

**History 20: The Twentieth Century World**  
**Professor Ransom**  
**Spring 2011**

The purpose of this course is to provide you with a framework to understand the developments of the past one hundred years. We are interested, above all, in studying the process of historical transformation. We want to convey, in other words, what it means to think historically. That entails bringing order to the historical record. We need to ask *how* things change and *why* things change. And we need to examine the repercussions of those changes.

***Textbooks and Required Reading.***

The reading assignments in the course come from two ebooks:

*Contemporary World History*, 5<sup>th</sup> Edition by William Duiker

*Ransom's History 20 Reader*

Both ebooks are available online from Cengage.com. You can either purchase them as a package or obtain either of them separately. ***We assume all students will do all the reading!***

More detailed instructions on how to purchase the books is available on the iLearn Website for this course.

***Organization of the Course:***

Course meetings include three lectures and one discussion session per week. **You must be enrolled in a section to receive a grade in this course.** Your participation and assignments in section will account for roughly **50%** of the final grade in the course.

***Assignments, Exams and Grading:***

The **final course grade** in this course will be based upon:

A **Midterm Exam** [roughly 20 percent of your grade] which is on **Friday, April 29<sup>th</sup>**.

A **Final Exam** [roughly 30 percent of your grade] which is on **Friday, June 10<sup>th</sup>, 11:30am-2:30pm**.

Please check your schedule *now* to make sure you can take these exams at the scheduled time. Requests for an early exam will **not** be approved. If you cannot take the final exam due to some unexpected situation, you will be given an incomplete in the course. If you miss the final exam without an excuse you will receive an "F" in the course regardless of your grade prior to the exam.

Examinations in this course involve two types of questions. One part of the exam will consist of *Short Essay/ID Questions* that ask you to identify and briefly describe the significance of a "term" that has been discussed in lectures, the readings or sections. "Terms" may be a place, an event, an idea, or a person. The other part of the exam will be *Essay Questions* that require you to write a somewhat longer essay dealing with broad historical concepts and/or problems that have been discussed in the course

**Section Participation and Section Assignments** [roughly 50 percent of your grade]

**Section Assignments** are announced in section by the teaching assistant. Assignments are designed by TAs to improve your skills in researching and answering questions in history. These assignments will be based on the primary sources in the **Duiker Text** or the **Ransom History 20 Reader**. TAs may also design assignments that involve materials that are posted on the Blackboard Website.

The **Section Grade** is based on attendance and participation in section discussion, as well as how well you do in the assignments turned in to the T.A. Remember that it takes more than just showing up for section meetings each week to get a good grade. You need to **show up** and **participate** in section discussions!

**History 20 on the Blackboard Website**

It is assumed that every student in this class has access to the internet either through their own computer or by using one of the terminals available to at one of the campus computer labs.

The address for *iLearn* is: <http://www.iLearn.ucr.edu>

The *iLearn* program has several areas that can be entered using the buttons on the left side of the screen. These include:

**Announcements** – These will include information on exams, schedule changes, or assignments. This section if the website is updated as needed with additional information. It is assumed that students regularly check the course website for information about the course.

**Syllabus** – A syllabus that includes a complete schedule of lectures and reading assignments each week has been posted on the website.

**Course Material** – Each week files that allow you to view the overhead projections presented in lecture will be posted on the website. These slides can be viewed onscreen or downloaded as PDF files that can be read with *Acrobat Reader*.

### Lecture Attendance and Clickers

Attendance at lectures is not mandatory, but because I believe there is some value to attending lectures, I will give those students who do regularly come to class an opportunity to earn extra credit. To earn extra credit for attending lectures you must obtain and register a **Clicker**. Clickers are remote sensor devices that allow you to register your response to questions in lecture. They are available at the UCR bookstore.

At the beginning of each lecture, you will have an opportunity to earn a “clicker point” by activating your clicker. There may also be a question at the end of lecture. In these cases you get a point for giving the *correct answer* as well as a point for staying through the entire lecture. These points will be totaled at the end of the quarter and used as “extra” credit that can enhance your grade.

The clicker program is intended to reward those who come to lecture. Your course grade will never be lower as a result of a poor or nonexistent clicker score, but it can be improved if you have a good clicker score.

It is up to you whether or not you participate in the clicker attendance program. A couple of things to remember in making your decision:

If you want the extra credit, you have to use a clicker. There is no other way of keeping attendance.

You cannot “make up” clicker points, so don’t wait until late in the quarter to start “clicking!”

If you decide to participate, you *must* have a clicker registered in *your name*, and *you* are responsible for seeing that your clicker is working.

### Getting in Touch with Professor Ransom:

If you have any questions, don’t hesitate to email me at [roger.ransom@ucr.edu](mailto:roger.ransom@ucr.edu). My office is 3303 Humanities and Social Sciences; my office hours are 1:30-2:30 on Mondays and Fridays. If those hours are inconvenient, email me and we can arrange an appointment.

### Schedule of Lectures

All of the reading assignments in this list are from either *Contemporary World History*, 5<sup>th</sup> Edition by William Duiker or *Ransom's History 20 Reader*. Both books are available online. Instructions on how to obtain the books are posted on iLearn. A detailed list of the readings and chapters is posted on iLearn.

#### I. Introduction to the 20th Century

- March 28 1 *Introduction to the World in 1900*  
March 30 2 *Liberalism, Capitalism and the Industrial Revolution*  
April 1 3 *Imperialism*

**Read:** Duiker: Chapters 1 & 2

#### II. The World at War

- April 4 4 *World War I*  
April 6 5 *The Peace of Versailles*  
April 8 6 *The Russian Revolution*

**Read:** Duiker: Chapter 4  
*Ransom Reader:* Selections 1 through 4

#### III. Revolution and the "New" Imperialism"

- April 11 7 *The Treaty of Sevres and the Middle East*  
April 13 8 *The Challenge to Imperialism*  
April 15 9 *Prosperity and Anxieties*

**Read:** Duiker: Chapter 5  
*Ransom Reader:* Selections 5 through 7

#### IV. The Interwar Years

- April 18 10 *The Great Depression*  
April 20 11 *The Rise of Fascism*  
April 22 12 *The Rise of the Japanese Empire in Asia*

**Read:** Duiker: Chapters 3, 5  
*Ransom Reader:* Selections 8 & 9

#### V. The World at War – Again

- April 25 13 *Hitler and the War in Europe*  
April 27 14 *The War in Asia*  
April 29 **MIDTERM EXAM**

**Read:** Duiker: Chapter 6  
*Ransom Reader:* Selections 10 through 13

#### VI. The Cold War, China and Korea

- May 2 15 *The Cold War*  
May 4 16 *A Brave New World?*  
May 6: 17 *The Chinese Revolution and the Korean War*

**Read:** Duiker: Chapters 7, 9, 12  
*Ransom Reader:* Selections 14 through 17

#### VII. The "Third" World

- May 9 18 *Egypt and Israel*  
May 11 19 *The Partition of India*

May 13 20 *Latin America*

**Read:** *Duiker*: Chapters 8, 15

*Ransom Reader*: Selections 18 through 26

#### VIII. Decolonization

May 16 21 *Decolonizing Africa*

May 18 22 *Southeast Asia and Viet Nam*

May 20 No Class Today

**Read:** *Duiker* Chapter 11, 13, 14

*Ransom Reader*: Selections 27 & 28

#### IX. The Post-Industrial World

May 23 23 *The End of the Cold War*

May 25 24 *After the Cold War*

May 27 25 *Is Imperialism Dead?*

**Read:** *Duiker*: Chapter 10

*Ransom Reader*: Selection 29

#### X. Toward A New World Order

May 30 **Memorial Day**

June 3 26 *The Post Industrial World*

June 5 27 *Changing Paradigms: A View from the 21<sup>st</sup> Century*

**Read:** *Duiker*: Chapter 16

*Ransom Reader*: Selection 30