

HIST-207-01
Empires and the Atlantic World to 1800
Spring 2023 (March 2-May 1)

Instructor: Ms. Ashley Gilbert

Office Hours: Zoom/Google Hangouts, by appointment

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Course Description:

The central focus of this course will be on pre-colonialization societies, colonization, and the Age of Revolutions while giving agency to Africans, Native Americans, and Europeans. These three groups played vital roles in the creation of an Atlantic World. From contact in 1492 to the Haitian Revolution, the interactions and decisions of these groups had global impacts. This course will look at the construction of an Atlantic World and the preservation, changes, and growth of cultures and societies.

History is much more than just memorizing facts. Students will practice thinking critically as historians by analyzing evidence and learning to ask questions that illuminate historical context. Students will learn to analyze different types of evidence—narratives, diaries, drawings, and photographs—and hone historical and critical thinking and reading skills applicable beyond the field of history.

Because of its broad historical sweep, the various topics covered in this course do not claim to be comprehensive. No single course can cover all the crucial issues of Atlantic World history.

Online Course Disclaimer: *This course is entirely online and asynchronous.* There will be no set meeting days or times for class; students are responsible for logging in regularly and completing their coursework on time. There will be a Canvas Page published at the beginning of each week that details what students should read, watch, and submit for that week. Lectures for each week will be recorded, uploaded to Canvas, and either linked to or embedded within that week's Canvas Page.

General Education Historical Perspectives (GHP) Student Learning Outcomes:

1. Use a historical approach to analyze and contextualize primary and secondary sources representing divergent perspectives.
2. Use evidence to interpret the past coherently, orally and/or in writing.

General Education Global Non-Western Perspectives SLO:

1. Interpret or evaluate information on diverse cultures.
2. Describe interconnections among cultures, polities, and/or intellectual traditions of the world other than the dominant Euro-American ones.
3. Use diverse cultural frames of reference and alternative perspectives to analyze issues.

“MAC” (Minerva’s Academic Curriculum) SLO:

1. Describe dynamic elements of different cultures. These elements may include (but are not limited to) aesthetic systems, communication systems, economics, physical environments, ethics, gender norms, geography, history, politics, religious principles, or social beliefs, norms and practices.

2. Explain how similarities, differences, and connections among different groups of people or environmental systems affect one another over time and place.

Course Specific Student Learning Outcomes (SLO):

1. Explain the significance of the major events, people, and debates in the history of the Atlantic.
2. Engage in historical thinking to contextualize, interpret, and analyze primary and secondary texts to determine validity and reliability and connect them to the larger themes in Atlantic World history.
3. Assess and compare changes in various racial, ethnic, religious, and gender norms and expectations that shaped the Atlantic World.
4. Analyze written texts to understand how they relate to particular audiences, purposes, and contexts as a way to inform one's own writing.
5. Create and revise written texts for particular audiences, purposes, and contexts.

Course Instructor Expectations:

- The instructor will provide feedback on all assessments within 24-48 business hours.
- The instructor monitors all discussion posts and provides feedback when appropriate.
- The instructor will answer all emails from students within 24 business hours on weekdays and 48 hours on weekends.
- Any course updates and new information will be sent via course announcement in Canvas as early in the week as possible.

Student Expectations:

- Plan to spend at least 2-5 hours a week completing this course. This time includes reviewing the module, submitting your assessments, and participating in the discussions.
- If you are unable to meet a deadline or experience a personal issue, please notify the instructor immediately.
- Be respectful of others in your discussion posts and replies. Your feedback should be constructive and sensitive. Think about the replies that you would want to receive. Please review these netiquette guidelines for the course.
- If you have a specific question about your course, email the course instructor. If you have a general question about the specific topic that week, use the Q & A discussion forum so that everyone can share their answers. Your question and the answer may benefit others in the course.
- Abide by the University's Honor Code in all the work you do for your courses.

Required Texts: Throughout the semester, we will examine various sources, including videos, artwork, and primary and secondary source documents. *There is no required textbook for this course.* Instead, each week's primary and secondary readings will be linked through Canvas as PDFs or through the syllabus. If any readings change over the semester, students will be alerted by an advance announcement.

Course Requirements:

Quizzes (GHP 1; SLO 1, 2, 3; GN 1):

Occasionally, the instructor will assign short quizzes of the lecture content and readings for a particular week. Quizzes allow the instructor to assess how well students are understanding and interpreting the historical content from the reading. These short formative assessments also help prepare students for the summative exam that will occur at the end of the course.

Quizzes will be in short answer format. When assigned, quizzes will be published on Canvas at the beginning of the week. Students may take the quiz as many times as they would like up to the due date and time. The instructor will grade and provide feedback for the most recent submission.

When assigned, quizzes will be due on Sunday evenings by 11:59 PM.

Short Reading Assignments (GHP 2; SLO 1, 2; GN 1, 2, 3; MAC SLO 1, 2):

Students will be required to complete a short assignment each week based the readings, primary and secondary.

We will learn more about primary sources in week one of the course. For the assignments, students are required to answer questions that address the assigned secondary readings and primary source documents for the week.

Assignments will be due on Sundays by 11:59 PM

Film Analysis (GHP 1, GN 1, 2, SLO 1; MAC 1, 2):

There will be one film analysis for this course. The film will be around 50 minutes and students will then be asked to write a short reflection on how the film relates to course materials and how it engages in a larger narrative of history.

Film Analysis Due: Sunday, April 9, by 11: 59 PM

Exam: (GHP 2; SLO 1, 2, 3): Due to the short nature of this course, there will be one exam at the end of the semester. This exam will be skills and content-driven, based largely on lectures, class discussions, readings, and videos.

Exam will be due Friday, May 5, by 11:59 PM

Evaluation: Grades will be based on four different aspects of student performance: (1) quizzes, (2) weekly discussion boards, (3) Film Analysis, and (4) Exam. The final grade will be determined according to the following calculation:

Quizzes:	15% total
Assignments:	40% total
Film Analysis:	10% total
Exam:	<u>35% total</u>
	100% total

Grading Scale: Your overall course grade will be based on the above-listed tests and assignments, and will be determined on the following scale:

93-100:	A
90-92:	A-
87-89:	B+
83-86:	B
80-82:	B-
77-79:	C+
73-76:	C

70-72:	C-
67-69:	D+
63-66:	D
60-62:	D-
Below 59.5:	F

Late Policy: Assignments are due on the dates and at the times listed in the course schedule. A late assignment will receive 1 point off for each day it is late (including holidays and weekends). If you anticipate being unable to turn in an assignment on time, you will need to contact me via email or Canvas **before** the day the assignment is due.

Communication and Importance of Reading the Syllabus: It is always important to read a course syllabus carefully. Students are responsible for understanding the content of the syllabus and adhering to the policies, expectations, and guidelines listed for the course.

Students should check their emails and Canvas frequently. In addition to in-class announcements, this is how information and updates about the course will be communicated. It is vital to check emails regularly to ensure information is not missed. *Please also make sure that you have Canvas set to send any course announcements to your school email automatically.*

Syllabus Modifications: I reserve the right to modify or alter any part of the syllabus as the course progresses. It is your responsibility to watch for any class announcements about alterations. **Subscribe to Canvas Announcements.**

Academic Integrity: All work must be your own. UNCG prohibits any and all forms of academic dishonesty. The university defines plagiarism as “Representing the words, thoughts, or ideas of another, as one’s own in any academic exercise.” For examples of plagiarism, see the following: <https://osrr.uncg.edu/academic-integrity/violations-and-sanctions/plagiarism/>. Students who engage in academic dishonesty (such as plagiarizing part of a paper or cheating on an exam) will receive a zero and will be referred to the Office of Student Conduct for appropriate action, including suspension or expulsion. **Do not attempt it.**

It is the student’s responsibility to know what constitutes academic integrity and to be familiar with UNCG policies which can be found here: <https://osrr.uncg.edu/academic-integrity/>.

Diversity Statement: I consider this online classroom to be a place where you will be treated with respect, and I welcome individuals of all ages, backgrounds, beliefs, ethnicities, genders, gender identities, gender expressions, national origins, religious affiliations, sexual orientations, ability, and other visible and nonvisible differences. All members of this class are expected to contribute to a respectful, welcoming, and inclusive environment for every other member of the class.

Name/Pronouns: Please advise me early in the semester so that I may make appropriate changes to my records.

Resources:

Useful Resources: UNCG provides a variety of useful services for students that focus on writing, speaking, and researching. Check them out!

History Department Website: <https://his.uncg.edu/>

History Department Facebook Page: <https://www.facebook.com/UNCGDepartmentofHistory/>

UNCG History Club Facebook Page: <https://www.facebook.com/pages/category/College---University/UNCG-History-Club-330609154061135/>

Jackson Library Website: <https://library.uncg.edu>

Writing Center Website: <https://writingcenter.uncg.edu/>

Speaking Center Website: <https://speakingcenter.uncg.edu>

***In the case of a personal or family emergency, contact the Dean of Students office, and they will contact all your instructors: deanofstudents@uncg.edu; (336) 334-5514.**

Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA): UNCG seeks to adhere to the ADA and provide equal access to a college education. Students with any questions or needs related to academic accommodations for disabilities should contact the Office of Accessibility Resources and Services (OARS), located in the Elliot University Center, Suite 215. For more information, please see <https://ods.uncg.edu>.

COVID-19 STATEMENT:

As we return for spring 2023, please uphold UNCG's culture of care to limit the spread of covid-19 and other airborne illnesses. These actions include, but are not limited to:

- Engaging in proper hand-washing hygiene
- Self-monitoring for symptoms of covid-19
- Staying home when ill
- Complying with directions from health care providers or public health officials to isolate if ill
- Completing a [self-report](#) when experiencing covid-19 symptoms or testing positive for covid-19
- Following the CDC's [exposure guidelines](#) when exposed to someone who has tested positive for covid-19
- Staying informed about the University's policies and announcements via the [covid-19](#) website