

Be sure to read this syllabus carefully. It contains important information necessary to pass the course with a good grade. Modifications will be made in it as necessary. You will be notified via UB Learns (check it regularly!), in recitations and in lectures. Keep up with all readings!



UGC 112
“World Civilizations since 1500”

Spring 2013
Tuesdays and Thursdays
9:30-10:20 a.m.
121 Cooke

Contact Information:	Office hours:
Instructor: Claude Welch Department of Political Science Email: cwelch@buffalo.edu	Where: 417 Park Hall Phone no.: 645-8434 When? Wednesdays 1:30 -3:30 and by appointment
TA: Suparna Soni Sections: K1, K2 and K3 Email: ssoni@buffalo.edu	Where: 515 Park Hall, 645-8450 When? Wednesdays 12-2 and by appointment
TA: Mehwish Sarwari Sections: K4, K5 and K10 Email: mehwishes@buffalo.edu	Where: 515 Park Hall, 645-8450 When? Fridays 9-11 and by appointment
TA: Govinda Bhattarai Sections: K6, K8 and K9 Email: govindab@buffalo.edu	Where: 413 Park Hall, 645-8430 When? Tuesday 11-1 and by appointment

Basic philosophy:

Unlike most sections of UGC112, this section of World Civ. starts ~1000CE, moving forward up to the present. Globalization provides its major theme. In the past 1000 years, dramatic transformation—indeed, revolutions—have marked our globe. Prior to the voyages of Columbus, distinct “islands” of civilizations existed, linked by overland trade routes or limited commerce across the oceans. No part of the world was isolated. No societies were “static.” Nor were they isolated.

To be sure, major changes occurred around 1500. Examples include technology, communications, foodstuffs, treatment of diseases and medicine, beliefs paving the way for democracy, nationalism, socialism and environmentalism, and the rise of more powerful Western states through a global market and “blue-water” colonial empires. However, change has not been confined to any particular period: it has always existed, albeit at different paces. We start, in short, at an exciting time, at an era when limited connections existed among societies, and continue over time to our electronically-linked world.

How were these transformations perceived when and where they occurred? What were the key strains, uncertainties and excitement? What were the consequences of change? Who gained, and who lost? How have people from thousands of different societies been brought together economically and politically, if not necessarily culturally or socially? These are major questions we shall probe. I hope we can learn how the “old” affects our 21st century life, and understand how other societies at different times have dealt with the challenges of change.

Course objectives

Course objective	Means of assessment
1. Identify important linkages about civilizations from 1000 CE to the present	Written exam and oral participation
2. Describe key transformations in world civilizations in these areas:: a. Technology b. Communications c. Food stuffs d. Medicine e. Core belief systems f. Global commerce	Written exam
3. Describe common perceptions of transformations as they were occurring	Written exam
4. Compare and contrast the benefits and consequences of change	Written exam
5. Evaluate the impact of these transformations on the formation of “global society”	Written exam

In addition, this course will promote your ability to

• Research a topic, develop an argument, and organize supporting details	Recitation presentations
• Develop proficiency in oral discourse	Recitation presentations
• Evaluate an oral presentation according to established criteria	Recitation presentations

Reading:

- The major *text* – Tignor et al., *Worlds Together, Worlds Apart, Vol. 2, 3rd edition* -- ***MUST*** be purchased and the assigned chapters or selections read with care by the specified dates. It is available at the University Bookstore on campus, in addition to on-line sources. The loose-leaf, less costly version has been ordered. Its ISBN is 978-0-393-14973-9. The text can also be purchased at likely a lower cost through the electronic version, or in the most costly hardcover version. ***However, you will not be able to bring your computer to examinations, so the on-line version has drawbacks.*** Go to <http://www.wwnorton.com/college-history/worlds2/> for instructions. Another inexpensive way is through used book stores. [Because it is an excellent text, *Worlds Together* is widely available. Try for the 3rd edition]. Be sure to give special attention to the introductions and summaries for each chapter. The supplementary readings will be available through the library’s electronic course reserve. If you have trouble accessing either of these please see your TA.

FOR BETTER OR WORSE



Both the lectures and the recitations are intended to *help you understand*. Lots of material is covered, in terms of concepts, events, people, places, dates and the like. We will concentrate on a small number of themes, *in addition to those identified in the major textbook*. Be sure to give attention to these organizing ideas, for you will grasp the course’s purposes far better, and benefit in the long run.

Approximately 20-25% of the multiple choice questions will be drawn from this *student site*. About the same percentage will be drawn from *lectures*. The tests themselves will be **open-textbook and notebook**. The tests are designed so that you can’t simply go to the index and find answers that way. However, ***don’t expect that you will be able to answer***

questions without careful prior reading of all assignments. Please note that although they may be used for note taking during lecture, laptops and other electronic devices (including but not limited to iPads, netbooks, tablets, etc.) may **not** be used during exams. Make sure to bring printed copies of your notes and, if purchased electronically, the textbook to the exam. **Therefore, if you take notes on an electronic device or have an electronic version of the textbook, make sure you have printed copies of the relevant lecture material and assigned readings. Electronic notes or textbooks are prohibited during all examinations.**

Here's a word to the wise. **The readings aren't that long IF you keep up with the assignments.** Don't cram them all in the night before recitation or tests, but establish a regular routine. We've tried to keep the work to 15-25 pages per class, which shouldn't be overwhelming **if you establish a routine.** You definitely should read each selection twice (*before* class and/or recitation to get information in your mind, which will be critically examined in lecture, recitation and in the days immediately before the exams). In addition, give close attention to the questions posed at the start of each chapter, and to the summaries at their ends. It's a very good idea to share ideas with friends: don't just go over the same personal notes again and again; quiz each other on key terms (these will be circulated each week via UBLearns – be sure to click on “show all announcements”); and guess what you think are likely to be areas in which you will be tested. These techniques will help you get a reasonable grade. You are strongly advised to check your knowledge regularly by going to <http://www.wwnorton.com/college/history/worlds2/welcome.asp>. Select the appropriate chapter on which you wish to practice.

Finally, be sure to check at least daily with a major international news source such as www.nytimes.com or www.bbc.com for information. You are expected to be able to link historical and contemporary events in this course, including in the recitations and oral presentations (see below). The examinations **will** include questions from current events. You are also expected to attend lectures regularly, since information from them will be utilized on examinations.

Grading:

<i>In-class tests</i> (to be given February 19 and March 28)	25% each; total 50%
<i>Final exam</i> , during finals period	30%
<i>Recitation participation</i>	20%

Since participation counts 20% of the final grade, you cannot get an A or B in the course if you are lax in coming to the recitations, where your attendance is required, and where oral proficiency will be assessed. **Each student will be required to give one 5-10-minute presentation during recitation. Each presentation must accomplish two goals. It should 1) pertain to the lecture or assigned reading for that week, and 2) seek to integrate that information with current events and/or broader themes from the course. Assessment of the presentations will be based on the student's ability to clearly communicate concepts and ideas from the lectures/readings in order to gain a better understanding of the material.**

All examinations will be graded numerically. The median score will determine the dividing line between B- and C+ on *each* test. As noted above, the test questions will be based on assigned readings and lectures. Any questions about the test scores you receive must be raised with your TA. If you wish to see him or her, send an e-mail to set up an appointment, or go during the office hours listed on page 1.

World Civ is a “controlled enrollment course,” which means that enrollment in it is restricted to first-time registrants only. Self-registration in this course in any subsequent Fall or Spring semester will be available only to those students who are taking the course for the first time. If you seek to repeat this course you should plan to register for it in a UB summer session. Repeat enrollment will be difficult or impossible in a Fall or Spring semester. Repeat enrollment is defined as enrollment by a student who previously enrolled in the course at UB or transferred an equivalent course to UB and for which course the student has a grade of 'A', 'B', 'C', 'D', 'F' or qualified value thereof [e.g., 'A-', 'D+'] or a grade of 'P', 'S', 'U', 'I', 'J', 'N', or 'R'. A student may self-register to repeat a controlled enrollment course only if the grade of record for the previous enrollment is 'W', i.e., administrative withdrawal. If you have any questions on this, please see an advisor in the College of Arts and Sciences Student Advisement and Services Center in 275 Park Hall. Lecture schedule:

Topics for lectures and associated reading assignments appear below. **Note: these are subject to change; announcements will be made electronically, in class and in recitations as necessary.** Attendance at lectures is very important. You will be tested on information and concepts presented in them. Basic PowerPoint slides **may** be posted on UBLearns prior to individual classes, which you should download, in order to take your own notes. **However**, these background slides represent only a starting point for what will come in each class.

Date	Topic and required readings	
1/15	Introduction to major themes	(None, but if you have time, skim Tignor xxv-xxiv)
1/17	Worlds [mostly] apart, 1	Tignor, 363-378
1/22	Worlds [mostly] apart, 2	Tignor, 378-382; 389-400; 411-416
1/24	Europe's troubles – and rebirth?	Tignor, 401-407; 428-436
1/29	Three Islamic empires	Tignor, 417-428; 502-506; Woodward, 'The Ottomans in Europe'
1/31	Transatlantic contact and commerce	Tignor, 447-470; Crosby, 'Potato Connection'
2/05	The world's most successful civilization	Tignor, 382-385; Elvin, 'The X Factor'; Lu Xun, 'The New Year's Sacrifice'
2/07	'The Snake'	Tignor, 386-389; 436-444
2/12	Europe: empires and religion	Tignor, 470-481; 517-522
2/14	Race and its impact	Tignor, 483-502; REVIEW

First hour exam, Tuesday, February 19

2/21	Transformations in Asia and Africa	Tignor, 506-514; 525-542
2/26	Europe and Enlightenment	Tignor, 514-517; 542-549; 561-568
2/28	Slavery, industry and commerce	Tignor, 568-572; 578-585; <i>Economist</i> , 'Workshop of a New Society'
3/05	Nations and empires, 1	Tignor, 585-597; 599-605; 608-612; Wilson, 'Coffee, Tea or Opium?'
3/07	Nations and empires, 2	Tignor, 612-618; 624-629; 641-648

Spring break, March 11-15

3/19	Nations and Empires, 3	Tignor, 605-608; 648-666
3/21	The 'masses' 1: war, production, culture	Tignor, 669-687
3/26	The 'masses' 2: war, production, culture	Tignor, 688-703; STUDY

Second hour exam, Thursday, March 28

4/02	The 'masses' 3: war, production, culture;	Tignor, 707-731
4/04	The 'masses' 4: war production and culture	Tignor, 731-742
4/09	Reordering the 20 th century world, 1	Tignor, 726-727; 745-752; Chang, 'Rape of Nanjing'
4/11	Reordering the 20 th century world, 2	Tignor, 753-766; 768-769
4/16	Reordering the 20 th century world, 3	Tignor, 769-783; 787-790
4/18	Globalization 1	Tignor, 767-768; 785-786; 790-803
4/23	Globalization 2	Tignor, 804-820; <i>Economist</i> , 'Like Herrings'
4/25	"Modern Times"	Tignor, 823-843; Welch, 'Universal Declaration of Human Rights'

Final exam during finals period

Other matters:

Out of courtesy to others, please take care of personal hygiene and nutrition needs in advance, rather than leave while class in progress, and **turn off** cell phones and pagers *before* class. We want to make certain that persons needing special accommodations do not confront problems. Any student with a diagnosed physical, learning or psychological **disability** which impedes your carrying out required course work, or which requires accommodations such as readers or extended time on examinations and/or assignments, must register with the Office of Accessibility Services, and should advise me *during the first two weeks of the course* so we can review possible reasonable accommodations.

Students who are having academic difficulty are welcome to speak with an academic advisor. Those with majors in the College of Arts & Sciences should go to 275 Park Hall. Advisers are also available in the various schools with undergraduate programs – e.g. Architecture, Engineering, Management or the various Health Sciences. An academic advisor can assist you in identifying the underlying issues, making referrals to other offices and resources, and suggest improvements in your approach to your academic career that may be useful. For assistance with math or writing for your classes, the Learning Center in 217 Baldy Hall is available (<http://tlc.buffalo.edu/>).

You **definitely must** complete the library skills requirement prior to the first hour exam. For helpful hints about websites, go to http://library.buffalo.edu/libraries/asl/tutorials/evaluating_websites.html. Valuable sources

from the UB Libraries can be found via <http://libweb1.lib.buffalo.edu/infotree/resourcesbysubject.-asp?subject=World+Civilizations:+1500+to+Present>.

If you have questions about material presented in class, please send an e-mail to your TA, **making sure that you use a UB mailing address and that you clearly indicate in the subject line that the note pertains to UGC 112**. Don't expect us to respond directly to all inquiries, for we are at least as busy as are you. Questions raising matters of general interest, or correcting statements made in presentations, will be answered in lectures and on UBLearns. *If you do not know how to use UB Learns, please check with your TA or with a fellow student who has "been around the system" longer.* This is a vital means of communication.

And, finally, there are several opportunities to help our global community and become engaging citizens of the world. Below is a list of suggested organizations, those at the **right** at no cost to you and those at the **left** with lots of information and the chance to make minimal monetary donations, which are available online. Keep in mind, local Western NY charities, foundations and organizations are also eager for young, brilliant members of our community to be involved. **These suggestions are entirely up to one's own discretion and have no influence on the course grade.**

http://hrw.org (Human Rights Watch) http://amnesty.org (Amnesty International) www.doctorswithoutborders.org www.redcross.org (International Red Cross) <i>Any suggestions from you?</i>	http://oxfamamerica.org/ (Oxfam) www.thehungersite.com [free!] www.freerice.org [free!] www.thechildhealthsite.com [free!]
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Courses/World Civ/Syl s13 FINAL