College of Arts and Letters

HIST 51: World History from 1500 to the Present.

Section 1, Summer 2021 (12-week session) ver. 5-18-21

Part 1: Course information

Time and place: Asynchronous web online with no class meetings.

Instructor information

Instructor: Aaron J. Cohen, PhD
Office hours: By appointment via Zoom @
https://csus.zoom.us/my/cohenofficehours.
E-mail: cohenaj@csus.edu.

Catalog description

A survey of the increased inter-connections of the world's civilizations from the conquest of the Americas to the dawn of the 21st century. Explores the history of the human community's political development, culture diversity, and economic globalization.

Registration details

Graded: Graded Student.
Units: 3.0.
Prerequisite: None.
GE area: **C2 (Humanities).**

Course description

World history in modern times is in part the story of worldwide attempts to respond, through resistance and accommodation, to the challenges of a new global civilization and its political, economic, and ecological disruptions. Amid the energies of intellectual revolution, nation-state building, and industrialization emerged a Europe that took over the world in the nineteenth century but almost destroyed itself in the twentieth. European institutions and ideas became so influential that "modern" and "Western" became synonymous as European imperialism and cultural power swept the globe. Yet this global international culture ceased to be exclusively European as people engaged it, both willingly and unwillingly, in East Asia, the Americas, Africa, the Islamic world, and elsewhere. The cultural conflict, economic transformation, ecological destruction, and political strife that came with this globalization continue to this day.

Textbooks and course materials

Required texts (please make sure to obtain the correct editions). You have several options, so please read this section carefully and ask any questions.

1. MindTap (online) History, 1 term (6 months) Instant Access for Bulliet/Crossley/Headrick/Hirsch/Johnson/Northrup's *The Earth and Its Peoples: A Global History Volume II* (see below).

2. *The Human Record, Volume II: Since 1500,* **Eighth Edition ONLY** (Andrea/Overfield). 2016. You may use a hard copy or an ebook (see below).

You have two options to purchase this material (please read with care):

Option 1. The materials required for this class (Mindtap for *Earth and Its Peoples* and *The Human Record*) are all included in ONE Cengage Unlimited subscription. For $119.99 per semester, you get access to ALL your Cengage eTextbooks and online homework in ONE place.

OR

Option 2. If you would like to have a physical copy of *The Human Record*, you can sign up for the online Mindtap separately ($80). You can then rent ($37.90), buy used ($71.25), or buy new ($94.75) *The Human Record* from the CSUS bookstore or other booksellers (price unknown). The ISBN for the physical copy of *The Human Record* is 9781285870243. **Please make sure to allow for extended shipping times if you purchase physical books through Amazon or a textbook site.**

With either **option 1** or **option 2**, you will need to register with Cengage.

To access your course materials and explore Cengage Unlimited or the standalone Mindtap, sign in to Canvas and navigate to this course. Click on the "Getting Started with Mindtap" link in module 0 or any Cengage assignment in this class. From there, create your Cengage account or sign in to an existing one and follow the instructions to complete the registration process.

You can find further information about the Cengage options and sign-up process here: https://startstrong.cengage.com/mindtap-canvas-ia-no/.

At that time, you will be given the option to sign up for Cengage Unlimited (**option 1)** or the standalone Mindtap (**option 2**, in which case you will have to buy a physical *Human Record* separately). You will need to pay for access using a credit or debit card or PayPal. **Please create the account with your official CSUS first and last name and verify that Mindtap is set to Pacific Time.**

Course technology requirements

This course is 100% online and asynchronous. Handouts and assignments are distributed only via Canvas. **Students have a responsibility to access course materials and assignments in a timely manner**; the instructor will not be held responsible for any circumstances, technical or personal, that prevent access to course material. **Students are expected to plan around reasonably-foreseeable scheduled power outages, COVID-19 physical distancing restrictions, planned travel, and work schedules.**

All required technology is available at low or no cost through student support services at Sac State. Students may use personal computers or similar devices, but they must meet the following requirements:

- High-speed internet connection.
- Access to Canvas throughout the semester.
- Ability to use Zoom (for office hours) and Microsoft Word software.

Technical assistance

For technical questions, please:

- See [Canvas for Students](#) for common Canvas questions and solutions.
- Email [the Academic Technology Center](#) in AIRC 2005.
- Call (916) 278-7337.

For course content questions, please contact the instructor by email or post to the course discussion boards.

Basic needs support

If you are experiencing challenges with food, housing, financial or other unique circumstances that are impacting your education, help is just a phone call or email away! The CARES office provides case management support for any enrolled student. Email the CARES office at cares@csus.edu to speak with a case manager about the resources available to you. Check out the [CARES website](#).

Inform your instructor of any accommodations needed

If you have a documented disability and verification from the [Office of Services to Students with Disabilities (SSWD)](#) and wish to discuss academic accommodations, please contact your instructor as soon as possible. It is the student's responsibility to provide documentation of disability to SSWD and meet with a SSWD counselor to request special accommodation *before* classes start. SSWD is located in Lassen Hall 1008 and can be contacted by phone at (916) 278-6955 (Voice) (916) 278-7239 (TDD only) or via email at sswd@csus.edu.

Covid-19 related information

If you are sick, stay home and do not attend class. Notify your instructor. If you are experiencing any COVID-like symptoms (fever, cough, sore throat, muscle aches, loss of smell or taste, nausea, diarrhea, or headache) or have had exposure to someone who has tested positive for COVID contact Student Health & Counseling Services (SHCS) at 916-278-6461 to receive guidance and/or medical care. You are asked to report any possible COVID related illnesses/exposures to SHCS via this [COVID-19 Illness/Exposure Report Form](#). Expect a call from SHCS within 24 hours.

Students in quarantine must contact the instructor to arrange an accommodation for missed course assignments, if necessary.

All students are expected to behave according to the [Hornet honor code](#).

Part 2: Course objectives

Course learning objectives

At the end of this course, students will be able to:

- Recount a broad outline of global history from the sixteenth century CE to the present.
- Practice written communication, critical thinking, and other skills necessary for professional development in history, teaching, and related occupations.
- Recognize something interesting about the world and about the self.

Specific course learning objectives will be given in each Canvas module.

GE Area C2 learning outcomes

At the end of this course, students will be able to:

- Demonstrate knowledge of the conventions and methods of the study of the humanities.
- Investigate, describe, and analyze the roles and effects of human culture and understanding in the development of human societies.
- Compare and analyze various conceptions of humankind.
- Demonstrate knowledge and understanding of the historical development of cultures and civilizations, including their animating ideas and values.

Part 3: Course assignment categories

Students will meet the learning objectives through satisfactory completion of the following activities in this course. **Details on rubrics, grading criteria, and other assignment information are posted on the Canvas site.** All deadlines are Pacific Time.

I. Mindtap *Earth and Its Peoples* exercises

The purpose of the Mindtap exercises is to reinforce retention of reading material and engage students in active learning in each module. These exercises will vary in content and format throughout the semester (they include readings, quizzes, review exercises, and videos), but must be completed **before 11:59 p.m. Friday in the FIRST week of each module.** No late work accepted.

II. *Human Record* commentaries

The *Human Record* commentary is a place where students can present their own ideas about readings from *The Human Record* assigned for each module. This assignment is a short answer (at least 250 words in length) to **any single (1)**

question from the list of **"Questions for Analysis"** located before **any** *Human Record* primary source reading **assigned for that module**. **A *Human Record* commentary must be submitted before 11:59 pm Friday in the FIRST week of each module.** No late work accepted.

III. Participation

The participation category has two parts and uses the Canvas discussion boards. Late work is accepted inside the module but with a penalty.

1. **Short answer** (50% of participation grade). Students must post **one (1) short answer** on the appropriate discussion board to one (1) study question listed on the Canvas assignment page for each module. **Short answers must be posted before 11:59 p.m. Tuesday in the SECOND week of each module to receive full credit AND**

- Use formal writing style appropriate for university-level work (that is, correct grammar, punctuation, spelling, and paragraph structure).
- Have at least 250 words.
- Contain a thesis statement or argument located near the front of the answer and written in **bold face**.

In your short answer, **use at least two (2) specific, detailed, and relevant examples** from the source readings in *The Human Record* as well as relevant specific historical details that you have studied in Mindtap *Earth and Its Peoples* in this module. For excellent performance, use at least four (4) *Human Record* examples. Answers must also be at least 250 words long.

2. **Engagement** (50% of participation grade). Students must:

a) **Read** all Canvas pages, assigned readings, and postings by other students.

b) **Post** at least **one (1) individual question** of any length about the topic. **Individual questions must be posted before 11:59 p.m. Tuesday in the SECOND week of each module to receive full credit.** There are no restrictions on the number or type of questions that you post except that they be serious questions about the module content that you would like to have answered, not "teacher" questions that attempt to test what other students know. Questions therefore may involve:

- Readings or class participation.
- The historical background of events related to the module topic.
- Ideas that other students have posted.
- Requests for factual clarification about the module topic.

c) **Post** at least **one (1) follow-up response** with significant content to other students. **The FIRST follow-up response must be posted before 11:59 p.m. Wednesday in the SECOND week of each module to receive full**

credit, but you may post additional follow-up responses for more credit before 11:59 p.m. Friday. The goal is to help others, so responses should contribute to the improvement of another student's short answer or answer another student's question. Response posts **do not** have to be written as formal papers, but for satisfactory performance they must contribute through relevant, specific, and accurate examples from the assigned sources or relevant, specific, and accurate historical details.

d) **Watch** the instructor's video linked to Mediasite from the Canvas module **before 11:59 p.m. Thursday in the SECOND week of each module.** During this session the instructor will answer questions from the discussion board and course material each module and address student interests related to the course. **Note: Videos must be watched in full and before the deadline to receive full credit. Students must also use the Mediasite links on the Canvas assignments page AND submit a satisfactory short answer in the module to receive credit for viewing.**

Additional follow-up responses (see c above) and late module participation work must be completed **before 11:59 p.m. Friday in the SECOND week of each module.** No late work will be accepted FOR ANY REASON after this deadline.

IV. Essays 1 and 2

There are **two (2)** formal essays based on the participation study questions. Details will be posted on the Canvas site. Late work accepted with a penalty.

V. Final essay

There is **one (1)** final formal essay assignment that is a summative paper. Details will be posted on the Canvas site. No late work accepted.

Part 4: Course schedule

Note: Detailed assignments are not listed here but on the relevant Canvas assignment page. They must be completed for the module listed. **The instructor may add readings or assignments or alter the schedule for special events as needed. Changes will be communicated via email or Canvas.**

Module 1 (June 1 through June 11). How this course works. Read Mindtap *Earth and Its Peoples* Getting Started with Mindtap video, preface; *Human Record* preface, Prologue: Primary Sources and How We Read Them. **Note: Second-week assignments for module 1 overlap with the first week of module 2.**

Module 2 (June 5 through June 18). The early modern world. Read *Earth* chapters 17, 20, 21; *Record* chapters 1 (pp. 16-38), 2, 4.

Module 3 (June 19 through July 2). The world that trade made. Read *Earth* chapters 16, 18, 19; *Record* chapters 1 (pp. 6-16), 3.

Module 4 (July 3 through July 16). The revolutionary origins of modern culture. Read *Earth* chapters 22, 23, 25; *Record* chapters 5, 6, 7.

Essay 1 due before 11:59 p.m. Saturday, July 17, in the online drop box. Late papers will receive a full grade penalty.

Module 5 (July 17 through July 30). Imperialism and the conquest of the globe. Read *Earth* chapters 24, 26, 27; *Record* chapters 8, 9, 10.

Module 6 (July 31 through August 13). The twentieth century: A world of extremes. Read *Earth* chapters 28, 29, 30; *Record* chapters 11, 12. **Note: Second-week assignments for module 6 overlap with the first week of module 7.**

Module 7 (August 7 through August 20). The "end of history"? Read *Earth* chapters 31, 32, 33; *Record* chapters 13, 14.

Essay 2 due before 11:59 p.m. Saturday, August 21, in the online drop box. Late papers will receive a full grade penalty.

Final essay due before 11:59 p.m. Sunday, August 22, in the online drop box. Final deadline for late essays 1 and 2. No late papers after this deadline.

Important policies: Course deadlines are enforced by Canvas and cannot be extended for any reason. Keep copies of all your work on a hard drive, flash drive, or paper in the event of computer malfunction or other technical problem.

Part 5: Grading policy

Graded course activities

The final course grade will be based on the average grade for each activity category. **In categories I-III the highest five (5) module scores will be averaged into the overall category grade -- i.e., the lowest two (2) scores will be dropped -- to allow for circumstances that might cause students to miss assignments.** Missing work will be scored as 0.

Each category will be combined using this weighting:

Category	Assignment	% of final grade
I	Mindtap *Earth and Its Peoples* exercises	15
II	*Human Record* commentaries	15

III	Participation (combination of short answers and online engagement)	40
IV	Essays 1 and 2	20
V	Final essay	10

To pass the class, students must demonstrate passing competence in at least half (50%) of assigned work across all categories (that is, students must pass at least half of all assignment categories). In this class, then, students who fail more than two categories will fail the course.

Late work

Be sure to pay close attention to deadlines as **there will be no makeups for online work after each module closes FOR ANY REASON. Inside each module, late participation assignments in week 2 will be accepted with a penalty, but individual assignments in week 1 will not be accepted after posted deadlines.** Essays 1 and 2 may be turned in late before the end of the course with a grade penalty. Late essays will normally be graded at the end of the semester, except upon request by the student directly to the instructor.

These late policies will be in force also for reasonably-foreseeable scheduled power outages, COVID-19 physical distancing restrictions, planned travel, and work schedules. Students are expected to be aware of technical and social limits that may impact their area of residence and to plan around them by completing work in advance and notifying the instructor for necessary accommodations.

Viewing grades in Canvas

Marks received for graded activities will be posted in the Canvas grade book. The instructor will update the online grades each time a grading session has been complete (typically 7 days after the completion of an activity).

Letter grade assignment

Grades for most work are given as letter grades, calculated and averaged using a 12-point system. Some assignments may be graded on a percentage basis. All are computed and rounded by Canvas or Excel.

Letter grade earned	Points used in calculation	Percentage equivalent	GPA equivalent	Standard
A	12	93-100	4.0	Excellent work
A-	11	90-92	3.7	Nearly excellent work

B+	10	87-89	3.3	Very good work
B	9	83-86	3.0	Good work
B-	8	80-82	2.7	Mostly good work
C+	7	77-79	2.3	Above average work
C	6	73-76	2.0	Average work
C-	5	70-72	1.7	Mostly average work
D+	4	67-69	1.3	Below average work
D	3	63-67	1.0	Poor work
D-	2	60-62	0.7	Very poor work
F	1	59 and below	0.0	Failing work
F	0	0	0.0	Not attempted

Note: Formal written essays are reviewed using the Canvas Turnitin tool for writing feedback and originality check purposes.

Part 6: Course policies

Expectations for student behavior

Students who take this course vary in their personal interests and educational background. All are welcome. This course is different in format from lecture courses, so mistakes, confusion, and technical problems will challenge us. The instructor will be flexible and tolerant. Students must also be flexible and tolerant.

Students **must** be **ready** to:

- Learn course material and complete assignments as **mature individuals.**
- Post questions and **contribute** to online participation.
- Use good netiquette: be respectful, cordial, and mindful of other students. Emoticons and symbols like :) and #!@$ are highly encouraged to let other students know the emotions behind your statements.
- **Not take personally** gentle reminders that may come from the instructor or other students (web classes need constant interaction and monitoring).
- **Be patient** with the instructor and other students.

Students have the responsibility to learn and to teach themselves using material provided by the instructor and other students. They must be willing to devote significant time to prepare for this course and participate online, including the hours normally spent in lecture in addition to other study time as needed. **You will find this class difficult if you are not able to keep deadlines for assignments or if you do not read and understand the posted web material or follow instructions.** Contact the instructor early if you have any trouble understanding what is expected from you.

Expectations for instructor behavior

The instructor must be ready to:

- **Log on daily** to follow discussion threads and respond to student questions.
- Serve **not** as the **Source of All Truth** but as a **guide** for students as they teach themselves.
- **Respond quickly** to student inquiries within twenty-four hours and return course work within seven days after due dates (unless there are extenuating circumstances, in which case students will be informed).
- **Be patient** with students.

Note: The instructor has **not** devised this course to make your life and your learning experience more difficult, but to make it **easier, more convenient, and more interesting**. If you have problems or constructive suggestions, please let me know so that improvements can be made.

Build rapport

If you find that you have any trouble keeping up with assignments or other aspects of the course, make sure you let your instructor know as early as possible. As you will find, building rapport and effective relationships are key to becoming an effective professional. Make sure that you are proactive in informing your instructor when difficulties arise during the semester so that we can help you find a solution.

General online policies

All students and the instructor in this class agree to abide by the following rule of online conduct: there will be no swearing, threats, insults, slurs, or intimidation directed at fellow students or the instructor, even in jest. Students who do not abide by this rule will receive one warning. After the second warning, the student may be barred from participating and receive an F for the course.

Because Canvas is a closed system, only people registered in this class have access to the course. No personal data will be requested or stored without the written permission of the student. Any questionnaires or surveys given to students will be anonymous and voluntary.

Complete assignments

All assignments for this course will be submitted electronically through Canvas. Assignments must be submitted by the given deadline. Late or missing assignments will impact the student's grade.

Understand when you may drop this course

It is the student's responsibility to understand when they need to consider disenrolling from a course. Refer to the Sac State Course Schedule for dates and deadlines for registration. After this period, a serious and compelling reason is required to drop from the course. Serious and compelling reasons include documented and significant change in work hours, leaving student unable to attend class, or documented and severe physical or mental illness or injury to the student or student's family.

Incomplete policy

Under emergency or special circumstances students may petition for an incomplete grade. Incompletes will not be given except for a documented emergency that prevents completion of the final assignments (missing online work is not eligible).

Communication policy

The instructor monitors email daily and will respond when contacted with questions. Normally a response should come immediately, but students should wait at least 24 hours before sending follow-up communications. **The instructor will normally give feedback on assignments only through Canvas course rubrics** but is happy to provide more individualized feedback by email or Zoom. **The instructor will normally NOT intervene on discussion boards** except to answer questions directed at him, monitor for unacceptable behavior, or make occasional comments. **Any changes to the course will be communicated by email and Canvas.**

Please see the instructor for more personalized feedback during office hours or by appointment.

Part 7: Commit to integrity

By taking this class you agree to abide by the guidelines described in this syllabus and on the academic honesty page available on the Canvas site.

Students must respect the intellectual property of others in this class. Make sure to cite sources of other people's ideas; do not pass them off as your own. Copying from other students, assigned course work, or outside web sites without quotation and attribution will be treated as plagiarism and dealt with according to university policy. Students who plagiarize will be warned and receive an F for that assignment. On the second infraction, the student will receive an F for the course.

Turnitin tool

Formal written essays in this course may be reviewed using the Canvas Turnitin tool for grading and originality check purposes.

Consistent with Sacramento State's efforts to enhance student learning, foster honesty, and maintain integrity in our academic processes, instructors may use a tool called Turnitin to compare a student's work with multiple sources. The tool compares each student's work with an extensive database of prior publications and papers, providing links to possible matches and a "similarity score." The tool does not determine whether plagiarism has occurred or not. Instead, the instructor must make a complete assessment and judge the originality of the student's work.

Students should submit essays to Turnitin assignments without identifying information included in the paper (e.g., name or student number), the system will automatically show this info to faculty in your course when viewing the submission, but the information will not be retained by Turnitin.

Sac State's academic honesty policy & procedures

"The principles of truth and honesty are recognized as fundamental to a community of scholars and teachers. California State University, Sacramento expects that both faculty and students will honor these principles, and in so doing, will protect the integrity of academic work and student grades."

Read more about Sac State's [Academic Honesty Policy & Procedures.](#)

Definitions (from the Sacramento State University Library)

At Sac State, "**cheating** is the act of obtaining or attempting to obtain credit for academic work through the use of any dishonest, deceptive, or fraudulent means."

"**Plagiarism** is a form of cheating." At Sac State, "plagiarism is the use of distinctive ideas or works belonging to another person without providing adequate acknowledgement of that person's contribution."

> **Important notes:** Any form of academic dishonesty, including cheating and plagiarism, may be reported to the office of student affairs. **This syllabus and course policies are subject to change in the event of extenuating circumstances or typographical errors.** Any changes will be announced in class and posted on Canvas. It is the student's responsibility to check Canvas for corrections or updates to the syllabus.