



School of Behavioral and Social Sciences

Virtual Campus – Spring 2009

Feb 23, 2009 – May 16, 2009

Mission: Wayland Baptist University exists to educate students in an academically challenging, learning focused and distinctively Christian environment for professional success, lifelong learning and service to God and humankind.

HISTORY 3309 (20TH CENTURY WORLD)

Semester:	February 23 – May 16, 2009
Class online meeting times:	asynchronous communication via discussion board and messaging
Class location:	Internet/Wayland VC Blackboard
Instructor:	Dr. Eric Ash
Office:	206 Parkside, Anchorage Campus
Office phone:	(907) 375-4515
E-mail:	ashe@wbu.edu
Mailing address:	7801 E. 32 nd Ave Anchorage, AK 99504
Home phone:	(907) 258-0924

DESCRIPTION OF THE COURSE: A survey of the political, economic, social and geographical developments in the world since 1900, concentrating on Europe, Africa, Asia, the United States, and Latin America. 3 hours lecture, 0 hours lab.

PREREQUISITE SKILLS AND KNOWLEDGE: An awareness of world events since 1900 and the ability to express oneself orally and in writing at the level expected of a college junior. Students taking this class must be at least sophomores. ***BSOE degree students please note: this course will satisfy the general education core requirement for the second half of history only, and it is an upper division (junior) level history class for which students receive advanced hours' credit. Therefore, the course has expectations and standards commensurate with an advanced history course. BSOE students who prefer to earn their general education history credit with a lower level course should drop this one and take HIST 1304 (World Civilization since 1500) or HIST 2302 (U.S. since 1877). Those students who already have credit for the second half of your core requirement (that is, you have credit for world civilization since 1500 or U.S. since 1877), you do not need this course. The first half of the history requirement can be met by taking world civilization to 1500 or U.S. to 1877. You can meet either half of the general education history requirement by taking history of American women, U.S. diplomatic history, Texas history, or the history of Russia. BA/BS degree seekers please note: this is an advanced history course which carries advanced credit and has advanced level expectations/requirements. For the BA/BS degrees, this course DOES NOT meet general education core requirements. We are certainly not trying to turn students away, but we would like to avoid the nasty surprise to the student who completes this course only to find out that it didn't satisfy degree requirements.***

GOALS OF THE COURSE: Successful completion of this course will enable students to

- a. describe world political, economic, social and military events from 1900-2000
- b. understand the causes and results of such major conflicts as World War I, World War II, and the Cold War
- c. analyze and understand the impact of such major philosophies as nationalism, communism, socialism, fascism, and religious fundamentalism
- d. describe the course of political developments in Europe, Africa, the Middle East, Asia, Latin America, and the United States in the 20th century

- e. understand the beliefs and describe the impact of Judaism, Islam, Hinduism, Buddhism, and Christianity on the peoples who practice them
- f. explain the economic and diplomatic interactions of nations in the 20th century

CONTENT OF THE COURSE: An outline of the material to be covered by this course is shown with the reading assignments. The course will stay with this schedule. The beginning and ending dates are firm.

REQUIREMENTS OF THE COURSE:

Computer/Internet access: Students MUST have access to a computer and to internet service to fulfill the requirements of this course. Term papers should be submitted via the digital drop box in the course site. My computer has the Microsoft Office suite but does not read Works or WordPerfect. Students using any Microsoft program other than Office 2003 need to save their term paper in rich text format, or I cannot read it. For technical requirements for your computer, see <http://www.wbu.edu/b/b08/technical.htm>

Discussion board forum questions: Each student must log onto the discussion board each week and answer the weekly question as well as enter into the class dialogue by responding to at least one other student's answer. Questions for the entire course are posted. Students may work ahead of the weekly schedule if they wish and are prepared to do so. The questions require thoughtful analysis, but there is no one correct answer to any of them. Students may answer these questions, even before they obtain a textbook, based on personal knowledge and the lecture materials that are provided in the lecture section of the course site and on the required CD. Being without a textbook for awhile is no reason not to participate. The questions are good practice for answering essay questions on the exams.

Active, timely participation on the discussion board constitutes 30% of the grade in this course. Each week there will be a question on the discussion board which will be available for students to post historically accurate, thoughtful answers—and to respond to another student's answer. Each Sunday evening at midnight US Central Time, the forum for the previous week's question will no longer be available. Therefore it is imperative for students to submit their answers prior to that cutoff in order to receive credit for the question. The discussion board is an excellent tool to help the class interact. Due to time zone challenges between Alaska and other student locations that can cause difficulties for students to log into live classrooms, and to provide students the greatest amount of flexibility in completing this course, the Discussion Board will be the only interaction we will use in the course. Because of this, it is critical that students actively engage in the discussion board. Students should check it frequently to respond to their classmates and the instructor. **Aside from the fact that the discussion board counts for 25% of the grade, generally, students who are most actively involved on the discussion board learn the most and perform the best in this class.**

Reading assignments: As shown in the content outline of the course, students are expected to read assigned chapters each week. Online/CD lecture notes/materials will parallel, but not duplicate or replace, the textbook. Reading the textbook alone will not be enough to successfully pass test questions. The website for this textbook provides great links, practice exams, and map exercises that will be helpful. This site is NOT, however, an online version of the book. (www.mhhe.com/goff6) Practice exams are just that and will help students be sure they are absorbing the material in the textbook. This course does not use standardized exams, however. Therefore, actual exam questions will be different than those on the textbook's practice link.

Online lecture materials and graphics appear under "Lecture Notes" on the Blackboard site for this course and on the PowerPoint CD that is required and is packaged with your textbook if you purchase it from Wayland's bookstore. Lecture materials are grouped by week and include "check for understanding" questions that students may use as a study guide for test preparation.

Students who want a hard copy of the lecture materials should use the "printer friendly" version that appears each week in the "lectures" section of the course site. The PowerPoint presentations can also be printed off but will take many more pages because the pictures/maps/charts/diagrams take a lot of space. Students should study from the PowerPoint version—either on the Blackboard course site or from the CD--to get the full impact of the material but will likely benefit from having a printed copy of the lecture narrative for those times the electric box isn't available/convenient. The CD loads faster than the Blackboard version due to the size of the graphics material. **I highly recommend students purchase the textbook from the Wayland bookstore so that they will receive the accompanying CD. Students who do not purchase the textbook from the Wayland bookstore will need to contact the Wayland bookstore and make arrangements to purchase the CD separately.**

Quizzes: A total of 5 quizzes will be given online as the schedule indicates. Quizzes are objective, with a combination of question types (multiple choice, true-false, fill-in-the-blank, essay). Students will have one hour to take each quiz, which should be adequate, provided they have prepared appropriately. The student expecting to take a quiz cold, without sufficient preparatory study will not have time to complete it successfully. The Blackboard program provides an elapsed time clock that appears on the bottom of the computer screen at the left-hand corner, and a one-minute warning will pop up on the screen. On or before that hour has expired, students must submit the quiz in order to stop the timer. Exceeding the time by more than five minutes will mean lost points on the essay question. Students should proofread their essay answers to be sure they have corrected misspelled/missing words and that they have written what they intended to write.

Quizzes will be available for one week. ALL students must take the quizzes during the one-week period or notify the instructor of their inability to do so because of a legitimate extenuating circumstance. Students will access the quizzes via the "assignments" board where a link will appear and read something like "to begin taking quiz 1, click here."

Students should not begin a quiz if they do not have a minimum of one hour to devote to it. Students who have a dial-up connection should warn family members to stay off the phone. Interruption of the browser causes an incomplete quiz to be submitted automatically. The only way to recover from a test-taking problem, such as a browser or server failure, is to email or phone the instructor and request an override/reset of the exam. Things happen, but generally students can avoid problems if they are careful and don't wait until the last day at 11:00 p.m. to begin taking a quiz.

Please note: quizzes are open book/open note--but are INDIVIDUAL EFFORT and never released from academic security. In other words, you may not discuss quizzes with anyone other than the instructor—ever. Academic honesty counts, and I am confident students' sense of honor will prevail. Students must have prepared in advance for quizzes by reading and studying the lecture notes and the textbook. There is not enough time to look up answers and still perform well on the essay question. The questions are mostly application in nature rather than simply recall, and they require students to understand the material in order to apply it. The five quizzes will comprise 40% of a student's grade in the course.

Written assignments: Historians and students of history need to know how to write. Course writing assignments, in addition to essays on quizzes and the discussion board, consist of two 2-page (double-spaced) précis and one eight-page (double-spaced) research essay. **Each précis and the essay are due as indicated in the course schedule.** The précis comprise 10% of the course grade, and the research essay counts for 20% of the course grade. Students may want to pay especially close attention to the 'tips for scholarly writing' page on the assignments section of the course site.

The **précis** must critically analyze a scholarly book of the student's choice on any 20th century historical topic. More than just a "book report," the précis must analyze a book specifically with respect to historical information learned, or at least discussed, in the course. In their analysis, students should concentrate on "critical thinking" skills to ultimately defend or attack the selected book on the basis of its linguistic style, historical accuracy, and methodology.

The **research essay** must be submitted via the Blackboard "safe assignment" feature first, which shows exactly what material has been copied directly from another source and gives students the opportunity to repair any potentially plagiarized sections before submitting the paper to be graded through the digital dropbox. Essays will be graded on the basis of literary style and grammar in addition to their historical research and analytical content--so I strongly advise students to proofread their papers prior to submission in the digital dropbox.

EVALUATION OF STUDENT PERFORMANCE: The University has adopted a standard grading system as follows: "A" (90-100, meaning that the student has exceeded standards in an exceptional fashion), "B" (80-89; the student has done good work that is above average at the university level), "C" (70-79; the student has done the average work expected of an undergraduate), "D" (60-69; the student has met minimum college level standards), "F" (below 59; the student has failed to meet minimum college-level standards), "I" (incomplete), "W" (withdrew before the deadline and is given no grade), "WP/WF" (the student withdrew after the deadline for receiving just a "W" and was awarded a "withdrew passing" or "withdrew failing" mark). A grade of "incomplete" is changed if the deficiency is made up by the end of the next regular semester; otherwise, it becomes "F". An incomplete grade is given only under exceptional, extenuating circumstances beyond a student's control, which prevented completion of the coursework during the semester.

COMPUTATION OF THE FINAL GRADE: The final grade for the course will be determined by averaging the quizzes (40%), the term paper (20%), précis (10%) and on-time discussion board participation (30%).

TEXTBOOK AND WEBSITE: THE TWENTIETH CENTURY: A BRIEF GLOBAL HISTORY, 7th edition, by Richard Goff, et. al. and its related website (www.mhhe.com/goff6) are excellent sources of information and help. Using the website, reading the textbook, and studying the lecture material and graphics (either in CD form or in the course site itself) will yield

an excellent base of knowledge on the 20th century world. Students may use the 6th edition of the textbook if that one is easier to find; the changes from one edition to the next aren't that significant.

ACADEMIC DISHONESTY: It is unfortunate to have to discuss, but important--by their very nature, on-line courses contain dangerous opportunities and temptations for students to let down their ethical standards. Any form of proven academic dishonesty will result in a failed grade for the course. In addition to a scar in one's ethical character, simple economics in terms of lost tuition expense would warrant serious consideration against academic dishonesty and a determination to maintain solid moral character.

INSTRUCTOR AVAILABILITY: Communication is perhaps the most critical component of a successful virtual campus class. Please contact me as soon as possible via e-mail from your Wayland e-mail account (and not through Blackboard, as that can fail, particularly if your account is inactive for some reason); or via telephone regarding **any** issues, confusion, or problems with the course. I am here for you. I have voice mail, so you can leave a message if I'm not able to pick up the phone when you call. **For e-mail, please always clearly communicate the subject: "20th Century History Course,"** and if you don't receive a reply within 24 hours, please re-send the message and/or telephone me. I am often in my office, so don't assume I have headed home for the evening just because it is after 9 pm Alaska time. You must activate your Wayland.wbu.edu e-mail account as soon as possible. That's the email address on which you will receive information from me and from the university. **As soon as you register for the course, please contact me via phone or e-mail so that we can get acquainted.**

My office hours when I can most likely be reached by phone (Alaska time—3 hours behind Central time) are as follows:

Monday	9 am - 6 pm
Tuesday	9 am – 6 pm
Wednesday	9 am – 6 pm
Thursday	9 am – 6 pm
Friday	9 am – 6 pm

STUDENTS WITH DISABILITIES

It is university policy that no otherwise qualified disabled person be excluded from participation in, be denied the benefits of, or be subject to discrimination under any educational program or activity in the university. Please contact me if you have a documented learning or other disability that will require extra time to complete the quizzes—or if there is anything you believe I should know that would help you learn better.

COURSE SCHEDULE

Dates	Assignment
Week 1: Feb 23-1 Mar	Textbook, chapters 1, 2, 3 and lecture notes Discussion board for week one (must be completed on Blackboard by midnight US Central Time, Sunday 1 March, US Central time)
Week 2: Mar 2-8	Textbook, chapters 4, 5, 6 and lecture notes Quiz #1 and discussion board for week two (both must be completed on Blackboard by midnight US Central Time, Sunday, 8 March)
Week 3: Mar 9-15	Textbook, chapters 7 and 8 and lecture notes Discussion board for week three (must be completed by midnight US Central Time, Sunday, 15 Mar)
NOTE: VC Spring Break March 16-20	-----
Week 4: Mar 23-29	Textbook, chapters 9, 10, 11, and lecture notes Quiz #2 and discussion board for week four (both must be completed by midnight US Central Time, Sunday, 29 Mar)
Week 5: March 30-April 5	Textbook, chapters 12, 13, 14, 15 and lecture notes Precis #1 and discussion board for week five (both must be completed by midnight US Central Time, Sunday, 5 April)

Week 6: April 6-12	<p>Textbook, chapters 16, 17, 18 and lecture notes</p> <p>Quiz #3 and discussion board for week six (must be completed by midnight, Central time, Sunday, 12 April)</p> <p>PLEASE NOTE: Sunday is Easter Sunday, so I recommend working ahead if possible to be complete prior to Good Friday.</p>
Week 7: April 13-19	<p>Textbook, chapters 19, 20, 21 and lecture notes</p> <p>Discussion board for week seven (must be completed by midnight Central time, Sunday, 19 April)</p>
Week 8: April 20-26	<p>Textbook, chapters 22 and 23 and lecture notes</p> <p>Quiz #4 and discussion board for week eight (both must be completed by midnight Central time, Sunday, 26 April)</p> <p>Research paper due by midnight Central Time, Sunday, 26 April</p>
Week 9: April 27-May 3	<p>Textbook, chapters 24, 25, 27 and lecture notes</p> <p>Precis #2 and discussion board for week nineQ (both must be completed by midnight Central time, Sunday, 3 May)</p>
Week 10: May 4-10	<p>Textbook, chapters 28, 29, 30, 34 and lecture notes</p> <p>Quiz #5 and discussion board for weeks ten (both must be completed by midnight Central Time, Sunday, 10 May)</p> <p>Last day to drop with WP/WF</p>
Week 11: May 11-16	<p>Textbook, chapters 26, 31, 32, 33 and lecture notes</p> <p>Discussion board for week eleven (must be completed by midnight Central time, Saturday, 16 May)</p>

A FINAL WORD—OR TWO

Courses offered through the virtual campus are not academically easier or more difficult than face-to-face classes; they are simply different, in terms of delivery and flexibility of effort. The Southern Association of Colleges and Schools requires that courses on all of our campuses meet the same rigorous standards as if we were offering them face-to-face in a Plainview classroom. The VC courses are no exception to that requirement.

Online courses require enormous self-discipline and ability to plan on the student's part. In other words, they do not reward procrastination. They are not less time-consuming than "live" courses and may actually take more time. Students who lack academic self-discipline and the work ethic to complete the course requirements on time should not take this online class. In addition, students who are auditory learners should not take this on-line class; they really do need the face-to-face, "live" course in order to learn well.

All those warnings aside, for the disciplined student who desires the flexibility of the on-line methodology in order to accommodate other courses, jobs, family, or simply the desire to work at 3 am from home, then I welcome you to what I hope will be a wonderful learning experience together.