

**Grande Prairie Regional College**

**Dept. of Arts and Education**

**HI120A3 and TC: The Modern World (3 Credits)**

**Winter, 2007**

**Instructor:** Duff W. Crerar, Ph.D. **Office:** C404 **Office Hours:** tba

**Phone:** 539-2828 (office)

**E-mail:** dcrerar@gprc.ab.ca

**Introduction:** The course is an introduction to global history, covering the major political, cultural, intellectual and economic development of the world from 1815 to the present. Its goal is to provide a foundation for advanced study in history and related disciplines. Students will encounter a variety of historical documents (including original sources), critical issues for investigation, and research methods, as well as construct and write their own critical and research essays. Keeping caught up with the readings and consistent attendance is essential for success in this course. Students will as acquire better research and essay writing skills by paying close attention to both the written and spoken comments on this subject, and applying them to the craft of academic writing.

**Texts:** [Check the GPRC Bookstore **after** you check the IV Used Book Sale!] Brummett, Edgar, Hackett, etc., **Civilization: Past and Present, Vol. II: from 1300.** Eleventh Edition: Longman, 2006. You also need Richard Marius and M. Page, **Short Guide to Writing About History** (either 4<sup>th</sup> or 5<sup>th</sup> edition): a valuable guide to understanding both historical research and writing. You will be using ***both*** texts on a regular and frequent basis.

**Course Outline:** (*page references are for **Civilization**, unless otherwise noted*)

5 January: Misery and Memory: the Revolutionary Legacies (643-651)

8 January: Liberalism or Nationalism? (651-679 also ***Short Guide***, 1-15)

12 January: Europe: Age of the Middle Class -- and the Masses (pp. 769-795)

15 January: TBA and ***Short Guide***, 16-57)

19 January: Imperial Africa (673-690; also ***Short Guide***, 57-84; 209-220)

21 January: Middle East and Empire (690-725)

26 January: also ***Short Guide***, 85-114)

29 January: Hope and Hate in Latin America (727-749)

2 February: The Mighty Continent Falters (pp.797-814; also ***Short Guide***, 114-153)

5 February: Counting the Costs of Global War (797-830)

9 February: Europe: Democracy in Crisis (814-8863)

12 February: ***Mid-Term quiz***

16 February: Asian Nationalism (865-883)

***19- 23 February READING WEEK (YIPPPPEEEEEEEEEEE!) Now! Right the Essay!***

26 February: Middle Eastern/African Nationalism (885-906; also *Short Guide*, 153-192)  
 2 March: All Hell Let Loose on the Earth (*except Antarctica*) (909-939)

5 March: A World Divided (941-961) **Article Review Due!**

9 March: The U.S.: *for* or *against*? (963-1001, *Short Guide*, 193-208)

11 March: Three Scorpions in one bottle? Persians, Arabs, Israelis (1003-1017)

16 March: Africa: Freedom? (1017-1028)

18 March: Yankee go Home! (1028-1039)

23 March: Asian Emergence (1041-1063)

26 March: **NBBB: Last day to accept Research Papers! (Without coupons!)**

30 March: The World's Largest Democracy – to some (1063-1072)

2 April: TBA

6 April: Good Friday Holiday

9 April: Hopes and Fears in the New World Order.

13 April: Exam Prep

#### **Requirements and Grading:**

Mid-term Test: written in class	20%
Historical Article Review	20
Major Research Essay (approximately 2000 words)	30%
Final Exam: written in April during exam sessions	30%

**Warning:** Late assignments will be penalized *heavily*. You will be given 5 coupons at the beginning of term. **Each** one counts for 1 Day extension. You can use them any time. *You cannot earn or receive any more! Get it?*

**Article Review Essay:** You will find in the Library a variety of historical periodicals (academic magazines or journals) filled with articles on a wide variety of topics in the history of the planet. Choose ONE of these articles (from AFTER 1800) and submit a ten-page, double-spaced, typed critical analysis of the thesis, argument and use of evidence by the historian who wrote the article. Your paper should identify the historical problem, its key elements, and how this historian improves our knowledge of that problem. You also should include why or why not you would recommend that I suggest this article to future students for their research essays. I must have assignments handed in on time, **or else I will not provide a mark for this part of the course**. So take this very seriously: it's worth 20% of your final grade.

***Research Paper:***

There are plenty of cold cases to solve in the court of History. Every scholar wants to win at least one. Your mission is to identify some important controversy or issue on which you want to become more expert, then research and write your own results in the form of an essay. To do this you will need to read and make good notes on ***at least 5*** historical books or articles, as well as other sources your professor may suggest. You will need to come up with some background, how perhaps some other historians have offered their solutions, and how your proposition (your THESIS), backed by your research, relates or not to their work. Or you may simply decide (and PROVE) that one or more historians already have demonstrated an adequate solution, and you will defend them from other critics who have attacked their thesis. You must have your topic proposal, a sample bibliography and a working hypothesis ready for my approval, handed in by THE SECOND WEEK OF FEBRUARY! ***No essay will be accepted without my pre-approval!***