

# WORLD HISTORY CORE SEMINAR: APPROACHES TO THE PRACTICE OF WORLD HISTORY

HIST 2718, SPRING 2014  
PATRICK MANNING

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Hours: Tues. 1:00 – 3:00 pm  
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[www.manning.pitt.edu](http://www.manning.pitt.edu) (see additional bibliography there and on WHC website)

This course examines recent exemplary research monographs in world history. Each week of the course we will read and discuss two monographs representing a particular approach to world historical research. Each week's reading will also include chapters from the instructor's synthetic interpretation of world history. The aim of the course is to introduce students to the overall world-historical discourse and identify an array of wider contexts that could potentially be relevant to their own research topics.

## RESOURCES

Background Reading (all available in WHC, 3900 WWPH)

Manning, P., *Navigating World History* (2003) [WHC]

Hughes-Warrington, M., ed., *Palgrave Advances in World Histories* (2005)

Crossley, P., *What Is Global History?* (2008)

Bentley, J., ed., *Oxford Handbook of World History* (2011)

Northrop, Douglas, ed., *A Companion to World History* (2012)

Stearns, Peter, *World History: The Basics* (2011)

Journals:

*Comparativ*

*Comparative Studies in Society in History*

*Itinerario*

*Journal of Global History*

*Journal of World History*

*Journal of World-Systems Research*

*New Global Studies*

*Review*

*World History Connected*

On-line Discussion List:

H-WORLD ([h-net.msu.edu/~world](http://h-net.msu.edu/~world))

## **ASSIGNMENTS**

- (1) Five short papers, 500-750 words each, on the readings in weeks of your choice.
- (2) Three commentaries on other students' papers (selected by lot).
- (3) A final paper of 2000 words: a world-historical research design, due April 14.
- (4) One or two introductory oral commentaries on the author and text of Category A readings for the week.
- (5) One or two oral commentaries on the text of Category B readings for the week.
- (6) Two postings to H-WORLD: one question, one bibliographical suggestion.

## **THEMATIC COURSE ORGANIZATION**

This core course in world history is organized principally along thematic lines. Chronology, theory, and method, interpretation, and historiography, while included, are definitely subordinated to a review of the principal themes in world-historical discourse. To assist in discussion of the themes, the readings for each week are preceded by brief notes on framework and debate regarding the theme in question.

## **ORGANIZATION OF READINGS**

Readings each work are labeled by categories A, B, C, and D.

- A. Reading for all students to read and discuss; one student introduces the work & author. These assigned works give primary emphasis to world-historical monographs and secondary emphasis to synthetic works.
- B. Reading by one student, who reports on it in the context of the main reading.
- C. Additional readings, to be consulted and read when time is available. (Reports on books in this category might be made on a volunteer basis; otherwise, they are for later reading.)
- D. This overview-in-process, to be scanned or read during the last half of the semester, provides a chronological interpretation of world history, and is to be discussed briefly in class during weeks 7 through 14.

## **FORMAT OF CLASS SESSIONS**

Before class: students will prepare for each session by completing the A readings and, as appropriate, the B, C, and D readings. Students will write short response papers (for five of the sessions), and submit them at the beginning of class; in addition, students will write and submit three peer reviews of previous fellow student papers, as assigned.

In class: after introduction by one student, discussion will focus on the week's A reading and on the accumulation of readings and discussions during the semester. There will be a report on the week's B reading, plus periodic discussion on the concluding research design paper. From week 7 on, a small portion of class will focus on discussion of the chronological and thematic Manning "Synthesis."

## **AVAILABILITY OF READINGS**

Where possible, works on the syllabus are held on reserve at Hillman Library.

Books available electronically through ULS are noted: [ULS electronic]

Books in the World History Center are noted: [WHC]

## WEEKLY SCHEDULE

### JAN. 6. WEEK 1: INTRODUCTION

*Frameworks: the range in types of “worlds”*

*Debates: Dynamics of growth? Dynamics of transformation?*

- A. Vanhaute, Eric. *World History: An Introduction*. Routledge, 2012. [ULS electronic; 3900 WWPH]
- B. Sachsenmaier, Dominic. *Global Perspectives on Global History: Theories and perspectives in a connected world*. Cambridge, 2011.
- C. Manning, Patrick. *Navigating World History: Historians Create a Global Past*. Palgrave Macmillan, 2003. [ULS electronic]

### JAN. 13. WEEK 2: ENVIRONMENTAL HISTORY

*Frameworks: geosphere, biosphere, human-natural interaction*

*Debates: contemporary global warming*

- A. McNeill, John R. *Something New Under the Sun: An Environmental History of the Twentieth-Century World*. New York, Norton, 2000. [3900 WWPH]
- B. Bulliet, Richard. *Cotton, Climate, and Camels in Early Islamic Iran: A Moment in World History*. Columbia, 2011.
- C. McNeill, John R., and Alan Roe. *Global Environmental History: An Introductory Reader*. Routledge, 2012.
- C. Brooke, John L. *Climate Change and the Course of Global History: A Rough Journey*. Cambridge, 2014.

### JAN. 21. WEEK 3. MIGRATION AND DIASPORA [CLASS MEETS TUESDAY AT TIME TBA]

*Frameworks: communities; micro, meso, macro analysis*

*Debates: migration vs. immigration; meaning of return migration*

- A. Manning, Patrick, *The African Diaspora: A History through Culture*. Columbia, 2009. [ULS electronic; 3900 WWPH]
- B. Gabaccia, Donna, *Foreign Relations: American Immigration in Global Perspective*. Princeton, 2012.
- C. McKeown, Adam. *Melancholy Order: Asian Migration and the Globalization of Borders*. Columbia Univ. Press, 2008. [3900 WWPH]
- C. Lucassen, Jan, Leo Lucassen and Patrick Manning, eds. *Migration history in world history: Multidisciplinary approaches*. Brill, 2010. [ULS electronic]
- C. Manning, Patrick, and Tiffany Trimmer. *Migration in World History*, 2<sup>nd</sup> ed. Routledge, 2012.

### JAN. 27. WEEK 4: MODERNITY

*Frameworks: tradition, enlightenment, post-modernity*

*Debates: unique or plural modernity; secularization*

- A. Bayly, C.A. *The Birth of the Modern World, 1780 – 1914*. Malden, MA: Blackwell, 2004.
- B. “AHR Roundtable: Historians and the Question of ‘Modernity’,” *American Historical Review* 116 (2011). [ULS electronic]
- C. Iriye, Akira. *Global Community: The role of international organizations in the making of the contemporary world*. Univ. of California Press, 2002. [ULS electronic; 3900 WWPH]

**FEB. 3. WEEK 5: SOCIAL MOVEMENTS**

*Frameworks: class, ethnicity, gender, state*

*Debates: causes, links, consequences of social movements*

- A. Goldstone, Jack. *Revolution and Rebellion in the Early Modern World*. Berkeley, 2001 [ULS electronic; 3900 WWPH]
- B. Tilly, Charles, and Lesley J. Wood. *Social Movements, 1768 – 2008*, 2<sup>nd</sup> ed. Paradigm, 2008.
- C. Armitage, David, and Sanjay Subrahmanyam, eds., *The Age of Revolutions in Global Context*, c. 1760 - 1840. Palgrave Macmillan, 2010.
- C. Serulnikov, Sergio. *Revolution in the Andes: The age of Túpac Amaru*. Duke Univ. Press, 2013.
- C. Dubois, Laurent. *Avengers of the New World: The story of the Haitian Revolution*. Harvard, 2005.

**FEB. 10. WEEK 6: GENDER**

*Frameworks: male, female, other roles; age groupings*

*Debates: short-term and long-term dynamics of gender roles*

- A. Wiesner-Hanks, Merry. *Gender in History: Global Perspectives*, 2<sup>nd</sup> ed., Blackwell, 2011
- B. Wiesner-Hanks, Merry. *Christianity and sexuality in the early modern world: regulating desire, reforming practice*, 2<sup>nd</sup> ed. London: Routledge, 2010. [ULS electronic]
- C. Stearns, Peter. *Gender in World History*, 2<sup>nd</sup> ed. Routledge, 2006. [ULS electronic]
- C. Weinbaum, Alys Eve, et al., eds. *The Modern Girl Around the World: Consumption, Modernity, and Globalization*. Duke University Press, 2008.

**FEB. 17. WEEK 7: MARITIME HISTORY**

*Frameworks: oceans, inland seas, rivers; landside, littoral, maritime*

*Debates: technology, economy, and society; periodization*

- A. Matsuda, Matt. *Pacific Worlds: A History of Seas, Peoples, and Cultures*. Cambridge: Cambridge University Press, 2012.
- B. Bose, Sugata. *Hundred Horizons: The Indian Ocean in the Age of Global Empire*. Cambridge, MA: Harvard University Press, 2006. [ULS electronic]
- C. Rediker, Marcus. *The Slave Ship: A Human History*. Viking, 2007.
- C. Manning, Patrick. "Global History and Maritime History," *International Journal of Maritime History* (2013)
- D. Manning, "Humanity," Intro – Ch 3.

**FEB. 24. WEEK 8: EMPIRE (AND NATION)**

*Frameworks: homeland, core, nation, periphery*

*Debates: dynamics of rise and fall; imperial interactions; empire and world*

- A. Darwin, John, *After Tamerlane: The global history of empire since 1405*. Bloomsbury, 2008. [3900 WWPH]
- B. Burbank, Jane, and Frederick Cooper, *Empires in World History: Power and the Politics of Difference*. Princeton, 2010.

- C. Darwin, John, *The Empire Project: The rise and fall of the British world-system, 1830-1970*. Cambridge, 2009.
- C. Darwin, John, *Unfinished Empire: The global expansion of Britain*. Bloomsbury, 2013.
- D. Manning, "Humanity," Ch 4-7.

**MAR. 3. WEEK 9: RELIGION**

*Frameworks: Big religions; spirituality at all levels*

*Debates: Dynamics of religious transformation and interaction?*

- A. Schwartz, Stuart. *All can be saved: Religious tolerance and salvation in the Iberian Atlantic world*. Yale, 2008. [ULS electronic]
- B. Lopez, Donald. *Story of Buddhism: A Concise Guide*. Harper San Francisco, 2001.
- C. El Hamel, Chouki. *Black Morocco: A history of slavery, race, and Islam*. Cambridge, 2013. [ULS electronic]
- C. Foltz, Richard. *Religions of the Silk Road: Premodern Patterns of Globalization*, 2<sup>nd</sup> ed. Palgrave Macmillan, 2010.
- D. Manning, "Humanity," Ch 8-11.

**MAR. 17. WEEK 10: CULTURE**

*Frameworks: Material, expressive, societal culture*

*Debates: cultural relativism*

- A. Benton, *Law and colonial Culture: Legal regimes in world history, 1400-1900*. Cambridge, 2002. [ULS electronic]
- B. Allsen, Thomas. *Culture and Commerce in Mongol Eurasia*. Cambridge: Cambridge University Press, 2001. [ULS electronic]
- C. Riello, Giorgio. *Cotton: The fabric that made the modern world*. Cambridge, 2013. [ULS electronic]
- C. Kuper, Adam. *Culture: The Anthropologists' Account*. Harvard, 1999.
- C. Damrosch, David. *What is World Literature?* Princeton, 2003.
- D. Manning, "Humanity," Ch 12-15

**MAR. 24. WEEK 11: SCALE**

*Frameworks: Space, time, level of social aggregation, natural and social world*

*Debates: How do big scales affect the small? The reverse?*

- A. Bodley, John H. *The Power of Scale: A Global History Approach*. M.E. Sharpe, 2003. [3900 WWPH]
- B. Wills, J. *1688: A Global History*. W.W. Norton, 2001.
- C. Spier, Fred. *Big History and the Future of Humanity*. Malden, MA: Wiley-Blackwell, 2010.
- C. Christian, David. *Maps of Time: An Introduction to Big History*. Berkeley: University of California Press, 2004. [ULS electronic]
- C. Arrighi, *The Long Twentieth Century: Money, power, and the origins of our times*. Verso, 1994.
- C. Putnam Lara, *Radical Moves: Caribbean migrants and the politics of migration in the jazz age*. University of North Carolina Press, 2013.
- D. Manning, "Humanity," Ch 16-19.

MAR. 31. WEEK 12: SYSTEM

*Frameworks: system, sub-system, open and closed system, emergent properties*  
*Debates: systemic function, systemic change*

- A. Chase-Dunn, Christopher, and Bruce Lerro. *Social Change: Globalization from the Stone Age to the Present*. Paradigm, 2014.
- B. Wallerstein, Immanuel. *The Modern World-System, vol. 1: Capitalist agriculture and the origins of the European world-economy in the sixteenth century*. Academic Press, 1974. [ULS electronic; 3900 WWPH]
- C. Abu Lughod, Janet. *Before European Hegemony: The world system A.D. 1250 – 1350*. Oxford, 1989. [3900 WWPH]
- C. McNeill, J. R., and William H. McNeill. *The Human Web: A bird's-eye view of world history*. W. W. Norton, 2003. [3900 WWPH]
- D. Manning, "Humanity," Ch 20-23.

APR. 7. WEEK 13: COMMERCE

*Frameworks: networks, trade diasporas*  
*Debates: commodity chains, management*

- A. Aslanian, Sebouh David. *From the Indian Ocean to the Mediterranean: The Global Trade Networks of Armenian Merchants from New Julfa*. University of California Press, 2011. [ULS electronic]
- B. Markovits, Claude, *The Global World of Indian Merchants, 1750-1947: Traders of Sind from Bukhara to Panama*. Cambridge University Press, 2000. [ULS electronic]
- C. Chandler, Alfred D. *The visible hand: the managerial revolution in American business*. Harvard, 1977. [ULS electronic]
- C. Curtin, Philip D. *Cross-cultural Trade in World History*. Cambridge, 1984.
- D. Manning, "Humanity," Ch 24-27.

APR. 14. WEEK 14: ECONOMY

*Frameworks: technology, innovation, capital, growth*  
*Debates: eastern vs. western growth*

- A. Pomeranz, Kenneth. *The Great Divergence: Europe, China, and the making of the modern world economy*. Princeton, 2000. [3900 WWPH]
- B. O'Rourke and Williamson, *Globalization and History: The Evolution of a Nineteenth-Century Atlantic Economy*. MIT Press, 1999. [ULS electronic]
- C. Frank, Andre Gunder. *ReOrient: Global Economy in the Asian Age*. University of California Press, 1998. [ULS electronic; 3900 WWPB]
- C. Allen, Robert C. *Global Economic History: A Very Short Introduction*. Oxford, 2011.
- C. Parthasarathi, Prasannan. *Why Europe Grew Rich and Asia did not: Global economic divergence, 1600 – 1850*. Cambridge, 2011.
- C. Bosma, Ulbe. *The Asian sugar plantation in India and Indonesia : industrial production, 1770-2010*. Cambridge, 2013. [ULS electronic]
- D. Manning, "Humanity," Ch 28-30.

# World History: Humanity in Movement

by Patrick Manning

## TABLE OF CONTENTS

Introduction. What Is World History?

### **Part I. Four Ages to 1000 BCE: Foundation, Expansion, Production**

1. Founders of Humankind and the Age of Expansion, 200,000 – 15,000 BP
2. Climate Change and the Age of Production, 25,000 – 5000 BP
3. Home Fires: The Rise and Fall of Communities, 9000 – 4000 BP
4. The Age of Civilizations and Elites, 4000 BCE – 1000 BCE
5. Perspectives: Humanity in Movement to 1000 BCE

### **Part II. The Afro-Eurasian Age, 1000 BCE to 1200 CE**

6. Coins and Caravans: The Rise of Commerce
7. Aqueducts and Outriggers: New Technology
8. Religion and Philosophy: Codes of Revelation, Salvation, and Ethics
9. Empires, 500 BCE – 1200 CE
10. Finding Greener Pastures: Migrations
11. Webs of Human Connection

### **Part III. Global Interactions, 1200 CE to 1650 CE**

12. Mongol Conquests, 1200-1350
13. The Mongol Aftermath in Politics and Culture, 1350-1500
14. Oceanic Encounters in the Seven Seas, 1400-1600
15. Conflicts in Religion, 1500-1650
16. Silver Circles the World: The Global Economy, 1500-1650
17. Families and Communities, 1200-1650

### **Part IV. World System, 1650 to 1850 CE**

18. New Models in Statecraft and Commerce, 1650-1750
19. Guitars, Silks, Drums, Books: Cultural Connections, 1650-1800
20. Seizing the Able Hand: Slavery, 1650-1850
21. Flags and Anthems: Nation and Revolution, 1750-1850
22. Industrialization Worldwide, 1750 - 1850
23. Divergence: West and East, North and South, 1650-1850

### **Part V. The Age of Transformation and Inequality, 1850 to the present**

24. Civilizations and Nations at War, 1850-1920
25. Migration: To Rural, Island, and Urban Frontiers, 1840-1940
26. Technology: The Power of Knowledge, 1850-1940
27. Ideology: Visions of the World, 1900-1960
28. Society: Campaigns for Equality, 1945-1995
20. Globalization in Economy and Culture, 1950-2000
30. Our Heritage, our Future