

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)
Allan Greer, ed., *The Jesuit Relations* (2000)
Olaudah Equiano, *The Interesting Narrative* (1789)
Lynn Hunt, ed., *The French Revolution and Human Rights* (1996)
Charles Darwin, *The Origin of Species* (1859)
Joseph Conrad, *Heart of Darkness* (1902)
Hannah Arendt, *Eichmann in Jerusalem* (1963)
Joshua Cole, Carol Symes, Judith Coffin, and Robert Stacey, *Western Civilizations: Their History and Culture*, Brief Third Edition, Vol. 2 (2012)

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/>

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*

Read: Allan Greer, ed., *The Jesuit Relations: Natives and Missionaries in Seventeenth-Century North America*; Cole et al., *Western Civilizations*, ch. 15 (recommended).

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*

Read: Lynn Hunt, ed., *The French Revolution and Human Rights* (1996); Cole et al., *Western Civilizations*, ch.18 (recommended).

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

Read: Karl Marx and Friedrich Engels, *The Communist Manifesto* (1848); Cole et al., *Western Civilizations*, chs. 19-20 (recommended).

WEEK X The Darwinian Moment

Mar. 24 Before Darwin

Mar. 26 “Darwin’s Revolution in Thought” (video lecture by Stephen Jay Gould)

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

April 25 Discussion of Arendt, *Eichmann in Jerusalem* (1963)

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)