

History 11
The Modern Era
Furman University Evening Studies Program

Dr. Steve Lowe

Contact information and office hours:

Office: An undisclosed location

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Office Hours: I will try to get here no later than 5:30 every Wednesday, though I may fail in that endeavor. I will also be available after class as needed.

Course description:

History 11, "History of the Modern Era," is a "survey of key events, ideas, and institutions in the modern era, roughly the five-hundred year period since 1500. While identifying Europe and North America as focal points, the course recognizes the importance of interactions between 'western' and 'non-western' cultures." (Furman catalog, 2005-2006, p. 85) In this class, we will study the history of the world, with particular emphasis on the Western World, from the time of Columbus to the recent past. We will focus primarily on the "big picture," emphasizing exploration, contact, and cultural interaction and diffusion among the major civilizations of the globe during the period.

Course requirements:

There will be a mid-term exam, a cumulative final exam, two short papers on the supplemental readings, and various quizzes on the text for this class. Participation is expected. Attendance is required. Students who miss more than three classes will receive an F for the class. (Three classes is the equivalent of nine traditional MWF classes.) Grades will be distributed as follows:

Mid-term exam	20%
Final exam	25%
Paper #1	12.5%
Paper #2	12.5%
Quizzes	20%
Participation	10%

Final grades will be assigned as follows:

A+		97-99%	C+		77-79%
A	Excellent	93-96%	C	Satisfactory	73-76%
A-		90-92%	C-		70-72%
B+		87-89%	D+		67-69%
B	Good	83-86%	D	Marginal	63-66%
B-		80-82%	D-		60-62%
			F	Failure	<60%

Books and Course Materials:

Craig, et al., *Heritage of World Civilizations: Teaching and Learning Classroom Edition*, vol. 2
McPhee, *The French Revolution, 1789-1799*
Achebe, *Things Fall Apart*

Additional materials will be available on the web, accessible through the course's Blackboard website, or will be handed out in class.

Classroom requirements:

Behavior: Proper decorum is expected. In debate, that means respectful disagreement (when you disagree with someone). Interrupting other speakers is disrespectful. We will all have our chance to voice our (informed) opinions.

Cell phones and/or pagers: Turn them off. If you have a situation that requires that your phone must be on, please let me know in advance, and sit near the door so that you may take your call in the hallway. Do not text anyone in the class or elsewhere, especially during exams. Texting or im'ing during exams is automatically assumed to be cheating, and will be dealt with accordingly.

Laptops: Are acceptable for note-taking, but not for writing exams.

Assignments:

The two short papers will consist of two 3-5 page analyses of the ancillary books (McPhee and Achebe). The instructor will provide prompts to help guide your writing of these papers.

Academic Integrity: It should be obvious and unnecessary to state that the work on these papers should be your own. Turning in work that is not your own is a violation of academic integrity codes, and will result in failure of the assignment for the first offense and failure of the class for the second offense. Consult the Helmsman for more information.

The exams will consist of identifications (these can take many forms, including matching, multiple choice, or short paragraphs) along with short and/or long essays. The final exam will be cumulative, and you will have the entire exam period to complete the exam.

The quizzes will be based on the text and other readings that I may assign. There will be at least one map quiz as well.

Participation is expected. You can participate by asking questions, responding to questions of the instructor, being engaged in the course material, and taking part in discussions in class or online. I will set up a permanent discussion board on Blackboard for students and the instructor to discuss historical issues relevant to the class.

Dates to remember:

February 14	First Paper Due
February 21	Mid-term Exam
March 21	Second Paper Due
April 18	Final Exam

Schedule*

Date	Topic	Readings
January 10	Introductions	None
January 17	Europe to 1650	Chapter 16
January 24	Asia, Africa, and the Islamic World	Chapters 17, 19, 21
January 31	Economy and the State in the West	Chapters 18, 20
February 7	Enlightenment	Chapter 22
February 14	The Age of Revolutions PAPER #1	Chapter 23 McPhee, <i>The French Revolution</i>
February 21	19 th -Century Politics in the West 19 th -Century Economies and Society	Chapter 24 Chapter 25
February 28	MID-TERM EXAM	None
March 7	Latin America	Chapter 26
March 14	Asia, Africa, and the Mideast to 1945	Chapters 27, 28
March 21	Imperialism and World War I PAPER #2	Chapter 29 Achebe, <i>Things Fall Apart</i>
March 28	Depression and Dictatorship World War II	Chapter 30 Chapter 31
April 4	East Asia in the Postwar Era Postwar Africa, Asia, and Latin America	Chapter 34 Chapter 35
April 11	The West in the Postwar Era	Chapter 33
April 18	FINAL EXAM	None

* Note well: This schedule is subject to change under a variety of circumstances. I will try very hard to make sure that any changes are favorable to the students in this class.