

## SYLLABUS

### **History 1705, Major Works in World History**

University of Pittsburgh, Fall 2010

Prof. Patrick Manning

Tuesday & Thursday 11:00 – 12:15; 239 Cathedral of Learning

3 credits, #37085s

Office hours:

Prof. Manning <pmanning@pitt.edu>, T & W, 1:00 – 2:00 pm; or by appointment.

3904 WWPH

This course is an upper-level exploration of the literature in world history. As the readings will show, world history includes exciting and accessible books. In the course, advanced undergraduate students will read major contributions to the expanding literature on world history. These readings cross regions, time periods, topics, and disciplines, integrating these multiple dimensions to achieve broad and integrated views of the past. Students will learn to assimilate the materials, compare and contrast the various works, identify major interpretations on history on a large scale, and participate in debates in world history.

In its audience, the course is intended for junior and senior students. For majors in History, the course is an advanced course in the interpretation of history at the global level. For advanced students in majors other than history, this course provides a chance to do high-level work in history at the global level, and gain experience in linking the discipline of history to other disciplines in which they are well qualified. The Department of History has designated world history as a major focus of the departmental curriculum, at both undergraduate and graduate levels.

**Course Objective:** Introduce advanced undergraduate students to the literature on world history and develop student skills in assessing and debating these works. As a result, students should gain an appreciation of major issues in world history.

**Texts:** These books are available for purchase (new or used), and many of them are now available as e-books. Just under half of a book is assigned for each week's discussion.

Patrick Manning, *Migration in World History*

Anthony Penna, *The Human Footprint*

Jeffrey Pilcher, *Food in World History*

Pamela McVay, *Envisioning Women in World History, 1500 – present*

Trevor Getz and Heather Streets-Salter, *Modern Imperialism and Colonialism*

Mike Davis, *Late Victorian Holocausts*

### **Classroom Activities.**

**Tuesday:** plenary discussion of main reading for 50 minutes; student reports on main readings for 25 minutes.

**Thursday:** group work for 50 minutes, to critique the main readings and student papers on the main readings; student reports on alternative readings for 25 minutes.

**Groups:** Students are assigned to groups A, B, C, and D for various activities.

### **Course Requirements:**

- 1) Students are expected to attend all classes, and to complete the assigned reading before class.
- 2) Students are expected to participate actively in discussions of all assigned readings (19% of grade).
- 3) Three brief papers of 400-500 words on the main readings, due in alternate weeks (students will be assigned due dates so that half of the class presents a paper each week) (9% each or 27% of grade).
- 4) Six oral commentaries (of 5 minutes maximum) on a mix of main readings and alternative readings (4% each or 24% of grade).
- 5) A narrative essay of 1000 words, due in week 8 (15% of grade)
- 6) A historiographical essay of 1000 words, due in week 15 (15% of grade).
- 7) Approximate time spent outside of class doing the reading and preparing for class each week: four to five hours.

**Grading:** All grading will be completed by the instructor. Grading on each assignment will be completed based on rubrics which will be made available to students when the assignments are returned to them.

### **Discussion:**

Informed and critical discussion of each week's reading is the basis of good work in the course. Students are expected to develop and articulate a world-historical framework for their assessment of the readings. Discussion on Tuesday should be based on your own reading of the week's reading. Discussion on Thursday should be based, in addition, on re-evaluation of the reading based on responses of others.

### **Book Critique Papers:**

You will be assigned to write papers of 400-500 words evaluating the week's reading for six weeks during the term. Each paper should include a review and critique of book, identifying world-historical issues and approaches. Your paper should be drafted before class Tuesday, revised after class discussion, and submitted Tuesday before midnight to the Discussion Board Forum on Courseweb. Your file name must have the form "YourName.AuthorName.Week" (e.g. Smith.Dunn.Week2). The interior of your paper must include your name, the date, and a title.

### **Oral Commentaries:**

You will be assigned to provide an oral commentary six times during the term. Half of your commentaries will be on assigned readings that have been read by others: in this case you should emphasize your critical response to the reading. The other half of your commentaries will be on alternative readings: in this case others may not be familiar with the reading, so you should describe the reading as well as comment on it. Oral commentaries will be presented on Thursdays.

### **Narrative Essay and Historiographical Essay:**

In Week 8 you will submit a narrative essay—a paper of about 1000 words in length in which you develop a world-historical narrative to interpret events that have been discussed in the first half of the course. In Week 15 you will submit a historiographical essay—a paper of about 1000 words in which you give a critical review of several of the

readings you have completed during the semester. For each of these essays, further instructions will be handed out in class.

### **Additional Details on Course Procedures:**

**Late Work and Missed Exams:** Late work or exams taken at other than the scheduled time will receive no credit unless an explicit arrangement has been made in advance. Documented emergencies can lead to exceptions, though it is the student's responsibility to provide notification of the emergency as soon as possible.

**Attendance Policy:** Regular and prompt attendance is required. More than two absences will result in the reduction of your final grade. Arriving late and/or leaving before the end of the class period are equivalent to absences.

**Policy on "Late Withdrawals":** In accordance with university policy, Appeals for Late Withdrawal will be approved ONLY in cases of medical emergency and similar crises.

**Academic Integrity:** Cheating/plagiarism will not be tolerated. Students suspected of violating the University of Pittsburgh Policy on Academic Integrity, noted below, will be required to participate in the outlined procedural process as initiated by the instructor. A minimum sanction of a zero score for the quiz, exam or paper will be imposed. Students should familiarize themselves with the published policies accessible at <http://www.fcas.pitt.edu/academicintegrity.html>.

**Note on Disabilities:** If you have a disability for which you are or may be requesting an accommodation, you are encouraged to contact both your instructor and the Office of Disability Resources and Services, 216 William Pitt Union, (412) 648-7890/(412) 383-7355 (TTY), as early as possible in the term. Disability Resources and Services will verify your disability and determine reasonable accommodations for this course.

**Blackboard:** Blackboard™ is an online software tool that facilitates interaction and communication among all members of the class. Access to the Blackboard website for HIST 0700 will be limited to those enrolled in the course. Please familiarize yourself with Blackboard as soon as possible by visiting the following portal: <http://courseweb.pitt.edu>. Help with Blackboard is available 24 hours a day from the technology help desk. Call them at 412-624-4357, or visit them online at [http://technology.pitt.edu/tech\\_help.html](http://technology.pitt.edu/tech_help.html). In this course we will use Courseweb to:

- post the syllabus.
- announce assignments.
- submit individual papers – assignments must be successfully posted on the appropriate Discussion Board Forum in order to gain credit.

**Office Hours:** The instructor holds regular office hours each week—Tuesday and Wednesday from 1:00 to 2:00 pm, or by appointment—as listed on the syllabus. Students are encouraged to raise any questions and concerns during office hours. In addition, students may arrange to meet at alternate times.

## WEEKLY SCHEDULE

**Week 1.** Aug. 31 and Sep. 2

**Week 2.** Sep. 7 and 9

*Main Reading:* Patrick Manning, *Migration in World History*,

*Alternative Readings:* Patrick Manning, *Navigating World History*

**Assignments Due:** written book critique, Group A

(Ed Tselishchev, Kristina Doyle)

oral comment on alternative reading, Group C

(Rachel Miller, Vincent Myers)

**Week 3.** Sep. 14 and 16

*Main Reading:* Patrick Manning, *Migration in World History*, 1-180.

*Alternative Readings:* Patrick Manning, *The African Diaspora*

**Assignments Due:** written book critique, Group B

(Katie Barber)

Oral comment on alternative reading, Group D

(Cecilia Mok)

**Week 4.** Sep. 21 and 23

*Main Reading:* Anthony Penna, *The Human Footprint*

*Alternative Readings:* David Christian, *Maps of Time*

**Assignments Due:** written book critique, Group C

(Rachel Miller)

oral comment on alternative reading, Group A

(Kristina Doyle)

**Week 5.** Sep. 28 and 30

*Main Reading:* Anthony Penna, *The Human Footprint*

*Alternative Readings:* John McNeill, *Something New Under the Sun*

**Assignments Due:** written book critique, Group D

(Sara Henry, Cecilia Mok)

Comment on alternative reading, Group B

(Katie Barber, Brandon Delaney)

**Week 6.** Oct. 5 and 7 (Dr. Tom Anderson will substitute on Oct. 7)

*Main Reading:* Jeffrey Pilcher, *Food in World History*

*Alternative Readings:* Mark Kurlansky, *Cod: biography of the fish that changed the world*

**Assignments Due:** written book critique, Group B

(Katie Barber, Brandon Delaney)

oral comment on alternative reading, Group D

(Sara Henry, Cecilia Mok)

**Week 7.** Oct. 12 and 14

*Main Reading:* Jeffrey Pilcher, *Food in World History*

*Alternative Readings:* Kenneth Pomeranz and Steven Topik, *The World that Trade Created*

**Assignments Due:** written book critique, Group A  
(Kristina Doyle)

Comment on alternative reading, Group C  
(Rachel Miller, Vincent Myers)

**Week 8.** Oct. 19 and 21 (No class on Oct 21: turn in papers electronically)

**Review**

*Main Reading:* Read posted summaries of student papers

**Assignments Due:** Narrative essay, Groups A, B, C, D

**Week 9.** Oct. 26 and 28

*Main Reading:* Pamela McVay, *Envisioning Women in World History, 1500 – present*

*Alternative Readings:* Bonnie Smith, *Women's History in Global Perspective*

**Assignments Due:** written book critique, Group D  
(Sara Henry, Cecilia Mok)

oral comment on alternative reading, Group B  
(Katie Barber, Brandon Delaney)

**Week 10.** Nov. 2 and 4

*Main Reading:* Pamela McVay, *Envisioning Women in World History, 1500 – present*

*Alternative Readings:* Lauren Benton, *Law and Colonial Culture*

**Assignments Due:** written book critique, Group C  
(Rachel Miller, Vincent Myers)

Comment on alternative reading, Group A  
(Kristina Doyle)

**Week 11.** Nov. 9 and 11

*Main Reading:* Trevor Getz and Heather Streets-Salter, *Modern Imperialism and Colonialism*

*Alternative Readings:* Philip Curtin, *The Rise and Fall of the Plantation Complex*

**Assignments Due:** written book critique, Group A  
(Kristina Doyle)

oral comment on alternative reading, Group C  
(Rachel Miller, Vincent Myers)

**Week 12.** Nov. 16 and 18

*Main Reading:* Trevor Getz and Heather Streets-Salter, *Modern Imperialism and Colonialism*

*Alternative Readings:* Jane Burbank and Frederick Cooper, *Empires in World History*

**Assignments Due:** written book critique, Group B  
(Katie Barber, Brandon Delaney)  
Comment on alternative reading, Group D  
(Sara Henry, Cecilia Mok)

**Week 13.** Nov. 23 [no class Nov. 25]

*Main Reading:* Mike Davis, *Late Victorian Holocausts*

*Alternative Readings:* Charles Maier, *Among Empires*

**Assignments Due:** written book critique, Group C  
(Rachel Miller, Vincent Myers)  
oral comment on alternative reading, Group A  
(Kristina Doyle)

**Week 14.** Nov. 30 and Dec. 2

*Main Reading:* Mike Davis, *Late Victorian Holocausts*

*Alternative Readings:* Andre Gunder Frank, *ReOrient: Global Economy in the Asian Age*

**Assignments Due:** written book critique, Group D  
(Sara Henry, Cecilia Mok)  
Comment on alternative reading, Group B  
(Katie Barber, Brandon Delaney)

**Week 15.** Dec. 7 and 9

**Review**

*Main Reading:* Read posted summaries of student papers

**Assignments Due:** Historiographical essay, Groups A, B, C, D

**Grades submitted.** Dec. 22