEEK OF FEBRUARY! ***No essay will be accepted without my pre-approval!***