

**COURSE SYLLABUS**  
**WORLD HISTORY FROM THE RENAISSANCE TO IMPERIALISM**  
HIS266.01---(CID3491)---MWF 9:00-9:50AM---AB4 305  
(3 credit hours)

**Instructor:** Nicholas Pappas

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Office Hours, Monday & Wednesday, 11:00 am-12:00 noon and 1:00–3:00 pm

**REQUIRED / RECOMMENDED READINGS:** (Select one or a combination of these readings to supplement the lectures):

- [J. R. and L. B. Smith, \*Essentials of World History\*. Haupauge, N.Y.; Barrons Educational Series, 1980. \(\*Essentials\*\). This is the basic outline text and an aid to help you prepare for exams.](#)
- [William Woodruff, \*A Concise History of the Modern World: 1500 to the Present\*. Houndmills, Basingstoke, Hampshire, UK: Palgrave Macmillan, 1998.](#) (Concise). A brief overview of modern world history, available in NetLibrary of Newton Gresham Library
- [MacroHistory by Frank Smitha. \(Smitha\).](#) These are web-based textbooks and interpretations of World History. Chapters from these works are given as links at the beginning of each READINGS. The author has a fascinating background, not your normal phuddy-dud. Read his about this site and boring details.
- [Raymond F. Betts, \*Europe In Retrospect: A Brief History of the Past Two Hundred Years\*.](#) (Europe in Retrospect) Another good web-based text, covering European History
- [Readings in World History II](#) --Aside from the above suggested text, public domain primary and secondary sources in World History are included in the Web Readings Page. These secondary web readings included excerpts from U. S. Government country studies and from works published many years ago. While some of these older sources' information, interpretations, and language may be considered antiquated, obsolete and "politically incorrect" by some, they nonetheless constitute valuable milestones to see how far and in what direction historiography has gone in the last seventy years. Also included are primary sources on the web.
- [H.G. Wells, \*A Short History of the World\*. New York: The MacMillan Company, 1922.](#) (Wells) A world history written by one of the fathers of Science Fiction that is old but very interesting.

**COURSE OBJECTIVES:**

- Students will acquaint themselves with the political, social, economic and cultural history of the World from 1400 TO 1914.
- Students will sharpen their skills in historical interpretation and writing.
- Students will gain a factual knowledge of World history from the Renaissance to the eve of World War I.
- Students will learn how to find and use available resources for learning material not covered in lectures or text.

**COURSE DESCRIPTION:**

- This course will study the political, economic, social, and cultural development of World Civilizations from the 15th Century to 1914. It will study the reasons behind the trend toward European domination of the rest of the world; first in commerce, then in economy, politics, and culture. The course will investigate of such movements in European history as the Renaissance, the Scientific Revolution, the French Revolution, the Industrial Revolution which affected the rest of the world. It will also attempt to assess the impact of Europe and the West upon various regions and zones of civilization in the world. Course work will consist of attending lectures, the writing of film reviews, and the taking of map quizzes and objective examinations.

**There is no prerequisite for this course beyond the university's approval.**

**INSTRUCTIONAL METHOD:**

- The instructional method in class will primarily involve lectures.
- The class schedule will consist of 3 fifty-minute sessions each week. Each session is allotted to lectures by the instructor, while a portion of each session might be devoted to questions and discussion, as well as to view films.

- Lectures both supplement and complement reading assignments, as well as introduce problems to be brought up in assignments.
- Brief outlines of lectures, lectures maps and other supplementary materials will be distributed to students on BLACKBOARD.

#### **STUDENT REQUIREMENTS:**

- **Attendance:** Students are expected to regularly attend lectures and participate actively in classroom discussions. Attendance will be taken regularly and each student is responsible for keeping up with the class through attendance and blackboard announcements. Good attendance will be weighed as a factor in borderline grades.
- **Reading Assignments:** Readings from the e-text are given on a weekly basis in the Course Schedule and Outline. **The instructor reserves the right to change the readings in the Course Schedule and Outline.**
- **Examinations:** Four exams will be presented during the session. Each examination will include about 25 multiple choice, 10 true/false, and 15 matching questions. None of the four exam scores will be dropped. Each examination will count 50 points toward the course grade. In total, the four examinations will count 200 points toward the course grade **The instructor reserves the right to change the dates of examinations in the Course Schedule and Outline.**
- **Geography Quizzes:** Twelve brief geography Quizzes will be presented and are scheduled in the course outline. The two lowest of twelve geography quiz scores will be dropped. Each quiz will count for 10 points for a total of 100 points toward the course grade.
- **Movie Reviews:** Two movie reviews will be assigned during the session. These reviews will be based upon viewing films and reading web sources related to them. In each review, students will, in one paragraph for each numerical item, give their impressions of the film and answer the following questions. How does the film relate to the primary and secondary sources of the web readings? What point of view the film represent (what are the film-makers try to say)? What does it contribute to your understanding of world history? Students will give each film a rating on a scale of 1 to 10. Each review and rating will be worth 50 points. Movie reviews will be due the day following the viewing of each film. The lowest of the three movie review essay scores will be dropped. Each review will be worth 50 points for a total of 100 points toward the course grade. **Each review will be due in class by hard copy on the day stated in the course outline and syllabus. Since the lowest of the three review scores will be dropped, no reviews will be accepted after each deadline, nor makeup reviews are allowed. The instructor reserves the right to change the movie review due dates in the Course Schedule and Outline.**
- **Films to be Reviewed:** Students are view and review at least two of three films for credit worth up to 100 points. The instructor has placed several films for each review in three different sections. Films for review will The titles of the films, the corresponding readings, and format for each review are give in a study guide for each review. Students may choose any of theses available titles to view and review. Groups of students can rent and review films as a group, but they must write their reviews as individuals. **Since one of the three film viewings will be dropped from regular credit, no late film reviews are accepted. Be sure to start each film review assignment early and save your review on disk. It is your to view and review your films ON TIME.**
- **Make-ups:** . Makeup exams will be given only for legitimate excuses during the last week of the semester. On legitimate excuses, please see the Attendance and Conduct section. Make up exams will consist of one essay from a field of three essay questions. No makeup assignments will be given for movie review essays or map quizzes. **No exceptions will be made. Do not ask.**

#### **REQUIRED SUPPLIES:**

- Notebook and writing instruments to take notes in class, as well as four scantrons for the four examinations.
- Use of a computer with a broadband internet connection for viewing films.
- Use of a computer with a word processing program, and a printer is required for composing reviews.
- If you do not have these at home, please make use of computer labs on campus.
- All assignments will be due in hard copy.
- No e-mailed copies will be accepted.

#### **GRADING PLAN:**

- Examinations will count 200 points or 50% of the Course grade. Only students who cannot finish the course because of documented health or emergency problems will be allowed a one extension grade of "X" in order to complete coursework. Students falling behind because of extensive absences or missing assignments during the semester will not be considered for an "X" grade.

- Map Quizzes will be worth 100 points or 25% of the course grade.
- Movie reviews will be worth 100 points or 25% of the course grade.
- The grade scale will be: 360-400=A; 320-359=B; 280-319=C; 240-279=D; 0-239=F. There will be no extra credit in this class.

**ATTENDANCE POLICY: Attendance for this course is mandatory.**

- Regular and punctual class attendance is expected of each student in the class.
- I will keep a record of student attendance.
- I reserve the right to lower grades of students by one letter grade or more for excessive absences. You may miss **three (3)** classes without penalty—no excuses necessary. Absences beyond the three allowed can result in the lowering of a student's grade by one letter for the equivalent of one week missed (three absences).
- Only absences with legitimate written excuses (notes from doctors, employers and other officials, published obituaries, etc.) will be considered for exception to the above policy. The instructor will not automatically accept notes from family members. In addition, absences due to participation in extracurricular activities will not automatically be considered legitimate excuses, even with documentation. Because of instances of fraudulent excuses, authentic copies of the written excuses with addresses and telephone numbers of the issuing party must be given to the instructor. Any instances of fraud will result in expulsion from the class.
- Absence on Religious Holidays: Section 51.911 of the Texas Education Code requires that an institution of higher education shall allow a student who is absent from class for the observance of a religious holy day to take an examination or complete an assignment scheduled for that day within a reasonable time after the absence. The student, not later than the 15th calendar day after the first day of the semester, or the 7th calendar day of a summer session, must notify the instructor of each scheduled class day that he/she would be absent for a religious holy day. Refer to the Academic Calendar for the deadline date for notification by students to the faculty members of the student's intent to be absent on religious holy days.

**ACADEMIC DISHONESTY: According to Academic Policy Statement 810213 of SHSU:**

- The university expects all students to engage in all academic pursuits in a manner that is above reproach. Students are expected to maintain complete 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, acting in accordance with Subsection 5.32, may initiate disciplinary proceedings against a student accused of any form of academic dishonesty including, but not limited to, cheating, plagiarism, collusion and the abuse of resource materials.
- **Cheating** includes:
  - Copying from another student's test paper, laboratory report, other report, or computer files, data listings, and/or programs.
  - Using, during a test, materials not authorized by the person giving the test.
  - Collaborating, without authorization, with another student during an examination or in preparing academic work.
  - Knowingly, and without authorization, using, buying, selling, stealing, transporting, soliciting, copying, or possessing, in whole or in part, the contents of an unadministered test.
  - Substituting for another student, or permitting another student to substitute for oneself, to take a test.
  - Bribing another person to obtain an unadministered test or information about an unadministered test.
  - Purchasing, or otherwise acquiring and submitting as one's own work any research paper or other writing assignment prepared by an individual or firm. This section does not apply to the typing of the rough and/or final versions of an assignment by a professional typist.
- **Plagiarism** means the appropriation of another's work or idea and the unacknowledged incorporation of that work or idea into one's own work offered for credit.
- **Collusion** means the unauthorized collaboration with another person in preparing work offered for credit.
- **Abuse of resource materials** means the mutilation, destruction, concealment, theft or alteration of materials provided to assist students in the mastery of course materials.
- In accordance with Academic Policy Statement 810213, I may impose failure or reduction of a grade in an assignment or the course, and/or performing additional academic work not required of other students in the

course. If I believe that additional disciplinary action is necessary, I may refer the offending student to the Dean of Student Life or his designated appointee for further action.

**CLASSROOM RULES OF CONDUCT: According to Section 5 of the Student Handbook of SHSU:**

- Students will refrain from behavior in the classroom that intentionally or unintentionally disrupts the learning process and, thus, impedes the mission of the university. Please turn off or mute your cellular phone and/or pager before class begins. Laptop computers must be used for the curricular purposes of the course and not for net surfing or recreational purposes. Students are prohibited from eating in class, using tobacco products, making offensive remarks, reading newspapers, sleeping, talking among each other at inappropriate times, wearing inappropriate clothing, or engaging in any other form of distraction. Inappropriate behavior in the classroom shall result in a, minimally, a directive to leave class or being reported to the Dean of Students for disciplinary action in accordance with university policy.
- We will strictly and assiduously enforce this policy.

**VISITORS IN THE CLASSROOM: According to the Faculty Handbook of SHSU:**

- In the event an unannounced visitor attends a class, the instructor should request identification in the form of a current and official Sam Houston State University identification card. If the visitor is not a registered Sam Houston State University student, the instructor should act at his/her own discretion or refer the visitor to the department chair. This policy is not intended to discourage the occasional visiting of classes by responsible persons. Obviously, however, the visiting of a particular class should be occasional and not regular, and it should in no way constitute interference with registered members of the class or the instruction thereof.

## Readings and Assignments Schedule

Weekly chapter reading assignments below refer to Smith, *Essentials in World History*, Smitha, *Macrohistory*, and H.G. Wells, *A Short History of the World*. Please be aware that the lectures and weekly readings will not always be synchronous. By the time you take each exam, however, lectures and readings ought to coincide.

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**Week 1 (8/21-23): INTRODUCTION TO MODERN WORLD HISTORY.**

**[The World in the Fifteenth Century .](#)**

**READINGS:** *Essentials*, pp. 70-76; *Concise*, pp. 8-22; Wells, pp. 294-303.

**World History Sites on the Web**

**[Internet Modern History Sourcebook](#)**

**[Internet African History Sourcebook](#)**

**[Internet East Asian History Sourcebook](#)**

**[Internet Indian History Sourcebook](#)**

**[Internet Islamic History Sourcebook](#)**

**[Internet Global History Sourcebook'](#)**

**[Europe in Retrospect: A Brief history of the Past 200 Years](#)**

**[World History, 1500-Present](#)**

**[The Historical Text Archive](#)**

**[The 6th to 18th Centuries: Conflict, Attitude and Changing Religions](#)**

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**Week 2 (9/28-30): EUROPE AND THE WORLD IN EARLY MODERN TIMES.**

**[The World in the Fifteenth Century .](#)**

**[Fifteenth Century Europe: Social and Economic Changes .](#)**

**READINGS:** *Essentials*, pp. 74-78; *Concise*, pp. 23-43; Wells, pp. 294-304.

Smitha, **[Europe, the Church and Economic Growth to 1300](#)**

Smitha, **[Europe and the Terrible 1300s](#)**

Smitha, **[Europe in the 1400s](#)**

Smitha, **[The Renaissance](#)**

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**Week 3 (9/4-6): EUROPE IN THE FIFTEENTH CENTURY--POLITICS AND CULTURE.**

**[Fifteenth Century Europe: Political Changes.](#)**

**[Fifteenth Century Europe: Cultural Changes: The Renaissance .](#)**

**READINGS:** *Essentials*, pp. 74-78; *Concise*, pp. 23-43; Wells, pp. 294-304..

Smitha, **[Europe, the Church and Economic Growth to 1300](#)**

Smitha, [Europe and the Terrible 1300s](#)  
Smitha, [Europe in the 1400s](#)  
Smitha, [The Renaissance](#)

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Week 4 (9/11-13): EUROPE AND ITS NEIGHBORS IN THE 16TH CENTURY.

[Sixteenth Century Europe: The Reformation and the Wars of Religion](#)  
[The Ottoman Sultanate and the Tsardom of Moscow .](#)

READINGS: *Essentials in World History*, pp. 598-629.

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Week 5 (9/18-20): EUROPEAN OVERSEAS EXPANSION.

[Expansion of Europe: Initial Phase and General effects, 1400-1600 .](#)  
[FIRST EXAMINATION .](#)

READINGS: *Essentials*, pp. 82-83; *Concise*, pp. 44-62; Wells, pp.329-335.

WEB READINGS:

Smitha, [European Expansion](#)  
Smitha, [Portuguese to Asia and Africa](#)  
Smitha, [Spain in America](#)  
Smitha, [The Portuguese in America](#)  
Smitha, [Latin America to 1700](#)  
Smitha, [The French, Dutch and English in America](#)

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Week 6 (9/25-27): EUROPE IN THE SEVENTEENTH AND EIGHTEENTH CENTURY: POLITICS AND SOCIETY.

[Expansion of Europe: Overseas Empires & Trade Development to 1700](#)  
[State Formation in Early Modern Europe .](#)

READINGS: *Essentials*, pp. 85-88; 93-94; *Concise*, pp. 63-80; Wells, pp. 318-328.

WEB READINGS:

Smitha, [Britain, France and the Enlightenment](#)  
Smitha, [Sweden, Russia and the Great Northern War](#)  
Smitha, [War and 18th Century Europe](#)

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Week 7 (10/2-4): EUROPE IN THE EIGHTEENTH CENTURY: ECONOMIC AND INTELLECTUAL REVOLUTIONS.

[Tensions in State and Society.](#)  
[The Incubation of Industry.](#)

READINGS: *Essentials*, pp. 84-93; *Concise*, pp. 23-80; Wells, pp. 335-348, 355-69.

WEB READINGS:

[Mercantilism and The Enlightenment](#)  
[Europe in Retrospect, Another Kind of Revolution](#)  
Smitha, [World Economics and Rise of the West](#)

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Week 8 (10/9-11): POLITICAL REVOLUTIONS OF THE 18TH AND 19TH CENTURIES

[The Enlightenment: Its Origins and Themes .](#)  
[The Legacy of the American and French Revolutions .](#)

READINGS: *Essentials*, pp. 84-85, 94-101; *Concise*, pp. 23-80; Wells, pp. 335-348, 355-364.

WEB READINGS:

[Mercantilism and The Enlightenment](#)  
Smitha, [Britain, France and the Enlightenment](#)  
Smitha, [The American Revolution](#)  
Smitha, [The French Revolution](#)  
[Europe in Retrospect, The French Revolution](#)

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Week 9 (10/16-18): SOCIAL AND INTELLECTUAL UPHEAVAL IN THE 19TH CENTURY.

SECOND EXAMINATION

Affects of the Industrial Revolution .

Theories of Revolution and Evolution .

READINGS:Essentials, pp. 88-101; Concise, pp. 23-80; Wells, pp. 355-381.

WEB READINGS:

Smitha, From Adam Smith to Marx and Blanqui

Smitha, Attempts at Science

Smitha, Philosophy and History

Europe in Retrospect, Protests Against Industrialism

Europe in Retrospect, Urban Growth

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WEEK 10 (10/23-25): PROSPECTS AND PROBLEMS OF MODERNIZATION.

Changes in States and Societies .

The Rise of Russia--The First Developing Country .

READINGS:Essentials, pp. 91-92; Concise, pp. 136-152.

WEB READINGS:

Europe in Retrospect, Expansion and Explosion, 1871-1918

Europe in Retrospect, New Productivity

Europe in Retrospect, Towards a New Social Order

Europe in Retrospect, New Responses

Europe in Retrospect, Cultural Implications of Mass Society

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Week 11 (10/30-11/1): THE ISLAMIC AND HINDU WORLDS CONFRONT THE WEST.

The Islamic World and the Near East .

India and South Asia,

READINGS:Essentials, pp. 23-30; Concise, pp. 81-98; Wells, pp. 393-411.

WEB READINGS:

Smitha, Decline of the Ottoman Empire

Smitha, The Last of Iran's Safavids

Smitha, Imperialism, to the Crimean War

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Week 12 (11/6-8): EAST ASIA AND THE WEST.

THIRD EXAMINATION

China, Japan and East Asia to 1800.

READINGS:Essentials, pp. 325-332, 358-364; Concise, pp. 81-98; Wells, pp. 399-404.

WEB READINGS:

Smitha, China from the Ming to Manchus

Smitha, Japan to the 1680s

Smitha, Japan from Tokugawa to Meiji

Smitha, Imperialism, to the Crimean War

THIRD FILM REVIEW DUE

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Week 13 (11/13-15): THE IMPACT OF THE WEST UPON AFRICA AND OCEANIA.

China, Japan and East Asia in the 19th century.

Africa--Northern and Sub-Saharan .

READINGS:Essentials, pp. 403-412, 106-109; Concise, pp. 44-53; Wells, pp. 393-411.

WEB READINGS:

Smitha, Imperialism, to the Crimean War

Smitha, Africa and Slavery to 1860

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Week 14 (11/20): OCEANIA AND THE AMERICAS--EXTENSIONS OF EUROPE?

[Oceania .](#)

[The Americas to 1914 .](#)

**READINGS:***Essentials*, pp. 198-238, 257-265; *Concise*, pp. 113-135; Wells, pp. 382-389.

**WEB READINGS:**

Smitha, [Pacific Islands, Colonial New Zealand and Australia](#)

Smitha, [Independence in Latin America](#)

Smitha, [Canada and the U.S., 1814 to 1846](#)

Smitha, [The Mexican War and U.S. Expansion to the Pacific](#)

Smitha, [Antebellum and Civil War in the United States](#)

Smitha, [The United States, 1865 to 1900](#)

Smitha, [The United States to 1910](#)

Smitha, [The Mexican Revolution](#)

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Week 15 (11/27-29): THE RISE OF IMPERIALISM AND ROAD TO WORLD WAR.

[European Expansion and International Tensions, 1870-1914 .](#)

[Europe and the World in 1914 .](#)

**READINGS:** Wells, pp. 393-411.

**WEB READINGS:**

Smitha, [World Economies and Rise of the West](#)

[Europe in Retrospect, The Causes of European Imperialism](#)

[Europe in Retrospect, Europe's Imperial Age](#)

Smitha, [Europeans Overseas](#)

Smitha, [Toward World War, 1901-08](#)

Smitha, [Europe's Slide to War, 1911-14](#)

[Europe in Retrospect, Beneath and Beyond Calculation and Reason.](#)

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Week 16 (12/3-5): COURSE CONCLUSION AND OVERVIEW.