

20th Century World History

HIST 213

Thursday Evenings - 6:00-8:50pm

TIER 106

Instructor: Dr. Morrison-Santana

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Office: 324 Cullimore Hall

Office Hours: Thursdays 5:20-6:00pm

Course Description:

This course will cover the major ideologies of the 20th century, the cultures in which they occurred, and their connections to themes such as deep nationalism, conflict, and revenge. Looking at the history of the century through an interdisciplinary lens using cases across four continents and focusing on the cultures of those affected, students will gain a better understanding of where we, as humans, are in relation to where we've historically been. Sources will include government documents, memoirs, literature, plays, and film clips to understand the culture of the 20th century through the eyes of those who experienced it. This course satisfies three credits of the GUR in Cultural History.

Course Objectives:

The purpose of the course is to provide background knowledge to students of the world in which they live through readings, lectures, and class discussions of an array of historical topics. Knowledge of history is of the greatest importance due to the fact that the world we live in today is the direct result of various historical developments. The students of the course will analyze historical events and movements of the 20th century and assess their subsequent significance. Students will use critical thinking and problem-solving skills to analyze information and develop their writing skills by producing a historically themed analysis paper. Through interactions with the course materials, instructor, and peers, students will learn how to analyze these events on an individual level in order to apply such critical thinking to the larger themes of the course. Students will be assessed through class participation, one writing assignment, a midterm exam, and a final exam.

Course Outcome Goals:

Upon completion of this course, students should specifically be able to do the following:

1. Demonstrate knowledge of some of the fundamental concepts and historical events and ideas related to the 20th century world.
2. Evaluate global exchanges and perspectives in context of social, religious, and intellectual traditions.
3. Read, analyze, organize, and synthesize evidence, historical problems, and interpretations connected to the history of the 20th century world.
4. Connect historical events with contemporary global issues.

Required Texts:

- There are no required purchases for this course. All readings are available on Canvas. Please make sure you have access to the course as soon as possible.

Assignments: All assignments must be submitted on Canvas. Assignments will close following the due date/time.
I do not accept late assignments (papers, or exams)

Discussion Contributions & Attendance (Participation) – Attendance is required. You will not be able to pass this class without attending it because you will not be participating in class discussions or getting required information from lectures.

News Article Essays:

There are many critical international issues happening in the world today that are directly related to issues and/or events from 20th century history that we will cover in this class. For this assignment, you must find a recent article (within the past year, at least 5 full pages long, and from a credible source – email me if you are unsure of whether a source is acceptable) and write a paper relating the article to a past event that we studied in class. You are expected to tie course readings and lectures into your analysis. A full rubric for the paper is on page 4 of this syllabus.

Reading Response Essays:

Throughout the semester, you must write four reading responses to four of our course readings. These are to be analytical papers (NOT a summary of the readings). It should be at least two (FULL – double-spaced, 12 pt. Times New Roman font, 1-inch margins) pages long (per reading) and include insights gained, any questions you may have, and topics for class discussion. Only put your name and which reading you are analyzing at the top of the paper. No other information or title is needed. No direct quotes – this is your analysis. You should submit two of readings before the midterm is due (about readings from the first half of the semester) and two in the second half of the semester (about two readings from the second half of the semester). I recommend doing these throughout the semester rather than writing them right before they're due, because the readings supplement the lectures.

Midterm/Final Exams: There are no make-ups of either exam unless there is a dire emergency, which requires proper documentation through the Dean of Students. The format of the exams will be short answer essay questions (4-5 sentences each) and one longer essay (10-12 sentences).

***** NO LATE ASSIGNMENTS WILL BE ACCEPTED *****

Grading:

Participation – 200 points
Reading Responses – 50 points each/200 total points
Newspaper Article 100 points each/200 total points
Midterm Exam – 150 points
Final Exam – 100 points

850 points total

COURSE POLICIES:

1. **Attendance** is mandatory and will be taken at each class session. Please plan to attend every class so that you can get all the information of the course needed. If you miss class due to illness, please contact the Dean of Students and submit your doctor's note through them. You will not be able to pass this class without regularly attending it. If you have more than 3 absences, it will affect your participation grade. Repeated lateness will affect participation grade.

2. **No personal technology devices allowed in class.** This means no cell phones, iPads, laptops, or any other kinds of electronic devices (unless needed for medical reasons, with the proper documentation). These devices are distracting not only to you, but to the rest of the class as well. If you are caught using your phone or another device, you will lose participation credit for the day. Continuous use of these technologies may result in being asked to leave the classroom and lose participation credit for the day. If you are caught using any personal technology during an exam, you will receive a zero for the exam, and the matter will be handed over to the Office of Academic Integrity.
3. Students should present official medical or legal documentation if they cannot fulfill any part of the course requirements. Exceptions will only be made under extraordinary circumstances such as serious illness and/or legal obligations.
4. **Open Communication:** I am always available to help you succeed in this course. You may see me during my office hours or reach me through email. Please do not hesitate to contact me with any questions or concerns. Additionally, it is inappropriate for any parents to contact any professor about your grade, and there are laws that prohibit such communication.
5. **Your grade** is your responsibility and is non-negotiable. If you need a specific grade for your GPA, financial aid, academic standing, personal reasons, etc., you need to earn that grade by following the guidelines presented in this syllabus. Please do not contact me after the semester asking/begging for a better grade.
6. **DO NOT HAND IN WORK YOU'VE SUBMITTED IN ANY OTHER CLASS.** Even if you wrote it, it would still be considered plagiarism because you didn't write it specifically for this class.
7. Please be **respectful** of everyone in the class, including me. If you are being disrespectful, you will be warned one time. Any subsequent disrespect will be reported to the university.
8. I cannot predict the future, and as we all know from these past few years, things can change overnight – this includes modality of courses taught, requirements for in person classes, etc. I will do my best to be as honest and upfront with you about what I know and to help ease whatever transitions we may need to make throughout the semester. We should all be prepared for everything.
9. Do not plan a mid-semester vacation that would cause you to miss an exam or leave campus before the end of the university's final exam end date, requiring a different exam date. This will not be accommodated. (Final exam dates will be available sometime in late February or early March, so please plan accordingly).
10. **Academic Integrity is the cornerstone of higher education and is central to the ideals of this course and the university. Cheating is strictly prohibited and devalues the degree that you are working on. As a member of the NJIT community, it is your responsibility to protect your educational investment by knowing and following the academic code of integrity policy that is found at: <http://www5.njit.edu/policies/sites/policies/files/academic-integrity-code.pdf>.** Please note that it is my professional obligation and responsibility to report any academic misconduct to the Dean of Students Office. ***Any student found in violation of the code by cheating, plagiarizing or using any online software inappropriately will result in disciplinary action. This may include a failing grade of F, and/or suspension or dismissal from the university.*** If you have any questions about the code of Academic Integrity, please contact the Dean of Students Office at dos@njit.edu

Newspaper Article Assignment:

There are many critical international issues happening in the world today that are directly related to historical events or eras we've discussed in this class. For this assignment, you must find a recent (2024) news event/article (from a credible source – email me if you are unsure of a source – **do not use any blogs, opinion pieces, or any 24-hour news channel sources – i.e. CNN, FoxNews, MSNBC, etc.**) on a current event and write a paper about how the event relates to an event discussed in this class. This is not an informative paper, but rather you must use critical thinking to discuss how the current event is related to the history we've discussed and how it differs. Compare and contrast the present with the past using course readings, lectures, and outside sources if necessary to supplement your paper. Any supplemental topics should not be the main focus of your paper; your analysis of the newspaper article chosen should be obvious in your paper.

Cite everything using **footnotes** (with full bibliographic information in them & single-spaced).
DO NOT PUT PARENTHESES IN YOUR TEXT.

*** Your answer must be about 5 FULL pages (no less), typed, DOUBLE SPACED, and 12-point Times New Roman font, one-inch margins. You will be graded on content, grammar, punctuation, and following directions. These papers should be a well thought out responses with a beginning, middle, and end. ***

These papers are due on CANVAS
LATE PAPERS WILL NOT BE ACCEPTED for any reason.

Guidelines:

- Find an article from a credible source – DO NOT USE 24-hour news channels (Fox News, CNN, MSNBC, etc.)... Also, avoid opinion articles (op-eds). If you are unsure of your source, please email me.
- Be specific. I want you to really think about this article and your response to it and how it fits into our course... You MUST cite course materials (lectures, readings, etc.)
- **Do not find a recent article about a past event that does the comparison for you... this defeats the purpose of the assignment. They two topics should be unrelated.**
- Avoid replacing arguments with examples. Use examples to illustrate a general claim, not as a replacement for them. Examples by themselves tend toward selection bias and hasty generalizations.
- I am interested in content, not clever rhetorical flourish. Thus, avoid filler material... DO NOT USE BLOCK QUOTES FROM THE ARTICLES OR READINGS. Direct quotes should be no longer than 2 sentences, MAXIMUM.
- **IF YOU DO NOT CITE, EVEN WHEN YOU PARAPHRASE, IT WILL BE CONSIDERED PLAGIARISM. PLAGIARIZED PAPERS WILL BE PENALIZED EITHER BY AN F ON THE PAPER OR THE COURSE AND WILL BE REPORTED TO THE DEAN.**
- PROOFREAD YOUR PAPER. You will be marked off for typos, punctuation errors, and/or major disorganization.
- The heading of your paper should be your name ONLY.
- 12-point Times New Roman font
- 1-inch margins all around
- The paper is to be at least 5 FULL pages long, not less (No cover page).

*** **SUBMIT YOUR PAPER THROUGH TURN-IT-IN ON CANVAS** ***
(I will not accept it any other way)

GRADING RUBRIC FOR THE NEWSPAPER ARTICLE ASSIGNMENTS:

Essay Criteria (70 points total):

- ☐ - Credible article chosen (____/10 points)
- ☐ - Article comparison to course material (____/20 points)
- ☐ - Critical Analysis/Original thought (____/20 points)
- ☐ - Well-organized essay – beginning/middle/end – (____/20 points)

Paper Guidelines – following directions (30 points total):

- ☐ – Handed in on time (freebie) – 2 points
- ☐ – Brief name (no more than one line) – 4 points
- ☐ – Required length (5 full pages) – 4 points
- ☐ – Required font (Times New Roman 12-point) – 4 points
- ☐ – Proofread – 4 points
- ☐ – Double Spaced (no extra spaces between paragraphs) – 4 points
- ☐ – Proper Margins (1-inch) – 4 points
- ☐ – Footnotes (4 points total)
 - * Full Bibliographic info (including URL)
 - * Single-spaced

GRADE (out of 100 points) _____

Spring 2024 - 20th Century World Schedule (subject to change)

WEEK	TOPIC	WRITTEN ASSIGNMENTS DUE
18-Jan	Introduction	
25-Jan	Fin de Siècle & the Dreyfus Affair	
1-Feb	World War I & The Armenian Genocide	
8-Feb	The Bolshevik Revolution, Ukraine Famine and the 1920s in the U.S.	Reading Response #1 due by Sunday, February 11th at 11:59pm
15-Feb	The Origins of the Nazi Party & Suppression of the Jews and The Rape of Nanking	
22-Feb	The Psychological and Political Aspects of World War II in Europe and War in the Pacific	Newspaper Article Assignment #1 due by Sunday, February 25th at 11:59pm
29-Feb	The Aftermath of WWII & Origins of the Cold War and Korean War	Reading Response #2 due by Sunday, March 3rd at 11:59pm
7-Mar	NO CLASS	Midterm exam - released Thursday, March 7th -- due Friday March 8th at 11:59pm
14-Mar	SPRING BREAK - NO CLASSES	
21-Mar	The Aftermath of WWII & Origins of the Cold War and Korean War and Cuban Missile Crisis	
28-Mar	Vietnam, Cambodian Genocide, and Soviet-Afghan War vs. War in Afghanistan (2000s)	
4-Apr	End of the Cold War & Iraq I (1991) vs. Iraq II (2003) & the U.S. Intervention in Somalia	Reading Response #3 due by Sunday, April 7th by 11:59pm
11-Apr	Break-up of the Former Yugoslavia; Decolonization in Africa	
18-Apr	Rwandan Genocide	Newspaper Article Assignment #2 due by Sunday, April 14th at 11:59pm
25-Apr	R2P, and the late 1990s	Reading Response #4 due by Sunday, April 28th at 11:59pm
FINAL ESSAY DUE FRIDAY, May 3rd, by 11:59PM on CANVAS		