NEW IDEAS AND CULTURAL ENCOUNTERS

Of all the courses in the Making of the Modern World sequence, MMW 13 arguably best fits the billing of the sequence title. It is in this course that we will examine the various catalysts—technology, trade, exploration, conquest, social crisis, religious and philosophical trends, etc.—that crystallized into what historians understand as the “modern world.” Covering the period from roughly 1200 to 1750 CE, this course traces the global transitions from a provincial to a more cosmopolitan outlook on the world, from a static to a more dynamic response to new challenges, from a fatalistic to a more enterprising attitude towards human agency. In essence, we will explore the very patterns of change that ultimately shaped the familiar yet complex terrain of modernity.

An equally important component of this course is its emphasis on developing your critical reading and scholarly writing skills to a level that is commensurate with university requirements. As such, on top of lectures, the writing and research instruction you receive from your TAs in section represents a crucial component of the course.

**Required Course Texts:**
- Course Reader (University Readers)
  - Order by phone: 800-200-3908
  - Order online: [http://www.universityreaders.com](http://www.universityreaders.com)

All books are available for purchase at the UCSD bookstore. A copy of the Course Reader will be held on reserve at the library.

**Course Requirements:**
- Two midterm examinations (First 13%; second 7 %)
- Final examination (35 %)
- Writing Assignments (35 % combined)
- Section participation and weekly quizzes (10 %)

To pass the course, you must satisfy all course requirements; i.e., you must take all exams, turn in all writing assignments to section instructor and [www.turnitin.com](http://www.turnitin.com), and attend all section discussions.

**Examinations:**
There will be two midterm exams in this course. Each will be designed to assess your grasp of the previous weeks’ reading and lecture material. They will generally consist of a variety of objective questions, so if you have attended the lectures consistently, read
and critically engaged the course material, you can expect to do quite well on these assessments. The final exam will be cumulative in scope and will include an essay section along with objective questions.

Make-up exams will only be granted in extreme and exceptional emergencies, in which case, valid documentation will need to be provided. They may be given in a different format and include different content.

If you arrive more than 10 minutes late to an exam, you will forfeit your right to take the exam.

**Reading Assignments:**
The true gem of any MMW course, I believe, is in the readings that instructors assign. Not only will you get more out of the lectures and discussions completing the readings by the dates indicated, but you will also assure yourself a more meaningful and personal engagement with the diverse human cultures covered in the course.

You are required to complete assigned readings for the day of lecture; furthermore, you are expected to come to section prepared to discuss texts and issues related to the week’s readings and lectures. **Weekly quizzes** will help to make sure you are caught up on the week’s readings.

**Students with Disabilities:**
Students requesting accommodations and services due to a disability for this course need to provide a current Authorization for Accommodation (AFA) letter issued by the Office for Students with Disabilities (OSD), prior to eligibility for requests. Receipt of AFAs in advance is necessary for appropriate planning for the provision of reasonable accommodations. OSD Academic Liaisons (Vilaya Roberts in the MMW Program) also need to receive current AFA letters. For additional information, contact the Office for Students with Disabilities: 858.534.4382 (V) 858.534.9709 (TTY) - Reserved for people who are deaf or hard of hearing, email: osd@ucsd.edu, OSD Website: <http://disabilities.ucsd.edu>.

**Academic Integrity:**
It is your responsibility to know and observe all the UCSD rules concerning academic integrity and plagiarism. You should familiarize yourself with your responsibilities and rights under the UCSD Student Conduct Code (<http://ugr8.ucsd.edu/judicial/22_00.html>). Any student found to have committed a substantial violation of the university rules concerning academic integrity will fail the entire course and the infraction will be noted permanently on your academic record. A second offense will generally result in permanent expulsion from the university.

If you have any questions about what constitutes plagiarism, how to credit the work and ideas of others properly, how to evaluate sources for quality and reliability, or any other related issues, please feel free to talk to your TA and/or me to discuss the matter.
MMW 13 COURSE SYLLABUS

ECONOMIC NETWORKS IN ASIA AND AFRICA

**Week One**

3/30 Introduction to Course Themes  
**TED:** Buck, “Was it Pluck or Luck that Made the West Grow Rich?”

4/1 The Impact of the Mongol Conquests  
**Bentley:** 352-366  
**Reader:** Barfield “The Mongol Conquests”  
Kuyuk Khan “Letter to Pope Innocent IV”

4/3 Mongols in China: The Yuan Dynasty  
**Reader:** Rossabi “Muslims in the Early Yuan Dynasty”  
“The Book of Ser Marco Polo”

**Week Two**

4/6 Expeditions in the Ming Dynasty  
**Bentley:** 447-448; 453-455  
**Reader:** Ma Huan “The Overall Survey of the Ocean’s Shores”  
“Cheng Ho: Maritime Expeditions”  
Zheng Ho “Inscriptions to the Goddess”

4/8 Trade Networks in East Africa  
**Bentley:** 379-382  
**Reader:** “The Cities of the Zanj and the Indian Ocean Trade”  
Pearson, “The Swahili Coast in the Afrasian Sea”

4/10 Trade Networks in West Africa  
**Bentley:** 370-379; 382-388; 434-441  
**Reader:** “The Land of Ghana” and “The Land of Seyon”  
Ibn Battuta “Travels in Mali”  
“Mansa Musa: The King Who Sits on a Mountain of Gold”

**DAR AL-ISLAM: THE ABODE OF ISLAM**

**Week Three**

4/13 The Ottoman Empire  
**Bentley:** 594-598; 603-613  
**Reader:** Quataert “Ottoman Inter-Communal Relations”  
Oigier de Busbecq “Suleyman the Lawgiver”

4/15 The Safavid Empire  
**Bentley:** 598-601  
**Reader:** “Sunni versus Shi’ite: ‘We Exhort You to Embrace True Faith!’”  
“The Safavid Shi’ite Empire of Persia”  
“Shah Abbas the Great”

4/17 Muslim Rulers in India  
**Bentley:** 601-603  
**Reader:** Ibn Battuta, *Travels in Asia and Africa, 1325-1354*, excerpts  
Zia ud-din Barni “The Dilemma of a Muslim Ruler in India”  
Al-Biruni “Descriptions of India”  
Bada’uni “Akbar and Religion”

**Week Four**

4/20 ***First Midterm***
EUROPE’S GLOBAL EXPANSION AND ITS IMPACT

4/22  The Race for Trade Routes  
**Bentley:** 464-472  
**Reader:** Thornton “The Birth of an Atlantic World”

4/24  The Portuguese Intrusion  
**Bentley:** 472-480  
**Reader:** “Kilwa, Mombasa, and the Portuguese”
Duarte Barbosa “The Portuguese in Africa and India”
Gaspard Correa “Cut Off Their Ears, Hands, and Noses!”

**Week Five**

4/27  Conquest of the Aztecs  
**Bentley:** 522-541  
**Reader:** Sahagun “The Battle for Tenochtitlan: An Aztec Perspective”

4/29  Economies of Exploitation—Americas  
**Reader:** “Land and Labor in Spanish America”
De Las Casas “Persecutor Turns Protector”
De Las Casas “The Black Legend”

5/1  Economies of Exploitation—Africa  
**Bentley:** 548-568  
**Reader:** Phillips “A Journal of a Voyage Made in the Hannibal of London in 1694”
“Our Kingdom Is Being Lost”
“The Life of Olaudah Equiano”

CATALYSTS FOR CHANGE IN EUROPE

**Week Six**

5/4  The Black Death  
**Bentley:** 445-447  
**Reader:** Boccaccio “A Most Terrible Plague”
Aberth, selections from *The Black Death*
Dols, “Conclusions” from *The Black Death in the Middle East*

5/6  Hysteria and Scapegoating  
**Reader:** Aberth “Jewish Pogroms”
Boase, “The Muslim Expulsion from Spain”

5/8  The Rise of Anti-Semitism in Germany  
**Reader:** Hsia “A Ritual Murder Trial of Jews in Germany”

**Week Seven**

5/11  ****Second Midterm****

5/13  Development towards Rational Scholasticism  
**Bentley:** 398-405  
**Reader:** Aquinas “Summa Theologica”
Courçon “Statutes for the University of Paris (1215)”
Vergerius “On the New Education”
“College Life: Between Students and Their Fathers”

5/15  The Spirit of Humanism  
**Bentley:** 449-453  
**Reader:** “Oration on the Dignity of Man (1486)”
“The Soul of Man (1474)”
“Art, Architecture, and Music in Florence”
Vasari “Life of Leonardo da Vinci”
**Week Eight**

5/18  Martin Luther the Reformer  
**Bentley:** 492-498  
**Reader:** Luther “Table Talk” and “Ninety-five Theses”  
Iserloh “Luther Between Reform and Reformation”  
“Luther vs. Erasmus: A Reformer’s Attack on Free Will”

5/20  Reactions to the Reformation  
**Reader:** “Decrees from the Council of Trent”  
“The Society of Jesus”  
Wiesner “Nuns, Wives, and Mothers”  
“Protestantism and Women”  
Bijns “Unyoked is Best! Happy the Woman Without a Man”

5/22  Christian Missions in Asia  
**Bentley:** 583-592  
**Reader:** “The Coming of the West”  
“Matteo Ricci: Journals”  
“Closing of the Country”  
Nelson “Myths, Missions, and Mistrust”

THE CHANGING LANDSCAPE OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY

**Week Nine**

5/25  University Holiday

5/27  Conceptual Breakthroughs in the West  
**Bentley:** 508-515  
**Reader:** Van Baumer “The Scientific Revolution in the West”  
Copernicus “The Heliocentric Statement”

5/29  Technology East and West  
**Reader:** Landes “Clocks: A Revolution in Time”  
Shaffer “China, Technology, and Change”  
Needham “Gunpowder and Firearms in Medieval China”

**Week Ten**

6/1  The Scientific Method  
**Bentley:** 515-520  
**Reader:** Francis Bacon “Novum Organum”  
Descartes “I Think, Therefore I Am”  
Isaac Newton “Principia Mathematica”

6/3  Uncertainty on the Cusp of Modernity  
**Reader:** Voltaire “On Universal Toleration”  
Gay “The Modern Pagan”  
“New Tensions in the Western Political Tradition: Absolutism and Parliament”  
Cervantes “Chapter One” from *Don Quixote*

6/5  Conclusion  
**Reader:** Kant “What is Enlightenment?”

***FINAL EXAM Friday, June 12 11:30-2:30 pm***