HANOI UNIVERSITY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY
TROY PROGRAMME
WORLD HISTORY FROM 1500

Instructor: Assoc.Prof. Dr. Pham Van Thuy.
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Course Description:

This course surveys the growth, development, and character of the major centers of civilizations from 1500 to the present. The course focuses on the growing interconnections among societies around the globe in politics, economics, culture, and technologies and examines the wide process leading to the emergence of the present world.

Objectives:

Upon completion of the course, students should be able to understand:

- Major historical developments of modern world history
- Major revolutions in Europe, America, and Asia since 1500
- Theories and concepts about renaissance, reform, revolution, capitalism, imperialism, colonialism, decolonization, and globalization…
- The East-West interactions and exchanges (economic, cultural, and political aspects)/globalization
- The origins, process, and aftermaths of WWI, WWII, Cold War
- The recent development of the world and international relations since the end of Cold War

Required Readings:

1. William J. Duiker, Jackson J. Spielvogel, *World History*, Wadsworth Cengage Learning, Boston, 2019.
2. Robert W. Strayer, *Ways of the World: A brief global history with sources.* Boston: Bedford/St. Martin's, 2011.
3. J.M.Roberts, *The Illustrated history of the world, Vol.8. The European empires*. London: Time Life Inc., 1998.
4. B.V. Rao, *History of modern world*, Sterling, New Delhi, 2014.

Course requirements: Read required documents before the class; attend all the classes and participate in the class discussions and other activities; complete all class assignments including oral presentations, group discussions, and essays.

Technology: Blackboard and projector for slides and documents

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Course policies: Academic dishonesty, including cheating and plagiarism, will result in a failing COURSE grade and be subject to university discipline; Without specific prior approval from instructor, no early and make-up exams, any schedule conflicts with lectures and exams are not accommodated; Please be on time for class; frequent tardiness, early departures, or absence without valid reasons (documentation required) will affect your grade seriously (one absence=10% participation grade deduction, while more than 3 absences lead to a failing COURSE grade); Late submission of class assignments will be penalized. Laptops and cell phones are permitted during the class. If you need to make a call or send a message, please go outside quietly and return when you are finished. We will have one break and students are expected to return to class on time. If you leave early without teacher's permission, you may be marked absent for the entire class.

Technology: Projector for slides and documents

Grading Policy: **This course assigns plus/minus grades**.

Student learning will be assessed on the basis of student performance in:

1. Class participation: 10%
2. Group assignment: 20%
3. Midterm exam: 20%
4. Final exam: 50%.

Grading Scale: A: 90 - 100; B: 80 - 89; C: 70 - 79; D: 60 - 69; F: < 60

Schedule of class meetings

Week 1: Introduction: The Great Global Convergence

- General introduction: The world before 1500
- Modern World History: A Bird's-eye view
- Course organizations
- Course requirements

Week 2: Renaissance and Reformation: Sources and Achievements

- Definitions: Renaissance, Reform, Reformation, Renovation, Revolution, Renewal…
- Sources of Renaissance and Reformation
- Achievements in sciences, arts, literature, philosophy, architecture…
- Historical significance

Reference: Duiker& Spielvogel (2019), pp.379-385; 421-430

Week 3: Great Discoveries: Causes and Consequences

- Causes for European exploration and expansion
- The Portuguese maritime empire
- The Spanish conquests in the "New World"
- Slave trade and Spice trade
- The Colombian Exchange

Reference: Duiker& Spielvogel (2019), pp. 390-417

Week 4: Europe and America in the Age of Revolutions

- Definitions of revolutions: distinguishing the concept of revolution with reformation, renaissance, enlightenment ...

- British civil war (1642): Historical background, main events, the consequences

- French revolution (1789): Historical background, main events, the consequences

- American revolution (1779): Historical background, main events, the consequences

Reference: Duiker& Spielvogel (2019), pp.442-443; 521-523; 527-537;

Week 5: Industrialization

- Definitions

- The socio-economic development of Britain in the 16th-17th century

- The expansion of technological from Britain to other European countries: Belgium, France, Germany, Sweden

- Technological developments: textile, steam-power, iron making, chemicals....

- Consequences: economic development, social division, living condition, transportation, urbanization...

Reference: Duiker& Spielvogel (2019), pp. 543-566

Week 6: Modern Imperialism and European Colonization

- Theories of imperialism: formal imperialism, informal imperialism

- The long-term development of Europe in the 15th-19th centuries

- Motives for European imperialist expansion

- European colonial system in Latin America, Africa and Asia

- Colonial exploitations and consequences

References: Duiker& Spielvogel (2019), pp. 568-570; 608-633

Week 7: World War I

- The road to World War I

- Pretext: the Sajarevo incident

- Main events: video, photos, maps..

- Consequences: death, destruction, the redistribution of colonies...

Reference: Duiker& Spielvogel (2019), pp. 665-688

Week 8: Review and Mid-term exam (written exam)

Week 9: Meiji Reform

- Important terms: Meiji reform, Meiji Restoration, Meiji Revolution, Meiji Renaissance...

- Historical conditions: social-economic development, the crisis of feudalism, the arrival of Europeans...

- Major reforms: law, education, the military, technologies...

- The effects of the reforms

*Reference**s:*** Strayer (2011), pp.894-904; Duiker& Spielvogel (2019), pp.494-503; 651-662.

Week 10: China: from Feudalism to a Semi-colonial country

- The crisis of feudalism in China: socio-economic crisis, the peasant revolt, political splits

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- The Opium wars: first opium war and second opium war
- Western powers divided China: British colonies, French colonies, German colonies, American colonies...
- The failed attempts to reform: Kang Youwei, Liang Qichao, Sun Yat-sen

References: Strayer (2011), pp. 877-889; Duiker& Spielvogel (2019), pp.479-491;638-650.

Week 11: Great Depression and World War II

- Economic Crisis
- The Rise of Fascism, Hitler and Nazi Germany
- War in Europe
- Pacific War
- Aftermath of WWII

Reference: Duiker& Spielvogel (2019), pp.724-757;

Week 12: Decolonization and Post-Colonial Development

- The rise of nationalism
- Revolution in China
- Independence movements in India
- Decolonization in Africa
- Decolonization in Southeast Asia

Reference: Duiker& Spielvogel (2019), pp.696- 712; 861-867; 892-893; 903-909

Week 13: Cold War

- Definitions: Communism, Capitalism, Non-Alignment…
- The collapse of Grand Alliance
- Truman Doctrine
- Cold War in Europe (Europe divided)
- Cold War in Asia (Civil War in China, Korean War and Vietnam War)
- The disintegration of the Soviet Union

References: Duiker& Spielvogel (2019), pp.763-801,

Week 14: Post- Cold War Development

- The development of the Western hemisphere
- The rise of unipolar world
- Reforms in China, Vietnam
- Modern globalization

References: Duiker& Spielvogel (2019), pp.802-819; 822- 835

Week 15: Final Exam (Written exam)