HISTORY 103
The West and the World Since 1492
Spring 2014
MWF 11:00-11:50
Gavett 312

Course Description: History 103 is a selective survey of European (and, by colonial extension, world) history from the Age of Discovery to Second World War. It follows roughly on History 102, but does not assume that you have taken it. The reading consists of some important philosophical, scientific, or literary works supplemented by a historical text book. We meet every Monday, Wednesday, and Friday for lecture/discussions or an occasional film. Attendance at all class meetings is essential to successful completion of the course.

Instructor: Stewart Weaver, Department of History. Rush Rhees 461. 275-9348. stewart.weaver@rochester.edu. Office hours: MW 9:00-10:30 and by appointment.

Books: The following books are (with the exception of the recommended textbook) required and available for purchase in the bookstore:

Bartolomé de Las Casas, *A Short Account of the Destruction of the Indies* (1542)
Olaudah Equiano, *The Interesting Narrative* (1789)
Charles Darwin, *TheOrigin of Species* (1859)
Joseph Conrad, *Heart of Darkness* (1902)
Hannah Arendt, *Eichmann in Jerusalem* (1963)

There will also be additional reading on-line or on Blackboard, as the syllabus indicates.

Course Requirements:

1. Consistent, alert, and active attendance at all class sessions. (10%)

2. Two fifty-minute in-class tests, on Feb. 17 and March 21 (10% each)

3. Two 5-6 page analytical essays based on the reading, due in class on March 3 and April 18. (20% each)
4. Three-hour final exam scheduled for **8:30 am on Thursday, May 12. (30%)**

**Academic Honesty:** All students in this class will be expected to be familiar with and abide by the principles of academic honesty as laid down by the College of Arts and Sciences academic honesty policy. For the full articulation of this policy (including the consequences of its violation), see [http://www.rochester.edu/college/honesty/](http://www.rochester.edu/college/honesty/)

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**Class Schedule**

NB: This is a *tentative* class schedule as of the start of the semester. I reserve the right to make changes to this schedule and to tweak the reading assignments as needed as we go along. The only way to stay on top of the schedule is to come to class regularly and to pay attention to any e-mails and announcements coming from me.

**WEEK I**  
**Introduction**
- Jan. 15  
  Introduction to the Course
- Jan. 17  
  Europe in 1492

**WEEK II**  
**The Age of Exploration and “Discovery”**
- Jan. 20  
  No Class: Martin Luther King Jr. Day
- Jan. 22  
  Christopher Columbus and the Enterprise of the Indies
- Jan. 24  
  Discussion of Las Casas, *A Short Account*

**Read:** Bartolomé de Las Casas, *A Short Account of the Destruction of the Indies* (1542); Cole et al., *Western Civilizations*, chs. 11-12 (recommended).

**WEEK III**  
**Reformation and Counter-Reformation**
- Jan. 27  
  Film: “Martin Luther” (2003)
- Jan. 29  
  Reformation and Society in Europe
- Jan. 31  
  The Catholic or “Counter-Reformation”

**Read:** Martin Luther, *On the Freedom of a Christian* (1520); Cole et al., *Western Civilizations*, ch. 13 (recommended).
**WEEK IV**  
The Crisis of the Seventeenth Century

Feb. 3  Climate and Catastrophe
Feb. 5  The Thirty Years’ War
Feb. 7  English Civil War and Revolution

**Read:** Cole et al., *Western Civilizations*, ch. 14 (recommended).

**WEEK V**  
Absolutism and Empire

Feb. 10  The Courts of Europe
Feb. 12  Exploration and Empire
Feb. 14  Discussion of *The Jesuit Relations*


**WEEK VI**  
The Scientific Revolution

Feb. 17  In-class test
Feb. 19  “Still, it moves”: the new science from Galileo to Newton
Feb. 21  Science and Social Order

**Read:** Isaac Newton, from *The Mathematical Principles of Natural Philosophy*; Cole et al., *Western Civilizations*, ch. 16 (recommended).

**WEEK VII**  
The Enlightenment

Feb. 24  “What is Enlightenment?”
Feb. 26  Race, Slavery, and Enlightenment
Feb. 28  Discussion of Equiano, *The Interesting Narrative* (1789)
Read: Olaudah Equiano, *The Interesting Narrative* (1789); Cole et al., *Western Civilizations*, ch. 17 (recommended).

**WEEK VIII**  The French Revolution

Mar. 3  The Coming of the French Revolution

**FIRST ESSAY DUE**

Mar. 5  Revolution and Reaction

Mar. 7  Discussion of Hunt, ed., *The French Revolution and Human Rights*


March 8-16  Spring Break

**WEEK IX**  Industry and its Discontents

Mar. 17  The Origins of the Industrial Revolution

Mar. 19  Industry and Empire

Mar. 21  Karl Marx and the Revolutions of 1848


**WEEK X**  The Darwinian Moment

Mar. 24  Before Darwin


Mar. 28  Discussion of Darwin, *Origin of Species* (1859)

Read: Charles Darwin, *The Origin of Species* (1859), chs. TBA

**WEEK XI**  The New Nationalism

Mar. 31  In-class test #2
April 2        The Origins of Modern Nationalism

April 4        The Age of German Unification

**Read:** Cole et al., *Western Civilizations*, ch. 21 (recommended).

**WEEK XII**  The New Imperialism

April 7        “Dr. Livingstone, I presume?”

April 9        Joseph Conrad and the New Imperialism

April 11       Discussion of Conrad, *Heart of Darkness* (1902)

**Read:** Joseph Conrad, *Heart of Darkness* (1902); Cole et al., *Western Civilizations*, ch. 22 (recommended).

**WEEK XIII**  The War to End All Wars

April 14       The Origins of the First World War

April 16       War, Revolution, and Peace

April 18       Paris, 1919

**SECOND ESSAY DUE**

**Read:** John Maynard Keynes, from *The Economic Consequences of the Peace* (1920), pp. (Blackboard); Cole et al., *Western Civilizations*, chs. 23-24 (recommended).

**WEEK XIV**  War and Holocaust

April 21       The Origins of the Second World War

April 23       The Banality of Evil


**Read:** Hannah Arendt, *Eichmann in Jerusalem* (1963); Cole et al., *Western Civilizations*, chs 25-26 (recommended).
WEEK XV  Epilogue: After Everything

April 28  Stunde Null
April 30  Post-War to Cold War

May 8:    Final Exam.  8:30 am, Gavett 312 (No exceptions)