

HIST112

The Modern World

3 Credits

Instructor: Dr. Eduard Baidaus
780 871 5753

Original Developer: Dr. Franklin Foster

Current Developer: Dr. Eduard Baidaus

Reviewer: Kelly Mutter

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2602 - 59 Avenue, Lloydminster, Alberta, Canada T9V 3N7. Ph: 780 871 5700
5707 College Drive, Vermilion, Alberta, Canada T9X 1K5. Ph: 780 853 8400
Toll-free in Canada: 1 800 661 6490



HIST112 Version: 13



The Modern World

Calendar Description

This course explores the history of the modern world in the aftermath of the French Revolution to the present. It is intended to provide a general introduction to the most crucial political, economic, social, and cultural developments over the history of two centuries and recent past. It provides a combination of thematic and area studies with a particular focus on revolutions and imperialism, colonialism and decolonization, nationalism, fascism, and communism. Students are given the necessary background for an exploration of the nation- and state-building, the two world wars, the Cold War, globalization, and modern separatism.

Rationale

This course may contribute to the fulfillment of many degree requirements in Arts, Education and Science.

This course also introduces learners to the skills and attitudes of the Historian. Historians produce expert, reasoned judgments about the past from a wide range of sometimes conflicting evidence. Historians are problem solvers, researchers, effective communicators, and have a sincere interest and empathy for other people. As outlined below, these abilities and attitudes are useful in a broad range of career and life pursuits.

Prerequisites

English 30-1 or equivalent.

Co-Requisites

None

Course Learning Outcomes

Upon successful completion of this course, students will be able to

demonstrate and apply the knowledge and skills of a beginning historian in Modern World History. More specifically, the student will be able to:

1. demonstrate basic **field knowledge** by
 - (a) telling in outline some of the story of the World in the period from 1815 to the present.
 - (b) recognizing and talking about some of the key individuals, events, issues and ideas extant in Modern times.
2. apply some **research skills** such as
 - (a) locating and using appropriate sources.
 - (b) collecting and organizing research data.
 - (c) deriving generalizations and conclusions from a broad range of sometimes contradictory data.
 - (d) constructing a thesis and defending it with a line of argument supported by evidence from adequately cited sources.
3. apply the appropriate **writing skills** by
 - (a) using language correctly, concisely and convincingly.
 - (b) employing the conventions of format and style such that the work could be accepted for publication in a scholarly journal.
4. practice as a beginning historian by **writing history** by
 - (a) writing a thoughtful, well styled book review.
 - (b) writing original essays on historical topics from the field which call for synthesis and evaluation.
 - (c) writing a thoughtful, well-structured research paper on a topic using a variety of sources.
5. apply the **knowledge** and **skills** acquired by
 - (a) relating some of the topics and ideas covered to situations and events in the present day world.
 - (b) relating some of the topics and ideas covered to situations and events in his/her personal life.

Resource Materials

Required Text(s):

Peter von Sivers, Charles A. Desnoyers, and George B. Stow. *Patterns of World History. Brief.*

Volume 2 Since 1400. 3rd ed., Oxford University Press, 2018.

Conduct of Course

This is a 3 credit course with 3 hours of lecture per week. (3-0-0).

Students acquire general field knowledge by doing the assigned, suggested, and other readings. Classroom instruction is largely in lecture form (3 hours per week). The course requires substantial time and effort and students are expected to meet those demands. Class discussion is emphasized and encouraged. Throughout the term students are required to write one film evaluation, a major research paper, and to do a mid-term examination. The course ends with a final examination.

Evaluation Procedures

The final grade is an aggregate of the following components:

Learning Report (5 x 1% each)	5%
Research Project	25%
Midterm Examination	35%
Final Examination	<u>35%</u>
Total	100%

No supplemental assignments or examination re-writes are permitted in this course.

Grade Equivalents and Course Pass Requirements

A minimum grade of D (50%) (1.00) is required to pass this course.

Letter	F	D	D+	C-	C	C+	B-	B	B+	A-	A	A+
Percent Range	0-49	50-52	53-56	57-59	60-64	65-69	70-74	75-79	80-84	85-89	90-94	95-100
Points	0.00	1.00	1.30	1.70	2.00	2.30	2.70	3.00	3.30	3.70	4.00	4.00

Students must maintain a cumulative grade of C (GPA - Grade Point Average of 2.00) in order to qualify to graduate.

Attendance

Attendance is not taken in this course. Students are encouraged to manage their time and govern themselves accordingly. Regular, punctual presence is expected.

Course Units/Topics

1. Introduction to the Course
2. The Rise of the 19th Century Nation-States (1750–1871)
3. Industrialization: Origins, Growth and Impact (1750–1914)
4. Modernity and Transformation: East Asia and Latin America (1750–1917)
5. Adaption and Resistance: The Ottoman and Russian Empires (1683–1908)

6. The New Imperialism, Colonialism, and Alliance System (1750–1914)
7. The Great War and the Russian Revolution (1914–1918)
8. The Interwar Europe, 1919–1939
9. The Second World War, 1939–1945
10. The Cold War Era: Geopolitics, Decolonization, Propaganda, 1945–1991
11. The Collapse of the USSR and the Fall of Communism, 1985–1991
12. The World Today: Globalization, Terrorism, and Separatist Movements, 1991–

Course Policy and Assignments

For more details about the policies, regulations, and other components of this course check the “Syllabus” available on the D2L.



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