

HIST 3005: Shaping of the Modern World

CUNY-Brooklyn College Study in China Program

Instructor: Prof. Andrew Meyer, Ph.D. (or, to be assigned)

REQUIRED READING:

Strayer, Robert. *Ways of the World: A Brief Global History With Sources, Volume 2* (2nd edition) ISBN13: 978-0312583491 (*Since 1500*). Boston: Bedford Books
ISBN10: 0312583494, Published: 2013

COURSE DESCRIPTION:

In this course we will explore the recent origins of the world we live in today. Beginning in about 1400 C.E., when developments on several continents began trending toward an increasingly “globalized” world, we will work our way toward the present day, investigating how and why new technologies, new ideas, and new forms of organization developed, and how human communities in different parts of the globe changed as they interacted with one another. Our reading will be supplemented by field trips to historic sites in an around Nanjing that will provide further opportunities to explore the historical forces we will be studying in class.

GOALS AND OUTCOMES:

By the end of the class students should have:

1. Developed a basic familiarity with the figures and events of recent history and the different theories of their interpretation.
2. Acquired a general knowledge of world geography and its changing shape over time.
3. Learned how to distinguish between, and use, the basic primary and secondary sources of historical scholarship.
4. Demonstrated critical thinking skills in the interpretation of lectures, readings, and historical documents.
5. Learned how to discuss human communities in terms of structures such as culture, society, economics and politics.
6. Learned how to think historically about events and people of the past.

ASSESSMENT:

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|---------------------------------|-----|
| 1) 2 Interpretive Essays | 40% |
| 2) Final Exam | 30% |
| 3) Presentation & Participation | 30% |

Exams, papers, and class participation will be awarded a numerical grade on a scale of 1-100. Those grades convert to letter grades on the following scale: 97-100=A+, 93-96=A, 90-92=A-, 87-89=B+, 83-86=B, 80-82=B-, 77-79=C+.....60-62=D-, >60=F.

At the end of the term, a numerical grade will be computed (using the above percentages) from the grades for your written work and class participation and converted to a letter grade.

EXPECTATIONS:

This course emphasizes learning about the past through reading, writing, discussion and visiting of historical sites in five cities of China. There are two types of reading for the course: secondary readings (written after the fact, by scholars looking back at the past) and primary sources (texts written during the

past under study- the evidence that historians use to reconstruct and interpret past events). Students are expected to do both types of readings and to incorporate them into class discussions and written assignments.

Students will meet for lectures. Before the lecture, students should be sure to read the material in the textbook *Ways of the World* by Robert Strayer (herein referred to as “Strayer”). Lectures will reinforce ideas and themes described in the textbook, and will give students suggestions and questions for use in reading and interpreting the primary sources that will be discussed at the next meeting.

It is especially important that students do both types of reading and attend both lecture and discussion sections. Without such preparation, students will not understand what is expected of them on papers and exams. Check the schedule of readings and assignments (below) to be sure of which readings must be completed for each class meeting.

All work must be your own. Plagiarism (copying someone else’s words without attribution) will result in a failing grade and may result in disciplinary action. All work must be handed in on time. Late work may be penalized, and will not be returned in time to be of help in preparing for future assignments.

ATTENDANCE AND PARTICIPATION:

Students should actively participate in class activities. Prompt attendance is mandatory for all class sessions. Each absence without instructor's permission will result in 2 percent deduction from the final grade of the course; two late arrivals or early departures are equal to one absence.

As this course is part of the study abroad program, students are advised that their behavior, attitude and journal submissions via email during the program may affect their final grade for the course.

Non-Brooklyn College students are required to keep a course portfolio of all work and assignment submissions for this course, to be evaluated by the appropriate office and committee at their home institution for equivalent credits.

Course Approach and Schedule

This will be taught as a hybrid course, with Internet/WeChat APP-based activities mixed with class discussions and field trips to relevant cultural sites in the Chinese cities. Students may be placed into small groups to facilitate discussions in class and online.

It is in the nature of the study abroad program that it will be a little hard to anticipate the schedule of the class meetings in Nanjing. The specific schedule of visits and discussions probably won't be known until we arrive in Nanjing and may be subject to change, sometimes at short notice. Class sessions will probably vary in both day and time. The class may meet on weekend and evenings if necessary. The instructor reserves the right to make necessary adjustments in the class schedule and evaluation in response to the changing circumstances during the course of the program in China.

Written Submissions

All written submissions must be typed and documented in accordance with the APA style requirements. Written submissions will be evaluated by the instructor for responsiveness to the assignment, theoretical sophistication, rigor, coherence, and ingenuity of the position developed, organization, and correctness as well as clarity of expression. As regards evaluation of the mechanics of expressive correctness, students are advised that for every ten errors in spelling, grammar (including capitalization and punctuation), and documentation, the overall evaluation of a submission will be lowered by one grade. All submissions are

due as specified in the syllabus and late submissions will be penalized with one grade lowered for each day late.

Non-Brooklyn College students are required to keep a course portfolio of all work and assignment submissions for this course, to be evaluated by the appropriate office and committee for equivalent credits at the home institution.

Side Trip to Yangzhou

In addition to Beijing, Xi'an and Nanjing, Yangzhou is also an important site, especially its museums, for understanding modern Chinese history and China's interactions with the world via the Silk Road. We strongly recommend that each student in this class should plan for some additional fees for the side trip to Yangzhou; check the page of Side Trips at the program website.

SCHEDULE OF MEETINGS, READINGS AND FILED TRIPS:

Unit 1: Basic Questions: History, Modernity and "Globalization"

Unit 2: The Worlds of the Fifteenth Century

Strayer, Chapter 12, Documents 13.1-13.2: "Laws Ordinances and Regulations (King Moctezuma I)," "Book of the Gods and Rites (Diego Duran)," "Chronicle of the Incas (De Léon)."

Field Trip: Nanjing Treasure Shipyard Relic Site Park

This field trip would take the students to a museum dedicated to the flotilla of Zheng He, the "Chinese Columbus."

Unit 3: Empires and Encounters 1450-1750

Strayer, Chapter 13, Documents 14.1-14.5: "Reflections (Emperor Kangxi)," "Memoirs (Jahangir)," "The Turkish Letters (De Busbecq)," "Memoirs (Louis XIV)," "Instructions for Intendants (Colbert)."

Field Trip: Temple of Confucius, Ming Tombs

This field trip would teach students about the government of imperial China by exposure to the examination halls where candidates competed to enter the imperial bureaucracy and the iconography of the tomb of Zhu Yuanzhang, founding emperor of the Ming Dynasty.

Unit 4: Global Commerce 1450-1750

Strayer, Chapter 14, Documents 15.1-15.4: "The Interesting Narrative of the Life of Olaudah Equiano (Equiano)," "A Journal Made in the Hannibal of London (Phillips)," "Letters to King Jao of Portugal (King Alfonso I)," "Conversation with Joseph Dupuis (Bonsu)."

Unit 5: Religion and Science, 1450-1750

Strayer, Chapter 15, Documents 16.1-16.5: "Table Talk (Martin Luther)," "Sketch of the Progress of the Human Mind (De Condorcet)," "Conversations (Wang Yangming)," "History and Doctrines of the Wahhabis (Abdullah Wahhab)," "Poetry (Kabir)."

Field Trip: Jiming Temple and Jingjue Mosque

This field trip would familiarize students with the long history of religious diversity in Nanjing by exposing them to two historic houses of worship, one Buddhist and one Muslim.

Unit 6: Atlantic Revolutions, 1750-1914

Strayer, Chapter 16, Documents 17.1-17.5: "Declaration of the Rights of Man And Citizen," "A Vindication of the Rights of Women (Wollstonecraft)," "The Jamaica Letter (Bolivar)," "What to the Slave is the Fourth of July (Douglass)," "Letter to a Friend (Kartini)."

Field Trip: Taiping Museum, Tomb of Dr. Sun Yat-sen

This field trip would tie in to the study of political revolutions happening in the Atlantic world. The Taiping Rebellion was a different kind of revolution, but was roughly contemporary with the Revolution of 1848 and the American Civil War, and entailed the transmission of Christian ideas to China. Dr. Sun Yat-sen was a legate of the same Enlightenment ideas propounded by figures like Voltaire and Jefferson, and students can see in the iconography associated with his tomb the resonance of revolutionary ideologies throughout the globe.

Unit 7: Revolutions of Industrialization, 1750-1914

Strayer, Chapter 17, Documents 18.1-18.5: "The Communist Manifesto (Marx and Engels)," "Evolutionary Socialism (Bernstein)," "The German Socialist Women's Movement (Zetkin)," "The Internationale (Pottier)," "What is to Be Done (Lenin)."

Field Trip: Factory in Nanjing

By visiting an industrial site in Nanjing, students can better understand how dramatically industrialization has changed modern life.

Unit 8: Colonial Encounters 1750-1914

Strayer, Chapter 18, Documents 20.1-20.5.

Unit 9: China, the Ottoman Empire, and Japan 1800-1914

Strayer, Chapter 19, Documents 19.2-19.5, "Letter to Queen Victoria (Lin Zexu)," "Debating the Opium Problem," "A Moral Appeal to Queen Victoria," "The Treaty of Nanjing."

Field Trip: Nanjing Treaty Historical Exhibition Museum

This field trip will bring students to the site of the treaty that ended the Opium War.

Unit 10: The Collapse and Recovery of Europe, 1914-1970s

Strayer, Chapter 20 Strayer: Documents 21.1-21.3 "The Political and Social Doctrine of Fascism (Mussolini)," "Mein Kampf (Hitler)," "Cardinal Principles of the National Entity of Japan."

Field Trip: Nanjing Massacre Memorial

This field trip will familiarize students with one of the great tragedies of World War II.

Unit 11: The Rise and Fall of World Communism

Strayer, Chapter 21, Documents 22.1-22.4: "Results of the First Five-year Plan (Stalin)," "Red Bread (Hindus)," "Personal Accounts of Soviet Industrialization," "Personal Accounts of the Terror."

Field Trip: Presidential Palace

This field trip will familiarize students with history of the Communist takeover of China, and given them a chance to view how the PRC government commemorates its pre-Communist past.

Unit 12: Independence and Development in the Global South, 1914-Present

Strayer, Chapter 22, Documents 23.1-23.5: "African Perspectives on Colonialism (Boahen)," "Africa Must Unite (Nkrumah)," "The Arusha Declaration (Nyerere)," "Women: Critical to African Development (Tau)," "Africa Betrayed (Ayittey)."

Unit 13: Accelerating Global Interaction Since 1945

Strayer, Chapter 23, Documents 24.1-24.5 "Speech to the General Congress of the Republican Party (Atatürk)," "Toward the Light (al-Banna)," "Sayings of the Ayatollah Khomeini (Khomeini)," "Politics and Muslim Women (Bhutto)," "Islam and Human Values (Helminski)."

Unit 14: Review and Concluding Questions: Can we see a "shape" of the "modern" world?

Assignment of Keeping Journals

An important goal of the program is to enable each student to explore and experience China in his or her own individual ways, such that you can obtain maximum academic benefits from this China trip. Keeping a journal during the trip will help serve that purpose well.

You will be keeping a journal during the trip and submit the journal entries as part of the trip and course participation to their course instructor (with a copy to Prof. Lu, the program director); see the instructors' email addresses below. Here are some guidelines:

How to Write a Journal Entry

1. Describe a **specific, very meaningful, phenomenon or incident that** you observe or experience during the 2-3 days in a city, something that caught your attention and has an impact on you personally, culturally or intellectually, or something that has touched you deeply. Do not just list what you have done during the days (which will give you no credit). Tell us the story, with descriptive details, of a meaningful **intercultural encounter/instance**. This should be the 1st paragraph.
2. Then, in the 2nd paragraph, analyze or reflect upon that. Write down your reflections and thoughts on that experience or observation from a cross-cultural or intercultural perspective. If you are in one of those non-language classes, try to tie that to what you have read in the textbook(s) or what we are discussing in class.
3. In the 3rd paragraph, summarize or conclude this journal entry by making connections to a larger picture of what you have read, heard and studied previously in other classes, or even what you have experienced back in America and/or other contexts.
4. Each entry should be about 3 paragraphs in length. However, you are free to organize your ideas in what you believe to be creative ways; it is not a good idea to write one journal entry in only one paragraph.

How and When to Submit

1. Write an entry about every 3 days; a total of 5 (FIVE) journals are expected of you during the trip:
 - a. ONE entry for visit to Beijing
-- To be submitted on the day when you arrive in 2nd city of Xi'an
 - b. ONE for visit to Xi'an
-- To be submitted on the day when you arrive in Nanjing
 - c. TWO entries during stay in Nanjing (including side trips if any)
-- To be submitted every 6 days
 - d. ONE final entry for visit to Suzhou and Shanghai
-- To be submitted no later than 10 pm on the eve of departure from Shanghai
-- This final journal entry should be a bit longer than the previous ones. You need have 2 additional paragraphs in which to reflect on the overall trip experience: your gains from the trip, the impact of the trip on you, your recommendations for the trip, etc.
2. Submit your journals via email to the instructor via email:
 - a. Email each entry to the instructor, with a copy to: ChinaJournals@yahoo.com
 - b. And, if you are taking a class with another professor, also copy that professor.
3. At the beginning of each journal, please clearly indicate:
 - a. the course #(s),
 - b. course title(s), &
 - c. the professor(s) of the course(s), if you are taking more than one course
4. Name each journal entry clearly, by making the subject of the message as Journal #1 (#2, #3, #4, etc.) from XXXX (your full name).

5. In one email message, only send one journal entry by way of **copy & paste** (Do not send it as attachment, please). Send each journal entry separately; Do NOT attempt to include more than one journal entry in one message.

Grade and Reward

1. The professor will read your journals and respond if needed. If your journals are well written, professors may use them to replace some assignment(s) of the course, at the professors' discretion.
2. If you are taking more than one course, you still only write a total of FIVE journal entries; be sure you email each entry to both instructors if you are taking two courses from two professors.
3. The journals are part of the trip and course participation grade.
4. If you have been doing an exceptionally good job with the journals, the professors will give you extra credit (as much as 10% of the grade) for the course(s), at the professors' discretion.