

**HISTORY 1050-80
THE MODERN WORLD**

UCC-3B REQUIREMENT: HISTORICAL PERSPECTIVES

**WINTER 2023–2024
3 WEEK SESSION
JANUARY 4 – 24, 2024**

**DEPARMENT OF HISTORY
WILLIAM PATERSON UNIVERSITY**

Professor: Jason R. Ambroise
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Office Hours (via Zoom): By appointment

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COURSE TIME & LOCATION:

Asynchronous Online via BLACKBOARD

COURSE DESCRIPTION:

This course provides broad coverage of the formation of the so-called “modern world.” It traces the political, economic, social, cultural, and intellectual developments and interactions among the principal regions of the world – Europe, the Middle East, Africa, Asia and the Americas – from the early modern period to our contemporary era. In doing so, the course addresses the issue of what made the “modern world” so *modern* (i.e., unique and different) in the first place. Topics include the formation of the modern Western world-system; the voyages of Western-European expansion; the formation of Atlantic slavery; the Enlightenment era; the industrial revolution; colonialism; the anti-colonial movements; the Fifties/Sixties social movements; contemporary globalization; global warming, climate change, and global inequality; to name a few. *This course meets the UCC-3B: Historical Perspectives requirement for the university*

COURSE PREREQUISITES:

History Department Prerequisites: NONE

COURSE MATERIALS

Course Materials on Blackboard (in the “Course Material” section)

You do not have to purchase any Course Materials. Instead, you will find all Course Materials on Blackboard. Click on the “Content” header and notice the Units 1-12 folders on the lower screen. Course Material folders can be found in the Unit 2 *through* Unit 11 folders. The Course Materials are also listed by Unit in the Course Timeline section of the Syllabus. The Course Materials primarily consist of excerpts from the textbook *The West and the World* (1997) by Kevin Reilly. Those excerpts are in PDF format. You also have a few Course Materials in video and website formats.

COURSE GRADING SCALE:

A 93-100, A- 90-92, B+ 87-89, B 83-86, B- 80-82, C+ 77-79, C 73-76, C- 70-72, D+ 67-69, D 60-66, F<60

COURSE REQUIREMENTS:

DISCUSSION BOARDS — 88 points

- **UNIT 1 Introductions** (8 points — 1st Post Introduction is worth 6 points; 2nd Post Greeting is worth 2 points)
- **UNITS 2–11** (80 total points — each 1st Post Assignment is worth 6 points; each 2nd Post Commentary is worth 2 points)

FINAL PAPER — 12 points

YOUR FINAL GRADE is the addition of the Discussion Boards and Final Paper points.

DISCUSSION BOARDS:

DISCUSSION BOARDS RULES:

Discussion Boards can be found in the Discussion Board folders under the Units 1 through 11 folders. You are required to post at least TWO (2) responses per Unit — a 1st Post Assignment and a 2nd Post Commentary. The 1st Post Assignment is your response to my Discussion Board Assignment question. The 2nd Post Commentary is your commentary on and/or analysis of another student(s) 1st Post Assignment. Your 1st Post Assignment MUST always be submitted before your 2nd Post Commentary.

The UNIT 1 Discussion Board is for student Introductions. You will submit a 1st Post Introduction of yourself and reply to someone else with a 2nd Post Greeting. The UNIT 1 Discussion Board will also help you become familiar with working in the Discussions portion of Blackboard.

The UNITS 2 to 11 Discussion Boards are the main aspect of the course. A “Sample 1st Post Assignment” and a “Sample 2nd Post Commentary” for Units 2 through 11 can be found in the “Syllabus, etc.” folder under the “Content” section of Blackboard. Open the folders and click on the “Sample 1st Post Assignment” and “Sample 2nd Post Commentary” attachments. Your Discussion Boards submissions for Units 2 through 11 should be modeled on these examples to earn the fullest possible points.

You will be graded primarily on content. However, the quality of your presentation (i.e., grammar, sentence structure, and spelling) also impacts grading. Reason being, you must present your ideas clearly so that your content can be understood. Your writing should therefore be near (but not absolutely) essay quality.

1st POST ASSIGNMENT RULES for Units 2 to 11

Your 1st Post Assignment will be graded on a scale of 0 to 6, with “ZERO” being the lowest score and “SIX” being the highest. The 1st Post Assignment is always due by 11:59pm EST (Eastern Standard Time) on the designated due date. A 2-point deduction will be imposed for each day the 1st Post Assignment is late.

The 1st Post Assignment contains your answer to my Discussion Board question. Your 1st Post Assignment must be a minimum of 650 words in length. Only your name should appear as a top heading. Any other heading information (aka, date, course name and number, semester, etc.) will not count towards the length requirement. You may write more, if you feel the need or desire.

Your 1st Post Assignment should be single-spaced, using Times New Roman font, 12-point size. I strongly advise that you type your response into Microsoft Word, Google Docs, or some other word processor software. Save your final version onto your computer as a backup. Then copy and paste your final version into the Discussion Board to submit.

The 1st Post Assignment response MUST ONLY use information AND quotations (placed within quotation marks) taken from the assigned Course Materials designated for each Unit. No non-course materials can be used in your 1st Post Assignment.

You **MUST** show that you have read, watched, and interacted with the course materials. To do this, you are required to include quotations from the assigned course materials as proof of interaction.

Each individual quotation from a reading, video, music, or transcript can be no longer than 3 sentences in length. Each quotation MUST also be followed by a citation. Below are the citation formats you will use in the course.

- To cite quotations from **READINGS**, use author's last name(s) and page number inside parentheses. For example, **(Reilly, 2)**
- To cite quotations from **VIDEOS**, use abbreviated title and time-stamps in parentheses. For example, **(*A Class Divided*, 2:35-2:50)**
- To cite quotations from **VIDEO TRANSCRIPTS**, use abbreviated title and page number. For example, **(*A Class Divided*, 2)**

2nd POST COMMENTARY RULES for Units 2 to 11

The 2nd Post Commentary will be graded on a scale of 0-2, with “ZERO” being the lowest score and “TWO” being the highest. The 2nd Post is always due by 11:59pm EST (Eastern Standard Time) on the designated due date.

The 2nd Post Commentary contains your commentary on and/or analysis of another student(s)' 1st Post Assignment. Your 2nd Post Commentary must be a minimum of 325 words in length. You may write more, if you feel the need or desire. Only your name should appear as a top heading. Any other heading information (aka, date, course name and number, semester, etc.) will not count towards the length requirement.

Your 2nd Post Commentary should also be single-spaced, using Times New Roman font, 12-point size. I strongly advise you to type your response into Microsoft Word, Google Docs, or some other word processor software. Save your final version onto your computer as a backup. Then copy and paste your final version into the Discussion Board to submit.

If you have difficulty meeting the 325 word minimum for the 2nd Post Commentary, then feel free to comment on more than one student's 1st Post Assignment. If you do, remember that your 2nd Post Commentaries (plural) must add-up to a total of 325+ words.

ALSO, your 2nd Post Commentary MAY INCLUDE RELEVANT information from non-course materials.

QUICK DISCUSSION BOARD CHECKLIST

- 1) Meet the length requirement — 1st Post Assignment is 650 words minimum and 2nd Post Commentary is 325 words minimum. Only your name as a top heading.
- 2) Single-spaced, using Times New Roman font, 12-point size.
- 3) In your 1st Post Assignment, answer all Parts of the Unit Discussion Board — i. e, Parts A, B, C, D, etc.
- 4) In your 1st Post Assignment, include supporting information AND quotations (placed within quotation marks) taken from the assigned Course Materials.
- 5) In your 1st Post Assignment, include citations at the end of each quotation. Only use the supplied citation formats.
- 6) Submit by the deadlines.

DISCUSSION BOARD INTERACTION and ETIQUETTE:

When communicating with your fellow students in the Discussion Board and with your instructor, remember that we do so respectfully. Throughout the course, we will often agree with each other's perspectives. Nonetheless, given the nature of the course topic and materials, we will also at times disagree.

When we do disagree, please make sure to do so respectfully — since all of us are here to learn more about and deepen our understanding of this course topic.

FINAL PAPER:

Directions: The Final paper is due Friday, January 24th by 11:59pm EST. For the Final Paper, simply take ONE (1) of your 1st Post Assignments and expand it into a longer paper. You may use your 1st Post Assignment as the basis of your Final Paper. The Final Paper should be 1,300 words minimum, double-spaced, Times New Roman font, 12-point size. Only your name can appear at the top of your paper. You may write more, if you feel the need or desire.

NO Outside Sources: You MUST ONLY use information AND quotations (placed within quotation marks) taken from the assigned Course Materials.

Citations: Follow the citation format used for your Discussion Board assignments.

COURSE COMMUNICATION:

I will respond to emails within 24 hours during weekdays and 48 hours on weekends. Each Unit's Discussion Board will be graded within one week of the Assignment due date.

UNIVERSITY'S ACADEMIC INTEGRITY POLICY:

Violations of the university's academic integrity policy — which includes copying or paraphrasing another student's work, the unauthorized use of artificial intelligence software, etc. — will result in the failure of the assignment and potentially the course. See WPU's policy for other academic integrity violations and consequences on the link below.

<https://www.wpunj.edu/cte/wpu-policies/>

COURSE OBJECTIVES:

1. To introduce students to major issues and events in global history from the late 18th century to the present, including but not limited to the wars of independence in Europe and the Americas, industrialization, colonialism and anti-colonialism, nationalism, the World Wars, the Cold War, and globalization.
 2. To teach students to understand individual historical events and issues within the context of the interactions of peoples across different geographical regions from the late 18th century to the present.
 3. To enable students to ask meaningful questions about historical developments and events related to causation, significance, and continuity versus change, across a range of distinct geo-political and cultural contexts from the late 18th century to the present.
 4. To enable students to analyze and understand an array of primary and secondary sources related to world history from the late 18th century to the present by evaluating authorship, bias, context, and accuracy.
 5. To introduce students to different interpretive approaches or historiographical debates related to the understanding of events and issues in global history from the late 18th century to the present.
 6. To enable students to analyze contemporary world events by making connections with relevant historical developments from the late 18th century to the present.
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STUDENT LEARNING OUTCOMES:

Students will be able to:

1. Identify major issues and events in world history, with an emphasis on connections and interdependencies, in the regions of Europe, Africa, Asia and the Americas from the late 18th century to the present. The historical issues and events examined will include imperialism, warfare, population growth, migration, economic development, modes of labor, medical and scientific exchange, continuity and change in systems of religious belief, popular culture and its evolution, the formation of political systems and reformist and revolutionary challenges to those systems, and the development of racial, ethnic and gender divisions and hierarchies and challenges to those structures.
2. Demonstrate an ability to situate individual historical events and issues within the context of the global interactions of peoples across different geographical regions from the late 18th century to the present.
3. Locate, evaluate, and apply information on historical developments and events in global history with an emphasis on development over time and the interdependencies among different geographical regions from the late 18th century to the present.
4. Demonstrate critical and analytical skills by evaluating authorship, bias, context and accuracy in the primary evidence (written, visual and material) and secondary literature in global history from the late 18th century to the present.
5. Identify different interpretive approaches or historiographical debates related to the understanding of events and issues in global history from the late 18th century to the present.
6. Apply knowledge of global history from the late 18th century to the present to the analysis and discussion of contemporary world developments and trends.

WINTER 2023-2024 CALENDAR & IMPORTANT DATES:

For important Winter 2023-2024 administrative dates, holidays, withdrawal deadlines, etc. see the following link.

<https://www.wpunj.edu/registrar/calendars/>

LAST DAY TO REQUEST PASS / FAIL OPTION: January 5th

LAST DAY FOR COURSE WITHDRAWAL: January 12th

COURSE TIMELINE:

UNIT 1: beginning Thursday, January 4, 2024: Introductions

1. NO Course Materials for Unit 1.

1ST POST INTRODUCTION due by Thursday, January 5th by 11:59pm EST

2ND POST GREETING due by Friday, January 6th by 11:59pm EST

UNIT 2: beginning Sunday, January 7, 2024:

1. Kevin Reilly, *The West and the World*, "Chronological Table of a Unified World," 124-125.
2. "Preview of the Period: 1500-1800," 3-21.
3. Kevin Reilly, *The West and the World*, "Self and Society: Individuality and Modernity," 23-39.

1ST POST ASSIGNMENT due by Sunday, January 7th by 11:59pm EST

2ND POST COMMENTARY due by Monday, January 8th by 11:59pm EST

UNIT 3: beginning Monday, January 8, 2024:

1. Kevin Reilly, *The West and the World*, "Politics and Morality: Secular States and Middle Classes," 73-100.

1ST POST ASSIGNMENT due by Monday, January 8th by 11:59pm EST

2ND POST COMMENTARY due by Tuesday, January 9th by 11:59pm EST

UNIT 4: beginning Wednesday, January 10, 2024:

1. Kevin Reilly, *The West and the World*, "Race and Racism: Color and Slavery," 41-71.
2. *A Class Divided*: "Day 1" & "Day 2" (or the first 20 minutes) (weblink)
3. "Human Skin Color Adaptation" (weblink)

1ST POST ASSIGNMENT due by Wednesday, January 10th by 11:59pm EST

2ND POST COMMENTARY due by Thursday, January 11th by 11:59pm EST

UNIT 5: beginning Thursday, January 11, 2024:

1. Kevin Reilly, *The West and the World*, "Work and Exchange," Capitalism vs. Tradition," 101-123.

1ST POST ASSIGNMENT due by Thursday, January 11th by 11:59pm EST

2ND POST COMMENTARY due by Friday, January 12th by 11:59pm EST

UNIT 6: beginning Saturday, January 13, 2024:

1. Kevin Reilly, *The West and the World*, "Chronological Table of the Industrial World: 1800-1914," 263-265.
2. Kevin Reilly, *The West and the World*, "Preview of the Period," 127-141.
3. Kevin Reilly, *The West and the World*, "Energy and Environment: Industry and Capitalism," 143-158.
4. Kevin Reilly, *The West and the World*, "Economics and Revolution: Socialism and Capitalism," 159-178.

1ST POST ASSIGNMENT due by Saturday, January 13th by 11:59pm EST
2ND POST COMMENTARY due by Sunday, January 14th by 11:59pm EST

UNIT 7: beginning Sunday, January 14, 2024:

1. Kevin Reilly, *The West and the World*, "Race and Class: The United States and South Africa," 181-203.

1ST POST ASSIGNMENT due by Sunday, January 14th by 11:59pm EST
2ND POST COMMENTARY due by Monday, January 15th by 11:59pm EST

UNIT 8: beginning Tuesday, January 16, 2024:

1. Kevin Reilly, *The West and the World*, "Nationalism and Internationalism: Imperialism and Independence," 205-242.
2. Kevin Reilly, *The West and the World*, "Chronological Table of a Divided World: 1914-1945," 322-323.
3. Kevin Reilly, *The West and the World*, "Preview of the Period: 1914-1945," 269-277.
4. Kevin Reilly, *The West and the World*, "Nationalism and Communism: Revolution and Independence," 279-298.

1ST POST ASSIGNMENT due by Tuesday, January 16th by 11:59pm EST
2ND POST COMMENTARY due by Wednesday, January 17th by 11:59pm EST

UNIT 9: beginning Wednesday, January 17, 2024:

1. Kevin Reilly, *The West and the World*, "Individual and Society: Freedom and Authority," 299-321.
2. Kevin Reilly, *The West and the World*, "Preview of the Period: 1945-Present," 327-339.
3. Kevin Reilly, *The West and the World*, "Industry and Capitalism: Markets and Governments," 341-358.

1ST POST ASSIGNMENT due by Wednesday, January 17th by 11:59pm EST
2ND POST COMMENTARY due by Thursday, January 18th by 11:59pm EST

UNIT 10: beginning Friday, January 19, 2024:

1. Kevin Reilly, *The West and the World*, “Ecology and Resources,” 359-380.

1ST POST ASSIGNMENT due by Friday, January 19th by 11:59pm EST
2ND POST COMMENTARY due by Saturday, January 20th by 11:59pm EST

UNIT 11: beginning Saturday, January 20, 2024:

1. Kevin Reilly, *The West and the World*, “Identity and Global Culture: Nation and World,” 381-399.

1ST POST ASSIGNMENT due by Saturday, January 20th by 11:59pm EST
2ND POST COMMENTARY due by Sunday, January 21st by 11:59pm EST

UNIT 12: FINAL PAPER due Wednesday, January 24, 2024:

- Submit in the “FINAL PAPER” in the Assignments section of Blackboard by 11:59pm.

FINAL PAPER due by Wednesday, January 24th by 11:59pm EST