

SEMESTER AT SEA COURSE SYLLABUS
University of Virginia, Academic Sponsor

Voyage: Spring 2016
Discipline: History
HIST 3559-102: The West and the World
Division: Lower
Faculty Name: Maria Luise Wagner
Credit Hours: 3; Contact Hours: 38
B Days: 16.10-17.30

Pre-requisites:

COURSE DESCRIPTION

Why are some countries rich, and some countries poor? This course provides an interdisciplinary overview of Western and non-Western explanations of the fluctuation of wealth and poverty in the historical context. In Part 1 we will study how the West grew rich and explore the significance of factors such as geography, economic policy, culture, technology and institutions. In Part 2 we will explore the origins of the lingering poverty in the developing world and pay special attention to colonial legacies. In Part 3 we will survey theory and practice of International Development efforts to help billions of people rise from abject poverty to prosperity in the Post War II period.

Country case studies with reference to destinations in the Spring 2016 voyage prepare students for comparative analysis of the history of development on the ground.

COURSE OBJECTIVES

- understand different explanations of how rich countries got rich and why some poor countries remained poor
- understand western and non-western perspectives of imperialism and resistance in the historical context
- generate presentations and classroom discussions guided by study questions drawn from the readings and lectures;
- apply acquired knowledge in the classroom to critical observations in the ports of call

REQUIRED TEXTBOOKS

AUTHOR: R. Allen,
TITLE: Global Economic History. A very Short introduction
PUBLISHER: Oxford University Press
ISBN: 9780199596652
DATE/EDITION: 2011

AUTHOR: S. Howe
TITLE: Empire: A Very Short Introduction
Publisher: Oxford University Press
ISBN: 0192802232
DATE/EDITION: 2002

AUTHOR: B. Emmott
TITLE: Rivals: How the Power Struggle Between China, India, and Japan will Shape Our Next Decade
PUBLISHER: Houghton Mifflin

ISBN: 9780156033626
DATE/EDITION 2009

AUTHOR: L.Fisher
TITLE: Gandhi: His Life and Message to the World
PUBLISHER: Signet Classic
DATE: November 2010
ISBN: 978-0451531704

AUTHOR: Aung San Su Kyi
TITLE: Freedom from Fear
PUBLISHER: Penguin Books
DATE: July 2010
ISBN: 9780141039497

AUTHOR: F. Wilson
TITLE: Dinosaurs, Diamonds & Democracy, A Short, Short History of South Africa
PUBLISHER: Penguin Books, South Africa
DATE: 2011
ISBN: 9781415201404

CLASS SCHEDULE

B8- January 8:
Course Overview
In class essay (ungraded)

PART 1: HOW THE WEST GOT RICH

B2- January 10
Geography and Technology
Read:
J. Sachs, et al, The Geography of Poverty and Wealth
J. Diamond, Why did Human History Unfold Differently in Different Continents for the Last 13,000 Years
D. Landes, Why Europe and the West? Why not China?

Honolulu: January 12

B3 - January 13:
Institutions
Read:
A. Maddison, Why and when did the West grow rich?

B4 - January 15:
Culture
Read:
L. Harrison, How Much does Culture Matter.
M. Weber, The Evolution of the Capitalist Spirit (excerpts)

B5 - January 17:

Capitalism

Read:

A. Smith, Of the Accumulation of Capital or of Productive and unproductive Labor (excerpts)

K. Marx, The Communist Manifesto (excerpts)

Allen, 27-40

Study Day: January 19

B6 - January 21

Mid Term Exam

B7- January 23

Country Case Study: Japan

Read:

Allen, 114-130

Emmot, 87-120

Video:

The Meji Revolution. Part1

Yokohama: January 24-25

In-Transit: January 26

Kobe: January 27-28

B8 - January 30:

Country Case Study: China

Read:

Allen, 53- 54; 139-145

Emmot, 48-87

Video:

British Raj: Occupied India and the Opium War

Shanghai: January 31-February 1

In-Transit: February 2-3

Hong Kong: 4-5

B9 - February 7:

Country Case Study: Vietnam

Read:

J. Berman and S. Routh, Why the United States fought in Vietnam

V. Phan, Putting Behind the Past, Looking toward the Future

Video:

Vietnam. A Television History. (Roots of a War)

Causes of the Vietnam War

Ho Chi Minh: February 8-12

PART 2: THE IMPACT OF WESTERN DOMINATION IN THE WORLD

B10 - February 14:

Imperialism: Patterns of Empire

Read:

Howe, 1-131

Study Day: February 15

B11 - February 17:

Country Case Study: Burma

Read:

Aung San Su Kyi, Freedom from Fear (Ch 2, Ch.14)

G. Orwell, Shooting an Elephant

Xu, Understanding Myanmar

Video:

They Call it Myanmar: Lifting the Curtain.

Yangon: February 18-22

B12 - February 24:

Imperialism: Patterns of Resistance

Read:

Howe, 1-131

B13 - February 26:

Country Case Study: India

Read:

L. Fisher, Gandhi. His Life and Message to the World , pp 50-154

Video:

Gandhi: the Road to Freedom

Cochin: February 27-March 3

FIELD LAB: MARCH 3

B14 - March 5:

The rise of Modern India

Read:

Emmot, 121-157

Study Day: March 6

March : 8. DUE DATE: FIELD LAB PAPER

Please submit at the beginning of class

B15- March 8

The Colonial Heritage in Latin America and North America

Read:

Allen, 64-91

Port Louis: March 9

B16 - March 11:

Latin America and the United States

Read:

F. Rosen, Empire and Dissent, The United States and Latin America, 1-23

Video:

Cocalero

Study Day: March 12

B17- March 14:

Country Case Study: South Africa

Read:

Wilson

Video:

Remembering South African Leader Nelson Mandela

Cape Town: March 15-20

B18 – March 22:

Africa: Colonial Legacies and Economic Growth

Read:

P. Englebort, Pre-Colonial Institutions, Post-Colonial States, and Economic Development in Tropical Africa
Allen 91-114

Video: Belgian Congo - The Brutal History

PART 3: Globalization and International Development

B19 - March 24

International Development

Read:

F. Cooper, International Development and the Social Sciences, 1-18

Video:

The World Bank, Hear our Voices- the Poor on Poverty

B20 - March 26:

Foreign Aid

Read:

S. Radelet, A Primer on Foreign Aid

W. Easterly, Why Doesn't Aid Work?

Tema: March 27-29

Takoradi: March 30-31

B21-April 1:

Africa Emerging

Read:

E. Johnson-Sirleaf, Introduction in S. Radelet, "Emerging Africa", 1-9

S. Radelet, Success Stories from "Emerging Africa"

Video: Ellen Johnson-Sirleaf

B22 - April 3:

Imperialism and Globalization

Read:

S. Amin, Imperialism and Globalization

D. Lal, In Defense of Empires: Aid, Trade and

Economic Development

B23 April 5:
Epilogue

Casablanca: April 7-11

Study Day: April 12

B Day Finals, April 14
Final Exam

April 16: Arrive in Southampton

FIELD LAB: INDIA AND THE WORLD

The world's largest democracy has been heralded for rapid economic growth and technological innovation and is emerging as a burgeoning geopolitical giant. It continues to be plagued by poverty, illiteracy, inequality and religious conflict.

Students will be able to test the knowledge acquired in the classroom in a meeting with the Regional Editor and Senior Staff of the Times of India in Cochin.

A visit to the world's largest spice market will inform them about the significance of the spice trade for economic development in India.

Field lab attendance is mandatory for all students enrolled in this course. Do not book individual travel plans or a Semester at Sea sponsored trip on the day of your field lab.

FIELD ASSIGNMENT

Experiential course work on Semester at Sea is comprised of the required field lab led by your instructor and additional field assignments that span multiple ports.

Students are expected to write a 5-8-page paper on their observations and reflections during the field lab, to refer to relevant readings, lectures and discussions in the classroom and to compare the rise of modern India with economic development of one other destination on the voyage.

The paper is 20% of the final grade and needs to be submitted on the due date in the syllabus.

GRADING:

Class Participation: 10%. Class attendance is mandatory. Students are expected to comment on the assigned readings.

Presentations: 20% At the beginning of the class, one or two students will do a 5-minute presentation of the relevance of the readings for the topic of the class (not a summary) and post their write-up of maximum one page under course files.

Field Lab Reflection Paper: 20%

Mid Term Exam: 20%

Final Exam: 30%

The grade for written work submitted late decreases by ONE grade per day.

ELECTRONIC RESERVES:

Amin, Imperialism and Globalization.pdf

J. Berman and S. Routh, Why the United States fought in Vietnam

Banerjee and Iyer, History, Institutions.pdf

Cardoso, Dependency and Development.pdf
 Cooper, History and Politics of Development Knowledge.pdf
 Diamond, Why did Human History Unfold differently.pdf
 Easterly Why Doesn't Aid Work.pdf
 Englebert, Pre-Colonial Institutions, Post-Colonial States, and Economic Development in Tropical Africa.pdf
 Fanon The Wretched of the Earth.pdf
 Harrison, Culture and Economic Development.pdf
 Johnson- Sirleaf, Emerging Africa.pdf
 Lal, In Defense of Empires, Aid, Trade and Economic Development, pdf
 Landes, Why Europe and the West? Why Not China?.pdf
 Maddison, How and Why did the West Get Rich.pdf
 Marx, Communist Manifesto.pdf
 North, Economic Performance.pdf
 Orwell, Shooting an Elephant.pdf
 Phan, Putting Behind the Past and Looking Toward the Future.pdf
 Polanyi, The Self Regulating Market.pdf
 Rodney, How Europe Underdeveloped Africa (excerpts).pdf
 F. Rosen, Empire and Dissent, The United States and Latin America, 1-23
 Sachs, The Geography of Poverty and Wealth.pdf
 Smith, Accumulation of Capital.pdf
 Stiglitz, Introduction in Polanyi.pdf
 Weber, The Evolution of the Capitalist Spirit.pdf
 Xu, Understanding Myanmar
 Radelet, Success Stories from "Emerging Africa" Journal of Democracy, Volume 21, #4. October 2010, pp.87-101

Radelet, A Primer in Foreign Aid

Rosen, Empire and Dissent, The United States and Latin America, Introduction, pp 1-23

Videos:

World Bank: Hear our voices. The poor on Poverty

They Call it Myanmar: Lifting the Curtain.

China inside out. Bob Woodruff Reports

Vietnam. A Television History. (Roots of a War)

HONOR CODE

Semester at Sea students enroll in an academic program administered by the University of Virginia, and thus bind themselves to the University's honor code. The code prohibits all acts of lying, cheating, and stealing. Please consult the Voyager's Handbook for further explanation of what constitutes an honor offense.

Each written assignment for this course must be pledged by the student as follows: "On my honor as a student, I pledge that I have neither given nor received aid on this assignment." The pledge must be signed, or, in the case of an electronic file, signed "[signed]."