

Readings in World History

History 5984, Spring 2006

Wednesday, 5:00-8:00 pm; Major Williams 427

Professor Tom Ewing

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Office hours: Monday 1-2 pm, Wednesday 11-12, and by appointment

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By challenging dominant narratives, introducing new approaches to understanding change, and exploring diverse topics in complex ways, the field of world history is transforming the way history is studied and taught. This course is appropriate for graduate students interested in how the study of world history can inform research in national and regional contexts, in the application of frameworks such as post-colonialism, world systems theory, or comparative politics to understanding global patterns of change, and in the development of paradigms for teaching world history in secondary and higher education.

Required Books:

Marnie Hughes-Warrington, ed., *World Histories* (Palgrave, 2005)

J. R. McNeill and William H. McNeill, *The Human Web. A Bird's Eye View of World History* (New York, 2003)

Philip Curtin, *The World and the West. The European Challenge and the Overseas Response in the Age of Empire* (New York, 2000)

Jerry Bentley, *Old World Encounters. Cross-Cultural Contacts and Exchanges in Pre-Modern Times* (New York, 1993)

Andre Gunder Frank, *ReOrient. Global Economy in the Asian Age* (Berkeley, 1998)

Peter Stearns, *Gender in World History* (Routledge, 2000)

Donald Wright, *The World and a Very Small Place in Africa* (Armonk, 1997)

Dominic Lieven, *Empire. The Russian Empire and Its Rivals* (New Haven, 2000)

A. G. Hopkins, ed., *Globalization in World History* (New York, 2002).

Robbie Robertson, *The Three Waves of Globalization* (London, 2003)

Easy Chair Bookstore: (540) 552-2665, or email: anne@easychairbookstore.com.

Additional readings are online: Blackboard (B); E-journals (E); Internet (I)

Assignments:

Papers (4 pages each)	Jan 30, Feb 6, Mar 15, and April 12	60%
Final paper (10 pages)	May 1	20%
Leading discussions, participation in discussion, and response papers	2 sessions led by pairs of students due by 9 am Wed morning	20%

Discussion leaders need to circulate questions to the class by 5pm Tuesday.

Papers (4 pages) on:

Approaches to world history (*World Histories*) due January 30 (Monday)

Secondary text (Bentley, *Old World Encounters*) due February 6 (Monday)

Secondary studies (individual topic) due March 15 (Wednesday)

Primary sources study (individual topic) due April 12 (Wednesday)

Final paper integrates above papers into 10 page analysis, due May 1 (Monday)

Date	Topic	Readings:
January 18	What is World History?	
January 25	New Approaches	Hughes-Warrington, ed., <i>World Histories</i>
February 1	Cultural Contacts	Bentley, <i>Old World Encounters</i>
February 8	Patterns of Change	Curtin, <i>World and the West</i>
February 15	America in World History	"The Nation and Beyond," <i>Journal of American History</i> 86/3 (1999) (E) Textbooks on the New World (B)
February 22	Paradigms of Change	Frank, <i>ReOrient</i>
March 1	Writing a New Narrative	McNeill and McNeill, <i>Human Web</i>
	Spring Break	
March 15	World History Topics	Readings TBA
March 22	Women and Gender	Stearns, <i>Gender in World History</i> Scott, "Feminist Reverberations," <i>Differences</i> 13/3 (2002) (E) Nussbaum, "Women's Education," <i>Signs</i> 29/2 (2003) (E)
March 29	Local and Global	Wright, <i>World and a Very Small Place</i>
April 5	Empires	Lieven, <i>Empire</i>
April 12	Global Patterns	Robertson, <i>Three Waves</i>
April 19	Globalization	Hopkins, ed., <i>Globalization</i>
April 26	World History Online	World History Matters (I) Digital History Reader (I) Meeting of the Frontiers (I) Women in World History (I)
May 3	Rethinking World History	Hedrick, "Ethics of World History" Bentley, "Myths, Wagers, and Some Moral Implications of World History," <i>Journal of World History</i> 16/1 (2005) (E)