

Honolulu Community College
Hist 152: World Civilizations since 1500
Fall 2012

Instructor: Mieko Matsumoto

Office Hours: determined each semester and by appointment in *Office 618*

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Course Description -----

Welcome to History 152! This class is the first part of two world history courses in the University of Hawai'i System (you are not required to take the courses in sequence). History 152 explores the dynamic relationships within and between representative modern societies, nations, states and cultures since 1500.

This semester we will approach history not only as content (e.g. what happened) but also as a process, an academic perspective which involves constant analyses, interpretation, and discussion. This will involve working with not only secondary sources (literature written by scholars) but also primary sources such as artwork, letters, and literature. It is important to recognize that interpretations of history are subject to continual change. Thus, as historians (or hopefully future historians), it is important to be able to assess conflicting interpretations of history. Thinking critically about primary and secondary sources strengthens our abilities to produce strong scholarly analyses.

Regarding content, this course will focus on the histories of various societies, nations, and cultures located around the world. Throughout the semester, several themes will guide our scholarship:

1. Forced and voluntary migration and cross-cultural interaction
2. The influence of technology, goods, disease, and ideas on historical change
3. State-building, expansion, and conflict
4. The relationship between humans and the environment
5. The significance of class, gender, and ethnicity in shaping historical experiences

Student Learning Outcomes-----

Students in this course will:

1. Demonstrate an ability to analyze and explain cause/effect relationships
2. Summarize key ideas in history, including major world philosophies, religions, and political theories and systems
3. Demonstrate an ability to compare and contrast historical experiences across cultures and time
4. Describe and define major historical events, ideas, places, people, and other items of historical importance

5. Demonstrate an understanding of the historical roots of current events
6. Develop research and writing/verbal skills necessary in creating and supporting an effective and original written/oral argument

Method of Instruction and Student Responsibilities -----

Classes will incorporate both lecture and discussion. Discussion is a critical component of this course so please come to class prepared with your thoughts, notes, readings, and questions. **Students are responsible for completing *all* assigned readings and are expected to engage *actively* with the instructor and with one another.** Lectures will be supplemented with visual and audio materials, in-class group activities, and writing workshops.

Textbooks and Required Materials -----

McKay, John P., et al., *A History of World Societies vol II, Since 1500*. Ninth Edition. Boston, New York: Bedford/St. Martin's Press, 2009.

Ward, Walter D., et al., *Sources of World Societies vol II, Since 1500*. Ninth Edition. Boston, New York: Bedford/St. Martin's Press, 2009. (Will be listed as Sources in the schedule)

In addition, there may be the occasional online reading.

You are responsible for bringing materials in either electronic or paper form to class for discussion. It is important that you check the schedule every week to make sure you have completed all of the required readings.

Communication-----

Email and office hour visits are preferred. I will do my best to respond via email within 48 hours to all emails sent between Monday through Friday. Also, please make sure to regularly check your UH email account for announcements and for weekly discussion questions.

Prepare for Success -----

1. **Practice respect:** During the course of the quarter, we will engage topics and themes that are politically charged. There will undoubtedly be differences in opinions, beliefs, and interpretations. While it is important that you challenge each other as well as the readings, it is equally important that you treat your peers with respect and consideration. You are never required to agree with each other or with the arguments in the texts we read – rather, the goal is to develop

your skills in critical analyses and arguing within an academic context. However, it is *imperative* to keep in mind that the class is composed of individuals from various backgrounds with various opinions and ideas. Respect for differences is instrumental in fostering a collegial environment in which different perspectives can be exchanged, and differing points of view can be explored. As such, **I require each of you to respect one another and listen to the comments offered by your peers.** Healthy debates are the keystone of academic inquiry and critical thinking; verbal violence and harassment are not, and will not be tolerated under any circumstances. If you experience these types of problems in the class, whether subtle or overt, come see me or email me immediately. Students are expected to follow the **HCC Student Conduct Code** (<http://honolulu.hawaii.edu/intranet/policies/scc.pdf>)

2. Come to class and be **on time**. Attendance is **MANDATORY**. Repeated absences will result in a reduction in your class grade. If you must miss class you are responsible for obtaining notes from a fellow student.
3. Turn in work on time. Assignments are due at the beginning of class on the due date. **Late assignments will be penalized 5% per week late. Late exams will be penalized 15% per week late.**
4. Be prepared to work hard. Complete all assigned readings and **take notes**.
5. Ask your instructor for help if you do not understand the material.
6. Laptops are to be used for class work only and not for Facebook, web-surfing or social networking. All cellphones, ipods, and other unapproved electronic devices should be turned off and put away during class. Failure to comply will result in a markdown of participation points, and you will be asked to leave class.
7. Practice academic honesty. ***Plagiarism will not be tolerated!*** All instances of plagiarism will be reported to Administration. Plagiarized work will result in an automatic F for the assignment and can result in expulsion from HCC. The instructor reserves the right to change the score on a paper at any time, including after the fact, if it is discovered that the paper has been plagiarized, and to change the course grade if applicable. The definition of plagiarism, according to the University of Hawai'i Code of Conduct, is as follows:
 - a. "Plagiarism includes, but is not limited to, submitting, in fulfillment of an academic requirement, any document that has been copied in whole or in part from another individual's work without attributing that borrowed portion to the individual; neglecting to identify as a quotation another's idea and particular phrasing that was not assimilated into the student's language and style or paraphrasing a passage so that the reader is misled as to the source; submitting the same written or oral material in more than one course without obtaining authorization from the instructors involved; or dry labbing, which includes obtaining and using experimental data and laboratory write-ups from other sections of the course or from previous terms or fabricating data to fit the desired or expected results."

This course transfers to UH Manoa as a Foundations Global/Multicultural list B Course

Course Components -----

1 Mid-term exam 20%

1 Final exam 30%

Both exams will cover information provided in lecture, class discussions, and readings. Completion of readings and consistent attendance are necessary steps in preparing for success on the exam. More information regarding both exams will be provided throughout the semester.

Family History Project- Final 20%

See hand out.

Family History Project- Part 1 (outline, annotative bibliography, thesis statement) 10%

See hand out.

Class Participation 20%

Class participation is an important component of your grade. Participation means that you: (1) are in class and punctual, (2) are awake, (3) have completed the readings and assignments, (4) have done all assigned prep work (e.g. answered discussion questions), (5) are ready to engage respectfully with your classmates and the instructor. Every day is a discussion day so please come prepared. A strong participation grade does not necessarily mean that you raise your hand every for question but instead, that you show your engagement through active listening, respectful participation in group work, and thoughtful contributions to our class discussions and activities. Ideally, you will find class discussion and the insights of your classmates a great resource for this course. Missing class will affect your participation grade. If you're not in class to participate, you cannot receive credit for participating. **If there happens to be an in-class quiz or assignment you will NOT be able to make it up (exceptions may be made by the instructor in the case of medical or family emergency).** Arriving late or leaving early without an excuse will affect your grade. If there is a reason that you must miss class, arrive late, or leave early make sure to tell inform the instructor ahead of time.

Responses to **discussion questions** are also included in your participation grade. The instructor will post discussion questions based on the readings online. You are responsible for turning in your answers in-class.

Extra Credit

Extra credit will be given randomly through in-class activities. Extra credit points will be added to your participation grade.

Grades -----

Please keep all work that I return to you as proof that you have completed the assignment. You are responsible for keeping and maintaining a file of your own work.

Grades are assigned based on performance alone. If you would like to discuss a grade please come to my office hours prepared to discuss the details of your paper or exam.

Grades are not assigned on a curve. Grades are based on an A-F letter grading system.

Students must complete all assignments (including class participation) and exams in order to pass the class.

Students with Disabilities Statement -----

Students in this class who need accommodations for a disability should submit documentation and requests to the Services for Students with Disabilities Office (SSD) in Bldg. 2, Rm. 108A. Phone: 845-9282 voice/text or 9272 voice/text for more information. If you have already registered your requests with SSD this semester, please see the instructor after class or during office hours and be prepared to provide a current verification letter from SSD. (Rev. 3-29-2004).

Course Schedule and Assigned Readings -----

Unless noted otherwise, readings and assignments are listed on the day that they are DUE.

Week 1: Setting the Stage for the Age of Exploration

Week 2: Forced Migrations: Africa and the Slave Trade

Week 3: Resistance, Revolution, and Social Change

Week 4: Chinese, Japanese, and Ottoman Empires

Week 5: Bridging Time and Space: The Industrial Revolution and Urbanization

Week 6: Nation Building in Europe

Week 7: Imperial Endeavors in Africa, China and Japan

Week 8: Nation Building in Australia, the Americas, and Hawai`i

Week 9: The Twentieth Century: World War I

Week 10: The Aftermath of World War I

Week 11 World War II

Week 12: The Cold War in Europe, the Americas, and the Pacific

Week 13: The Cold War in Africa, and the Americas and African Decolonization

Week 14: The Cold War and its aftermath in Asia

Week 15: The Environment and World History

Week 16: Thinking Critically about Illicit Economies

Week 17: Final Exam..... Good Luck!

NOTE:

This course ends with the completion of the final exam. Absolutely NO assignments will be accepted after that time without prior instructor approval.

Changes may be made to this syllabus or any aspect of the course over the course of the semester. It is each student's responsibility to regularly check their UH e-mail account for possible changes.