



Course Syllabus: World History Since 1500
Prothro Yeager College of Humanities and Social Sciences
HIST 1453 Section X10
Fall 2026

Contact Information

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Course Description

This course is a survey of World History from 1500 to the present.

Textbook & Instructional Materials

Carter, James and Richard Warren, *Forging the Modern World* 3rd Edition.

Student Handbook

Refer to: [Student Handbook](#)

Academic Misconduct Policy & Procedures

Academic Dishonesty: Cheating, collusion, and plagiarism (the act of using source material of other persons, either published or unpublished, without following the accepted techniques of crediting, or the submission for credit of work, not the individual to whom credit is given). Additional guidelines on procedures in these matters may be found in the Office of Student Conduct.

AI use prohibited. The use of generative artificial intelligence tools (including but not limited to ChatGPT, Claude, Google Gemini, and Microsoft Copilot) is prohibited for all work submitted in this course unless I have authorized it for a specific assignment in writing. Submitting AI-generated content as your own

work will be treated as a violation of academic integrity. If you are unsure whether a tool you want to use falls under this policy, ask me before using it. [Office of Student Conduct](#)

Moffett Library

Moffett Library provides resources and services to support student's studies and assignments, including books, peer-reviewed journals, databases, and multimedia materials accessible both on campus and remotely. The library offers media equipment checkout, reservable study rooms, and research assistance from librarians to help students effectively find, evaluate, and use information. Get started on this [Moffett Library webpage](#) to explore these resources and learn how to best utilize the library.

Grading

Course Grade – Your grade will be determined out of a possible 1000 total available points that you can accumulate through the following assignments: fifteen lecture response, 15 points each for a total of 225 points; ten chapter summaries, 15 points each for a total of 150; fifteen self assessments worth 15 points each for a total of 225 points; and one writing assignment broken up into three parts which together make up 400 points.

Table 1: Points allocated to each assignment

Assignments	Points
Lecture Responses	225
Chapter Summaries	150
Self Assessment	225
Written Assignment	400
Total Points	1000

Table 2: Total points for final grade.

Grade	Points
A	900
B	800 to 899
C	700 to 799
D	600 to 699
F	Less than 600

Homework

Your Lecture Responses and Chapter Summaries will generally be due Friday at midnight, with a grace period that extends beyond that. Your Self-Assessments will be due Saturday with a grace period to Sunday evening. If I ever change the date on an assignment due to an unforeseen circumstance I will send out an email notification, but be sure to check the D2L calendar on a weekly basis

Quizzes

At the end of each lesson you will take a self-assessment quiz where you say if you watched the videos in the lesson or not. Each quiz is worth a total of thirty points which is evenly spread out over the number of videos in the lesson. If I discover that you have given yourself credit for a video you did not watch, you will get a zero for the quiz.

Projects Required

Over the course of this class you will be working on a research project that will have you read a book of your choosing and write a research paper (3-4) pages. The details of this assignment are all available in D2L.

Late Work

I will not accept late lecture responses or the self assessments, but I can give you extensions for your writing projects, if you let me know ahead of time.

Desire-to-Learn (D2L)

Extensive use of the MSU D2L program is a part of this course. Each student is expected to be familiar with this program as it provides a primary source of communication regarding assignments, examination materials, and general course information. You can log into [D2L](#) through the MSU Homepage. If you experience difficulties, please contact the technicians listed for the program or contact your instructor.

Online Computer Requirements

Taking an online class requires you to have access to a computer (with Internet access) to complete and upload your assignments. It is your responsibility to have (or have access to) a working computer in this class. ****Assignments and tests are due by the due date, and personal computer technical difficulties will not be considered a reason for the instructor to allow students extra time to submit assignments, tests, or discussion postings.*** Computers are available on campus in various areas of the buildings as well as the Academic Success Center. ****Your computer being down is not an excuse for missing a deadline!!*** There are many places to access your class! Our online classes can be accessed from any computer in the world that is connected to the internet. Contact your instructor immediately upon having computer trouble. If you have technical difficulties in the course, there is also a student helpdesk available to you. The college cannot work directly on student computers due to both liability and resource limitations however they are able to help you get connected to our online services. For help, log into [D2L](#).

Change of Schedule

A student dropping a course (but not withdrawing from the University) within the first 12 class days of a regular semester or the first four class days of a summer

semester is eligible for a 100% refund of applicable tuition and fees. Dates are published in the Schedule of Classes each semester.

Refund and Repayment Policy

A student who withdraws or is administratively withdrawn from Midwestern State University (MSU) may be eligible to receive a refund for all or a portion of the tuition, fees, and room/board charges that were paid to MSU for the semester. However, if the student received financial aid (federal/state/institutional grants, loans, and/or scholarships), all or a portion of the refund may be returned to the financial aid programs. As described below, two formulas (federal and state) exist in determining the amount of the refund. (Examples of each refund calculation will be made available upon request).

Services for Students with Disabilities

In accordance with Section 504 of the Federal Rehabilitation Act of 1973 and the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990, Midwestern State University endeavors to make reasonable accommodations to ensure equal opportunity for qualified persons with disabilities to participate in all educational, social, and recreational programs and activities. After notification of acceptance, students requiring accommodations should make an application for such assistance through Disability Support Services, located in the Clark Student Center, Room 168, (940) 397-4140. Current documentation of a disability will be required in order to provide appropriate services, and each request will be individually reviewed. For more details, please go to [Disability Support Services](#).

College Policies

Campus Carry Rules/Policies

Refer to: [Campus Carry Rules and Policies](#)

Smoking/Tobacco Policy

College policy strictly prohibits the use of tobacco products in any building owned or operated by WATC. Adult students may smoke only in the outside designated smoking areas at each location.

Alcohol and Drug Policy

To comply with the Drug-Free Schools and Communities Act of 1989 and subsequent amendments, students and employees of Midwestern State are informed that strictly enforced policies are in place which prohibit the unlawful possession, use, or distribution of any illicit drugs, including alcohol, on university property or as part of any university-sponsored activity. Students and employees are also subject to all applicable legal sanctions under local, state, and federal law for any offenses involving illicit drugs on University property or at University-sponsored activities.

Campus Carry

Effective August 1, 2016, the Campus Carry law (Senate Bill 11) allows those licensed individuals to carry a concealed handgun in buildings on public university

campuses, except in locations the University establishes as prohibited. The new Constitutional Carry law does not change this process. Concealed carry still requires a License-to-carry permit, and openly carrying handguns is not allowed on college campuses. For more information, visit [Campus Carry](#).

Active Shooter

The safety and security of our campus is the responsibility of everyone in our community. Each of us has an obligation to be prepared to appropriately respond to threats to our campus, such as an active aggressor. Please review the information provided by the MSU Police Department regarding the options and strategies we can all use to stay safe during difficult situations. For more information, visit [MSUReady – Active Shooter](#). Students are encouraged to watch the video entitled “*Run. Hide. Fight.*” which may be electronically accessed via the University police department’s webpage: [“Run. Hide. Fight.”](#)

Grade Appeal Process

Update as needed. Students who wish to appeal a grade should consult the Midwestern State University [MSU Catalog](#)

***Notice:** Changes in the course syllabus, procedure, assignments, and schedule may be made at the discretion of the instructor.

Course Schedule:

Below are a list of the major assignments due for the course. If there is a discrepancy between the dates below and the dates in D2L, let me know but default to the dates in D2L.

Week or Module	Activities/Assignments/Exams	Due Date
Week 1 8/24 to 8/29	Lesson 1.1 Before 1500	No Chapter Summary due
Week 2 8/31 to 9/5	Lesson 1.2 Making It to China by Other Routes	Standard Assignments Due
Week 3 9/7 to 9/12	Lesson 1.3 The Renaissance to the Reformation	Standard Assignments Due
Week 4 9/14 to 9/19	Lesson 2.1 The Expansion of the State	WEIRD World Proposal Due 9/18
Week 5 9/21 to 9/26	Lesson 2.2 The New Global Economy	Standard Assignments Due
Week 6 9/28 to 10/3	Lesson 2.3 Markets Collapse and Limited Monarchy	Standard Assignments Due
Week 7 10/5 to 10/10	Lesson 3.1 Absolutism and World War 0	Standard Assignments Due
Week 8 10/12 to 10/17	Lesson 3.2 A Tale of Two Revolutions	WEIRD World Book Report Due 10/31
Week 9 10/19 to 10/24	Lesson 3.3 Colonialism by Science and Technology	Standard Assignments Due
Week 10 10/26 to 10/31	Lesson 4.1 Peaceful Competition and Not So Peaceful Competition	Standard Assignments Due
Week 11 11/2 to 11/7	Lesson 4.2 The Boom and Bust and Totalitarianism	Standard Assignments Due
Week 12 11/9 to 11/14	Lesson 4.3 World War 2 and the Aftermath	WEIRD World First Draft Due 11/23
Week 13 11/16 to 11/21	Lesson 5.1 Applying and Maintaining Containment	Standard Assignments Due
Week 14 11/30 to 12/5	Lesson 5.2 A Snapshot of the Contemporary World	Standard Assignments Due
Week 15 12/7 to 12/10	Lesson 5.3 Final Things	WEIRD World Second Draft Due 12/10

Note: Tables are already set up for compliance. If you wish to add another table, make sure to do the correct compliance setup for tables which you can find in the [How To – Word Doc ADA Compliance PDF](#).