

HIST 2734 Modern World History 1980-Present: New World Order?

Fall 2018

Room: Isbister 137

Instructor

George Buri

Email

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Office Location & Hours

University College 343, 2:30-3:30,
Tuesday / Thursday or by
appointment

General Information

Description

This course explores economic, political, social and cultural change in the world over the last 40 years. Major themes include: Neoliberalism and its impact, the end of the Cold War and US economic and political hegemony, "Globalization", cultural and technological change, social movements, and environmental crisis

Expectations and Goals

This is primarily a lecture-based course. Students are expected to attend lectures, take notes, ask questions and be prepared to participate in class discussions when they are held. For these discussions, readings may be assigned by the instructor and students are expected to read the assigned material.

Required Materials

A reading list for this course will be provided through UM learn. It will consist of sources that are available in our library and/or online and will include suggestions for the essays as well as general texts that will provide background for the lectures and exam. In addition, students will be expected to add to the list themselves through their own independent research. As this course is unique in that it deals with very recent history, the sources we will use will include multi-disciplinary academic sources as well as journalistic sources.

Assignments

Students must complete three short (5-6 page) argumentative essays as well as write a final exam. Detailed instructions including specific topics and potential resources for the essays can be found on a separate handout. The final exam will consist of two essay questions. Potential topics for these questions will be distributed to students on the last day of class.

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|------------|--|-----|-----------|
| Essay 1 | Neoliberalism and the Developing World (1250-1500 words long) | 20% | Due Oct 4 |
| Essay 2 | Impact of the Digital Revolution (1250-1500 words long) | 25% | Due Nov 1 |
| Essay 3 | Revival of the Extreme Right (1250-1500 words long) | 25% | Due Dec 4 |
| Final Exam | | 30% | Date TBA |

Late assignments will receive a penalty of 5% per class up to a total of 50%. No late assignments will be accepted after the date of the final exam. Extensions may be granted on compassionate grounds if requested ahead of the due date.

In addition to handing in a hard-copy of all written assignments (as per course instructions), students are required to submit a copy of the paper electronically through UM Learn (as a word document). The file name for the document should be as follows: SURNAME Given name Assign # HIST XXXX

Since this is a course that meets the University Senate's W requirement, students must pass the requirement for written English in order to pass the course

Uncollected term work will become the property of the Faculty of Arts and will be subject to confidential destruction.

Grading

Letter grades correspond to number grades as follows:

A+ = 90-100

A = 80-89

B+ = 75-79

B = 70-74

C+ = 65-69

C = 60-64

D = 50-59

F = below 50

Keep in mind that the goal of this course should be to improve your skills, NOT to achieve any specific grade. Thus, my comments on your assignments are far more important than the specific grade given. Please read comments carefully as I have put significant thought into them.

Students who wish to appeal a grade given for term work must do so within 10 working days after the grade for the term work has been made available to them.

Additional Information and Resources

Plagiarism

The University's regulations re: plagiarism, cheating and impersonation may be found in the section on "Academic Integrity" of the General Academic Regulations in the online Academic Calendar, and Catalog and the Faculty of Arts regulation at: http://umanitoba.ca/faculties/arts/student_resources/student_responsibilities_integrity.html , which reads:

The common penalty in Arts for plagiarism on a written assignment is a grade of F on the paper and a final grade of F (DISC) (for Disciplinary Action) for the course. For the most serious acts of plagiarism, such as purchase of an essay and repeat violations, this penalty can also include suspension for a period of up to five (5) years from registration in courses taught in a particular department/program in Arts or from all courses taught in this Faculty.

The Faculty also reserves the right to submit student work that is suspected of being plagiarized to Internet sites designed to detect plagiarism or to other experts for authentication.

The common penalty in Arts for academic dishonesty on a test or examination is F for the paper, F (DISC) for the course, and a one-year suspension from courses acceptable for credit in the Faculty. For more serious acts of academic dishonesty on a test or examination, such as repeat violations, this penalty can also include suspension for a period of up to five years from registration in courses taught in a particular department or program in Arts or from all courses taught in or accepted for credit by this Faculty.

Voluntary Withdrawal

The voluntary withdrawal date for this course is November 19th 2018. Some evaluation of term work will be provided prior to this date.

Student Resources

Academic Resources

You have access to several important resources to help you navigate your classes and university life more generally. There are writing tutors available to help you with your essays through the Academic Learning Centre (ALC): <http://umanitoba.ca/student/academiclearning/>. The History department will also make a writing tutor available exclusively to History students in the department on one day a week. More information about scheduling, etc., TBA.

The ALC page also has resources to help you with study skills, organization, as well as assistance for students using English as an Additional Language (EAL). Other issues, including accessibility services, workshops, and tips about academic integrity are addressed at the Student Advocacy Services webpage (http://umanitoba.ca/student/resource/student_advocacy/).

All of the above services can also be accessed under the heading of Student Resources on the Student Affairs website: <http://umanitoba.ca/student/studentlife/index.html>.

History students can also take advantage of the huge range of academic materials (including primary and secondary sources, as well as pages to help with writing and referencing) made available by the History subject librarian, tailored just for you! They are available on the Libraries page at this link: <http://libguides.lib.umanitoba.ca/history>. Students who need research assistance can also schedule an appointment with a librarian through the website.

Student Counseling Centre

Contact SCC if you are concerned about any aspect of your mental health, including anxiety, stress, or depression, or for help with relationships or other life concerns. SCC offers crisis services as well as

counseling. <http://umanitoba.ca/student/counselling/index.html>

Student Support Case Management

Contact the Student Support Case Management team if you are concerned about yourself or another student and don't know where to turn. SSCM helps connect students with on and off campus resources, provides safety planning, and offers other supports, including consultation, educational workshops, and referral to the STATIS threat assessment team. <http://umanitoba.ca/student/case-manager/index.html>

University Health Service

Contact UHS for any medical concerns, including mental health problems. UHS offers a full range of medical services to students, including psychiatric consultation. <http://umanitoba.ca/student/health/>

Student Advocacy

Contact Student Advocacy if you want to know more about your rights and responsibilities as a student, have questions about policies and procedures, and/or want support in dealing with academic or discipline concerns. <http://umanitoba.ca/student/advocacy>

UM History Student Association (UMHiSA)

UMHiSA is a history undergraduate student run organization that seeks to establish a sense of community for students studying all facets of history, and provide support for them in their academic career. Students interested in fun times, spirited debate, new opportunities, a community of like-minded students, or all of the above, check out UMHiSA on our instagram account www.instagram.com/umhisa_undergrad/ or emailing umhisau@gmail.com .

Class Schedule

Sept 6: Introduction to Course

Part I: End of the Cold War and Rise of Neoliberalism

Sep 11: Thatcher's England and its influence

Sep 13: Reagan's America

Sep 18: Soviet Union: Crisis, Collapse and impact

Sep 20: China under Deng and beyond

Sep 25: European Union: Formation and influence

Sep 27: Neoliberalism and the Global Working Class

Oct 2: Neoliberalism: Cultural Impact

Oct 4: Seminar: Neoliberalism and the Developing World

Essay 1 DUE TODAY

Part II: The New World Order and American Empire

Oct 9: The Breakup of Yugoslavia

Oct 11: Free Trade and American Hegemony

Oct 16: The Middle East in a Unipolar World 1990 to 2001

Oct 18: 9/11 and the "War on Terror"

Part III: Global Social Revolutions

Oct 23: Women's Rights and Feminist Movements

Oct 25: LGBT liberation movements

Oct 30: The Computer Revolution and Global Cultural Shifts

Nov 1: Seminar: Impact of the Digital Revolution

Essay 2 DUE TODAY

Nov 6: Environmental Crisis I: Pollution, Ozone and Green Revolution's Impact

Nov 8: Environmental Crisis II: Climate Change

Nov 13-16: No Class Mid Term Break

Nov 19: VW DATE

Part IV: Challenges to American Hegemony

Nov 20: The Middle East after IRAQ, Isis

Nov 22: Latin America: Success of the Left

Nov 27: Latin America: Between the Right and Left

Nov 29: The 2008 Financial Crisis and its political impact

Dec 4: Seminar: The Revival of the Extreme Right

Essay 3 DUE TODAY

Dec 6: Recap, Exam preparation