University of Virginia

College of Arts and Sciences

HIST 2002

The Modern World:

Global History since 1760

Fall 2017

Philip Zelikow

MW 2:00-3:15

Gibson 211

Office Hours: Mondays, 1130-130, or by appointment

Nau 421

General Course Description

This is a survey course in modern world history to help students understand how and why the world got to be the way it is today. In order to understand modern history, a global perspective is essential. This is true whether you are interested in economics, warfare, philosophy, politics, or even pop culture.

This course can therefore be essential for students in many fields. It can equip them for lifelong learning.

This course is a broad survey. For that reason it is classified as a 2000-level course with no prerequisites.

But that does not mean it is an easier course or is just a college version of the world history course you probably took in high school. This course may stretch you more than some of the more tightly focused courses offered at the 3000 or 4000-level. You will have to juggle many different narratives and kinds of history. No matter what background knowledge you bring, this course will force you to reach further.

The instructional design of the course

**This course is taught in an unusual way**, transforming the traditional on-Grounds lecture/discussion model by integrating it with an online platform offered through the University’s partnership with Coursera. The usual classroom lectures are turned into segmented presentations with enhanced multimedia that can be viewed interactively online. Then the in-person time with the professor can be devoted to discussion in depth.

This course works at three levels of learning:

**Level One: Foundational video presentations.** There are two to three hours of foundational video content per week, broken into as few as five or as many as nine topical presentations and offered online through enrollment in the Coursera site. There are 97 such separately produced presentations spread over the 14 weeks of teaching in the course. Think of these presentations as a combination of time you would spend in classroom lectures and on homework.

Some of these video presentations are associated with particular required readings. Ideally, you should do the designated reading for a presentation first and then view the associated video.

**Level Two: Readings.** History is a subject mainly learned through reading. As a survey of modern world history, this course covers a lot of ground. There are only two required books. The majority of the readings are articles and book excerpts which are organized and posted for use on the course Collab site.

**Level Three: Professor-led, in-depth classroom discussions.** These discussions take the place of the traditional lectures. The course size is limited to about 60 students. There are no teaching assistants.

You should come to these sections ready to answer questions about the material, including any assigned readings, and participate in the discussion. Class attendance is required.

No laptop or mobile/tablet use in class. You'll do plenty of work with computers outside of class!

Grades

Grades will be determined by your performance on the weekly online quizzes (20%), in-class participation (20%), a midterm (25%), and a final exam (35%). Both the midterm and the final will be take-home exams for which students will write papers drawing on the lectures and the readings.

I trust every student in this course to fully comply with all of the provisions of the University’s Honor Code. By enrolling in this course, you have agreed to abide by and uphold the Honor System of the University of Virginia, as well as the following policies specific to this course.

* All graded assignments -- including those taken in the online portion of the course -- are considered pledged.
* You may not collaborate with other students in performing any of your assigned work.

Exams are 'open-notes.' But you may not plagiarize material from any source. If you have any questions about the meaning of "plagiarism," consult the resources of the UVA Honor Committee or check with me.

All suspected violations will be forwarded to the Honor Committee, and you may, at my discretion, receive an immediate zero on that assignment and/or an 'F' in the course, regardless of any action taken by the Honor Committee.

Please let me know if you have any questions regarding the course Honor policy. If you believe you may have committed an Honor Offense, you may wish to file a Conscientious Retraction by calling the Honor Offices at (434) 924-7602. For your retraction to be considered valid, it must, among other things, be filed with the Honor Committee before you are aware that the act in question has come under suspicion by anyone. More information can be found at www.virginia.edu/honor. Your Honor representatives can be found at: <http://www.virginia.edu/honor/2015-2016-representatives/>.

Required readings

The following published books are required:

Jeffry Frieden, *Global Capitalism: Its Fall and Rise in the Twentieth Century* (New York:

Norton, 2006)

Odd Arne Westad, *Restless Empire: China and the World Since 1750* (New York: Basic

Books, 2012)

In addition to the published books, there are other required readings – articles, chapters, or book excerpts. **These are posted on the History 2002 Collab site.**

If you are puzzled by references to obscure names and places, the Encyclopedia Britannica is a good resource. Free access to Britannica Online is available through the UVa Library. Wikipedia can occasionally be helpful too, but the quality of the entries is uneven and unreliable.

Class schedule

Class on **August 23** will be an introductory session.

August 28 and 30

**Week One: From the Traditional to the Modern - Commercial and Military Revolutions (1760-1800)**

1.1 The Study of History

1.2 The Great Divide

-- Jack Goldstone, "Patterns of Change in World History," in *Why Europe? The Rise of the West in World History, 1500-1850* (2008), pp. 16-33 – in **Collab**

1.3 The Traditional and the Modern

1.4 The Great Divide – Why?

1.5 The World of 1760

-- R.R. Palmer, “Aristocracy about 1760: Theory and Practice,” from *The Age of*

*the Democratic Revolution* (1959), pp. 55-82 – in **Collab**

-- Westad, *Restless Empire*, preface, pp. 1-17

1.6 The Commercial Revolution

1.7 The Military Revolution

1.8 Introverts and Extroverts

1.9 The Fates of India and North America

September 4 and 6

**Week Two: Democratic Revolutions of the Atlantic World (1760-1800)**

2.1 The Diffusion of Authority

2.2 Democratic Revolutions

2.3 These United States

2.4 Liberty and Common Sense

2.5 The French Revolution

-- Palmer, “The French Revolution: The Aristocratic Resurgence,” from *Age of*

*the Democratic Revolution,* pp. 439-65 – in **Collab**

-- R.R. Palmer, “The Dubious Democrat: Thomas Jefferson in Bourbon France,”

*Political Science Quarterly* (1957): 388-404 – in **Collab**

2.6 The French Republic

2.7 The World's Revolution

September 11 and 13

**Week Three: Revolutionary Wars (1800-1830)**

3.1 Lucky Americans

3.2 Napoleonic Wars

3.3 The End of Spanish America

3.4 New Republics and Empires in the Americas

-- J.H. Elliott, "The First Bolivarian Revolution," *New York Review of Books*, July 13, 2006 (11 pp.) – in **Collab**

-- Enrique Krauze, "Bolívar: What Price Glory?," *New York Review of Books*, June 6, 2013 (9 pp.) – in **Collab**

3.5 The Tipping Point – India

3.6 The World of 1830

-- Frederick Artz, "The Creeds of Liberalism," & "The Rise of a New Generation," in *Reaction and Revolution 1814-1832* (1934), pp. 82-109, 184-214 – in **Collab**

September 18 and 20

**Week Four: The World Transformed (1830-1870)**

4.1 The Great Divergence – Why?

4.2 Engines, Electricity, Evolution

-- David Landes, "The Nature of Industrial Revolution," "Why Europe? Why Then?," & "Britain and the Others," in *The Wealth and Poverty of Nations* (1998), pp. 186-230 – in **Collab**

4.3 Harnessing the New Forces

4.4 The New Situation

4.5 The Islamic World Adapts

4.6 Breaking Open China and Japan

-- Westad, *Restless Empire*, chap. 1, pp. 19-51

September 25 and October 27

**Week Five: The Rise of National Industrial States (1830-1871)**

5.1 To Build a Nation

5.2 The Global and the Local

-- John Darwin, introduction to *The Empire Project: The Rise and Fall of the British World System, 1830-1970* (2009), pp. 1-20 – in **Collab**

5.3 The Zenith of Liberalism

-- Howard Jones, “As Others Saw Us,” *The American Interest*, September/October 2011, pp. 17-27 – in **Collab**

5.4 A Liberal Rainbow

-- Carlton Hayes, "The Fruition of Liberalism," in *A Generation of Materialism 1871-1900* (1941), pp. 46-87 – in **Collab**

5.5 Enemies of Liberalism

-- John Gray, "The Real Karl Marx," *New York Review of Books*, May 9, 2013 (9 pp.) – in **Collab**

October 4

**Week Six: The Rise of National Industrial Empires (1870-1900)**

6.1 The Age of Imperialism

-- William Langer, “The Triumph of Imperialism,” in *The Diplomacy of Imperialism* (2d ed., 1956), pp. 67-96 – in **Collab**

6.2 Tipping Points: Egypt, Africa

6.3 Varieties of Imperialism

6.4 China in the Balance

-- Westad, *Restless Empire*, chap. 2 & part of chap. 3, pp. 53-109

6.5 The Wave Breaks

October 9 and 11

**Week Seven: The Great Acceleration (1890-1910)**

7.1 The Second Industrial Revolution

7.2 Modern Capitalism

-- Frieden, *Global Capitalism,* prologue & chaps. 1-3, pp. 1-79

7.3 The Dynamo and the Virgin

7.4 Modern Nation-States

7.5 Revolutionary Nation-States

-- Frieden, *Global Capitalism,* chaps. 4 & 5, pp. 80-123

7.6 Battle Lines

7.7 The Battles Begin

-- Westad, *Restless Empire*, rest of chap. 3 & part of chap.4, pp. 109-151

7.8 The Big Picture

October 16 and 18

**Week Eight: Crackup (1905-1917)**

8.1 The Shock of 1914

-- Richard F. Hamilton, "On the Origins of the Catastrophe," in Hamilton & Holger Herwig, eds., *The Origins of World War I* (2003), pp. 469-506 – in **Collab**

8.2 Schizophrenic Germany

8.3 The Balkan Whirlpool

8.4 The Shock of 1914 – Second Cut

-- Hew Strachan, “The Ideas of 1914,” in *The First World War, Vol. 1: To Arms* (2001), pp. 1114-1139 – in **Collab**

8.5 All the Plans Fail

8.6 On to Victory?

October 23 and 25

**Week Nine: New Orders Emerge (1917-1930)**

9.1 Total States

9.2 Why Did the Allies Win?

9.3 The End of Empires?

9.4 Communism

-- Westad, *Restless Empire*, part of chap. 4, pp. 151-162 (to end of the poem)

9.5 Anti-Communism

-- Westad, *Restless Empire,* rest of chap. 4, pp. 162-170

9.6 The Age of Uncertainty

-- Frieden, *Global Capitalism,* chaps. 6 & 7, pp. 127-172

9.7 Modern Women

9.8 The World of 1930

-- James Scott, “Authoritarian High Modernism” in *Seeing Like A State* (1998), pp. 87-102 – in **Collab**

-- Westad, *Restless Empire*, chaps. 5 & 6, pp. 171-245

October 30 and November 1

**Week Ten: The Crisis of the World (1930-1940)**

10.1 Challenges to Capitalism and Security

-- Frieden, *Global Capitalism,* part of chap. 8, pp. 173-181

10.2 Escapes from Freedom

-- Frieden, *Global Capitalism,* rest of chap. 8, pp. 181-194

10.3 Total Politics

-- Frieden, *Global Capitalism,* chaps. 9 & 10, pp. 195-250

10.4 New Wars for New Empires

10.5 Triumph of the New Empires

-- Timothy Snyder, preface and introduction to *Bloodlands: Europe Between Hitler & Stalin* (2010), pp. vii-xix, 1-20 – in **Collab**

November 6 and 8

**Week Eleven: Total War and Aftermath (1940-1950)**

11.1 Choosing Global War

11.2 Gambling for Victory

-- Timothy Snyder, abstract and conclusion to *Bloodlands: Europe Between Hitler & Stalin* (2010), pp. 415-417, 379-408 – in **Collab**

11.3 Strategies for Total War

-- Richard Overy, “Economies at War,” in *Why the Allies Won* (1995), pp. 180- 207 – in **Collab**

11.4 Zero Hour

-- Westad, *Restless Empire*, chap. 7, pp. 247-284

11.5 Imagining New Countries

-- George Orwell, “You and the Atom Bomb,” (1945) in *Collected Essays, Journalism, and Letters*, vol. 4 [2000], pp. 6-10 – in **Collab**

-- George Orwell, “James Burnham and the Managerial Revolution,” (1946), in *Collected Essays, Journalism, and Letters*, vol. 4 [2000], pp. 160-181 – in **Collab**

11.6 Postwar

11.7 Two Europes

-- Frieden, *Global Capitalism,* chap. 11, pp. 253-277

11.8 Revolutionary Asia

-- Westad, *Restless Empire*, part of chap. 8, pp. 285-304

November 13 and 15

**Week Twelve: The Return of Wartime (1950-1968)**

12.1 The Age of the Americans

12.2 Choosing War in Korea

12.3 Contemplating World War III

12.4 The Shadow of World War III

12.5 The Nuclear Revolution

12.6 New Empires and Confederations

-- Frieden, *Global Capitalism,* chap. 12, pp. 278-300

-- Westad, *Restless Empire*, rest of chap. 8, pp. 304-332

12.7 The Third World

-- Frieden, *Global Capitalism,* chaps. 13 & 14, pp. 301-338

12.8 To the Brink

-- Ernest May & Philip Zelikow, preface, introduction & excerpts from material for September 29 and October 16, 1962, in *The Kennedy Tapes: Inside the White House during the Cuban Missile Crisis* (rev. ed., 2001), pp. xi-lvi, 20-32 – in **Collab**

12.9 Wars of Containment

-- Westad, *Restless Empire*, chap. 9, pp. 333-363

November 20

**Week Thirteen: Decay and Renaissance (1969-1991)**

13.1 Breakdown and Reaction

-- Jeremi Suri, “Counter-cultures: the rebellions against the Cold War order, 1965-1975,” in Melvyn Leffler & Odd Arne Westad, eds., *The Cambridge History of the Cold War*, vol. II (2010), pp. 460-481 – in **Collab**

13.2 The Weary Establishment

13.3 Bust

-- Frieden, *Global Capitalism,* chap. 15 & part of chap. 16, pp. 339-372

13.4 New Thinking in the West

13.5 Global Capitalism Transformed

-- Frieden, *Global Capitalism,* rest of chap.16, pp. 372-391

13.6 New Thinking in the East

13.7 The End of the Cold War

-- Philip Zelikow, “The Suicide of the East?,” *Foreign Affairs*, November-December 2009, pp. 41-52 – in **Collab**

November 27, 29 and December 4

**Week Fourteen: The Next Phase (1991-2017)**

14.1 The "Washington Consensus"

-- Frieden, *Global Capitalism,* chap. 17, pp. 392-412

14.2 Toward a New Era in World History

14.3 The Great Convergence

-- Frieden, *Global Capitalism,* chap. 18, pp. 413-434

-- Westad, *Restless Empire*, chaps. 10-12, pp. 365-469

14.4 The Bottom Billion

-- Frieden, *Global Capitalism,* chap. 19, pp. 435-456

14.5 The Muslim World

14.6 Drift and Shock

-- Frieden, *Global Capitalism,* chap. 20 and Concl., pp. 457-476

14.7 The Global and the Local

14.8 An Age of Transition