

Instructor Name: Stephen Murphy, MA
Semester Year: Fall 2017
HIST 2312 World History since 1500
Class Time: MWF 1:00 PM – 1:50 PM
Office Hours: by appointment
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CATALOG DESCRIPTION

This course introduces the major themes and developments in World History from 1500 to the present. Some of these topics will include the Renaissance in Europe, the Reformation, Conquest and Exploitation, the Enlightenment, the American and French Revolutions, the Industrial Revolution, Feminism, Nationalism, Imperialism, the World Wars, Decolonization, and the Cold War. We will examine the major political, cultural, economic, and social developments that occurred in human societies across Europe, Africa, Asia, and the Americas during this period as well as the cross-cultural interactions and exchanges that took place. Through the examination of primary sources, students will become familiar with the craft of history and will learn to think analytically.

COURSE OBJECTIVES

A) **Critical Thinking:** Students will gain a broad factual knowledge in the field of World History from the Renaissance to the Cold War. Students will be taught to think critically and analytically, and to ask appropriate questions about different historical societies and cultures, integrating and synthesizing knowledge they gain in the course, forming conclusions, and building an informed belief system from the complexity of information presented in the course content.

B) Communication Skills:

Communication skills will be addressed in this class through the reading and discussion of historical texts, through the lectures, and through the written assignments and exams. Visual aids such as films, political cartoons, maps, and photographs will be used during the presentation of course material. Students will learn through the use of historical materials to critically evaluate the time periods in which these materials originated.

C) **Personal Responsibility:** Personal responsibility will be addressed in this course as students articulate through exams and analytical assignments how to connect choices, actions, and consequences to ethical decision-making. By learning how individuals throughout this period of World History drew upon their cultural belief systems to make ethical choices, students will learn how their personal choices influence their own society.

D) **Social Responsibility:** Social responsibility will be addressed in this course as students learn the ways that individuals and groups throughout history made decisions aimed at improving society for all by promoting civic responsibility and participation, civil discourse, and other social values. As a result, students will discover their own social responsibilities for improving society.

REQUIRED MATERIALS

Wilson, Peter. Heart of Europe: A History of the Holy Roman Empire Harvard University Press, 978-0674058095

STUDENTS WITH DISABILITIES POLICY

It is the policy of Sam Houston State University that individuals otherwise qualified shall not be excluded, solely by reason of their disability, from participation in any academic program of the university. Further, they shall not be denied the benefits of these programs nor shall they be subjected to discrimination. Students with disabilities that might affect their academic performance should register with the Office of Services for Students with Disabilities located in

the Lee Drain Annex (telephone 936-294-3512, TDD 936-294-3786, and e-mail disability@shsu.edu). They should then make arrangements with their individual instructors so that appropriate strategies can be considered and helpful procedures can be developed to ensure that participation and achievement opportunities are not impaired.

SHSU adheres to all applicable federal, state, and local laws, regulations, and guidelines with respect to providing reasonable accommodations for students with disabilities. If you have a disability that may affect adversely your work in this class, then I encourage you to register with the SHSU Services for Students with Disabilities and to talk with me about how I can best help you. All disclosures of disabilities will be kept strictly confidential. NOTE: No accommodation can be made until you register with the Services for Students with Disabilities. For a complete listing of the university policy, see: <http://www.shsu.edu/dotAsset/7ff819c3-39f3-491d-b688-db5a330ced92.pdf>

Visitors in the Classroom

Only register students may attend class. Exceptions can be made on a case-by-case basis by the professor. In all cases, visitors must not present a disruption to the class by their attendance. Students wishing to audit a class must apply to do so through the Registrar's Office.

STUDENT ABSENCES ON RELIGIOUS HOLY DAYS POLICY:

Section 51.911(b) of the Texas Education Code requires that an institution of higher education excuse a student from attending classes or other required activities, including examinations, for the observance of a religious holy day, including travel for that purpose. Section 51.911 (a) (2) defines a religious holy day as: "a holy day observed by a religion whose places of worship are exempt from property taxation under Section 11.20...." A student whose absence is excused under this subsection may not be penalized for that absence and shall be allowed to take an examination or complete an assignment from which the student is excused within a reasonable time after the absence.

University policy 861001 provides the procedures to be followed by the student and instructor. A student desiring to absent himself/herself from a scheduled class in order to observe (a) religious holy day(s) shall present to each instructor involved a written statement concerning the religious holy day(s). The instructor will complete a form notifying the student of a reasonable timeframe in which the missed assignments and/or examinations are to be completed. For a complete listing of the university policy, see:

[/dept/academic-affairs/documents/aps/students/861001.pdf](#)

ACADEMIC DISHONESTY

All students are expected to engage in all academic pursuits in a manner that is above reproach. Students are expected to maintain honesty and integrity in the academic experiences both in and out of the classroom. Any student found guilty of dishonesty in any phase of academic work will be subject to disciplinary action. The University and its official representatives may initiate disciplinary proceedings against a student accused of any form of academic dishonesty including but not limited to, cheating on an examination or other academic work which is to be submitted, plagiarism, collusion and the abuse of resource materials. For a complete listing of the university policy, see: [Dean of Student's Office](#)

My specific policy for this class is as follows: all written work should represent your own efforts. If you quote directly from a source, you must give credit to the original author in a citation. The same standard applies when you paraphrase a source's words, and even when you use original ideas from a source. Failure to credit the source in these circumstances is called plagiarism—literally theft of someone's ideas and/or words. In addition, failing to properly paraphrase, that is, simply changing a few words from someone else's writing—even with a citation—is considered plagiarism. Both types of plagiarism are absolutely unacceptable. Cheating includes copying someone's answers to an assignment or vice-versa, allowing them to do work for you or vice-versa, or receiving or giving any other kind of unauthorized assistance. Cheating is not confined to tests, but also applies to daily work such as quizzes or notes. Any acts of plagiarism or cheating may result in a zero for the assignment that cannot be made up. A second act of cheating or plagiarism may result in expulsion from the course and an F for the semester. It is better to get a poor grade on an assignment using your own work than risking your integrity by cheating on an assignment.

ELECTRONIC DEVICES POLICY

Cell phones, laptops, tablets, etc. should be put away during the class period. Failure to comply may result in a student being asked to use their device outside of the classroom. I understand that emergency situations might arise, and you might need to keep a cell phone out. If this is the case, then please speak with me before class, and use your phone outside of the classroom.

ATTENDANCE EXPECTATIONS

Attendance is mandatory. Additionally, students may not receive credit for attendance if they arrive more than 10 minutes late.

***I will not drop students with excessive absences; if you decide to stop attending, it is your responsibility to complete the proper withdrawal/drop forms.

GRADING

Attendance/Participation-----	10%	100 points
James I Biography-----	15%	150 points
Napoleon Biography-----	15%	150 points
Article Reviews-----	15%	100 points
Exam One-----	10%	100 points
Exam Two-----	10%	100 points
Exam Three-----	10%	100 points
Final Exam-----	15%	150 points

GRADE SCALE:

A = 100-90 (900 - 1000 points)

B = 89-80 (899 – 800 points)

C = 79-70 (799 – 700 points)

D = 69-60 (699 – 600 points)

F = 59 & BELOW (599 – 0 points)

COURSE WORK:

Attendance/Participation – Attendance may be taken at the beginning and the end of each class which means if you leave early then you will not receive credit for that day. Because this portion of the grade also accounts for participation, following behaviors in class will result in a student losing points:

- Using electronic devices during class
- Sleeping/closing eyes during class
- Holding side-conversations during class

Exams – Exam 1 – 3 will be based on class discussions and course readings.

James I Biography– Students will use scholarly sources to write a 4 page biography of King James the I and then in the final page, they will reflect on how the ascension of James helped pave the way for the Glorious Revolution to later come.

Napoleon Biography – Students will use scholarly sources to write a 4 page biography of Napoleon. On the final page, they will reflect on how Napoleon’s ambitions impacted the Louisiana Purchase

Article Reviews– Students will read a number of articles and primary sources that will be provided by the instructor, and the students will write reviews of the articles and discuss them in class

Week of:	Topic	Assignments
9/4 - 9/8	<i>Commerce and Colonization</i>	
9/11 - 9/15	<i>Transforming Europe</i>	
9/18 - 9/22	<i>Splendor and Power</i>	James I Biography (Friday)

Final Exam – The final exam will be cumulative and may include multiple choice, matching, T/F, and Essay questions

MAKEUP POLICY:

Late **Book Review, Character Paper, and Biography** will receive a 10% deduction for every day that they are late. **After one week, there will be no making up late assignments.** In the case of a missed exam, students will receive an automatic 15 points deduction; each additional day there will be a 10% deduction. **After one week, there will be no making up exams.** The instructor reserves the right to waive this penalty if he determines that a student had extenuating circumstances. These exceptions are rare and should not be expected just because you offer an excuse. If you know you will miss an exam, students must notify the instructor at least one week prior to the exam date.

SYLLABUS CHANGES: While every attempt has been made to prepare this syllabus and class schedule in final form, it will be the instructor's prerogative to make any changes as may be deemed necessary in order to meet the learning outcomes of the course. Any changes will be announced in a timely manner.

**HIST 2312
PROPOSED COURSE CALENDAR**

9/25 - 9/29	<i>Revolutions</i>	Exam 1 (Monday)
10/2 - 10/6	<i>Revolutions</i>	
10/9 - 10/13	<i>Nationalism and Empires</i>	Napoleon Bio (Friday)
10/16 - 10/20	<i>The Great War</i>	Exam 2 (Monday)
10/23 - 10/27	<i>Mass Society</i>	
10/30 - 11/3	<i>World War II</i>	Exam 3 (Monday)
11/6 - 11/10	<i>World War II</i>	
11/13 - 11/17	<i>Vietnam and the World</i>	Character Bio (11/17)
11/20 and 11/21	<i>Vietnam and the World (Thanksgiving)</i>	
11/27 - 12/1	<i>Vietnam and the World</i>	
12/4 - 12/8	Finals	Finals