MMW 13: New Ideas and Cultural Encounters (6 credits)
Professor Ulrike Strasser, Track B
Sections B05 and B06

TA: Sky Michael Johnston
Office: MMW TA Suite, Desk #20
Office Hours: **IN GEISEL LIBRARY** Thursdays 11:30am–12:20pm and 4:00-4:50pm (or by appointment)
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“Give light, and the darkness will disappear of itself.” -Erasmus

Course Objective:
MMW 13 provides a framework for understanding developments in the global past from 1200 CE to 1750 CE and the transition from the medieval to the early modern world. This course is the second of two writing-intensive quarters in the MMW sequence.

Section Objective:
Section has two main purposes: (1) to improve your understanding of the course content from lecture and readings and (2) to improve your critical thinking, reading, writing, studying, listening, and speaking skills.

When you successfully complete this course, you will be better able to:
• Articulate how new ideas and cultural encounters shape the development of the early modern world
• Engage in critical thinking and substantive and respectful discussion of course concepts with peers
• Understand the process of analytical reading and respond to college-level texts with confidence
• Interpret and analyze course material in its historical context
• Make connections between course readings, assignments, and lectures, and focus on important points
• Use evidence and reasoning to support your arguments
• Conduct academic research and use library resources
• Understand the process of writing academic research papers and write coherent, compelling argumentative essays that address a significant issue and accurately use and cite sources
• Produce reflections on your course learning

Letter Grade Requirement: You must take MMW courses for a letter grade. If you have selected Pass/No Pass as a grading option for MMW 13, you should immediately change your option to letter grade, or you will not fulfill the ERC General Education Requirement and will have to take MMW 13 again.

Attendance, Participation, and Section Requirements:
Regular attendance and participation in section is mandatory. Students who miss 5 sections—excused or unexcused—will fail section. Students who miss 7 sections—excused or unexcused—will fail the course. Any absence can lower your grade.
You must arrive on time and be prepared to discuss and write about course material. Consistent tardiness will lower your grade.

You are REQUIRED to bring the current week’s readings to section each meeting. We will be doing hands-on work with this material in the classroom. You are also required to bring paper and a pen to each meeting. You may also bring your computer, but you will be asked to put it away if it is not being used for class work.

You must be present and actively engaged during our in-class activities to receive full credit for section.

In-Class Work, Homework, Quizzes:
An important part of your learning in this course will take place in section. You are expected to participate in all of our in-class work. Your contributions are an important part of everyone’s learning in the course.

I do not give homework assignments for section. This is so that you can finish ALL of the assigned reading on-time, complete the writing assignments, and prepare for quizzes and the final examination.

Quizzes and the final exam will be given in lecture—not in section.

Grading:
Section counts for 10% of the overall class grade. Your grade will be determined by participation in section and lecture.

Students who miss 5 sections—excused or unexcused—will fail section. Students who miss 7 sections—excused or unexcused—will fail the course.

Writing Assignments and Late Policy:
In MMW 13, you are required to write an academic research paper in 5 stages. The assignments will build your research skills and argumentative writing skills. Assignments will be covered in section, along with the MMW “Style Sheet” for guidelines on how to format and submit your papers. Failure to meet ALL criteria for writing assignments will result in the loss of points.

All papers must be turned in directly as a hard copy to me in section, lecture, or office hours, in addition to an electronic copy uploaded to www.turnitin.com. Papers left in my mailbox or the MMW office will not be graded. You will lose one-third of a letter grade for each day a paper is late (including weekends). If you are unable to attend section the day the paper is due, you must make other arrangements to submit your work. In addition to taking the mid-term and final exams and attending section regularly, you must submit ALL writing assignments (both as a hard copy to me and to turnitin.com) in order to pass the course.
Classroom Environment:
Our group of fifteen students and a TA is a small learning community. Each one of us will contribute to what everyone else learns this quarter in section. That is a responsibility we should all take seriously.

Our small community also exists in a specific university context. We are a part of the larger community of UC San Diego. For a statement on the ideals of community life at UCSD see the Principles of Community below. Not all of the principles listed here apply directly to our small community, but they set a tone that we should also strive to maintain in our classroom at all times.

UC San Diego Principles of Community
~ We value each member of the UC San Diego community for his or her individual and unique talents, and applaud all efforts to enhance the quality of campus life. We recognize that each individual's effort is vital to achieving the goals of the University.
~ We affirm each individual's right to dignity and strive to maintain a climate of justice marked by mutual respect for each other.
~ We value the cultural diversity of UC San Diego because it enriches our lives and the University. We celebrate this diversity and support respect for all cultures, by both individuals and the University as a whole.
~ We are a university that adapts responsibly to cultural differences among the faculty, staff, students, and community.
~ We acknowledge that our society carries historical and divisive biases based on race, ethnicity, sex, gender identity, age, disability, sexual orientation, religion, and political beliefs. Therefore, we seek to foster understanding and tolerance among individuals and groups, and we promote awareness through education and constructive strategies for resolving conflict.
~ We reject acts of discrimination based on race, ethnicity, sex, gender identity, age, disability, sexual orientation, religion, and political beliefs, and, we will confront and appropriately respond to such acts.
~ We affirm the right to freedom of expression at UC San Diego. We promote open expression of our individuality and our diversity within the bounds of courtesy, sensitivity, confidentiality, and respect.
~ We are committed to the highest standards of civility and decency toward all. We are committed to promoting and supporting a community where all people can work and learn together in an atmosphere free of abusive or demeaning treatment.
~ We are committed to the enforcement of policies that promote the fulfillment of these principles.

Communicating with Me/Office Hours/Email:
My office hours are Thursdays 11:30am–12:20pm and 4:00-4:50pm in Geisel Library at the tables beside the MMW High Use Shelves (located behind the Research Assistance Desk on the main floor). I will be at my office hours all quarter. That time is set aside for you. If you are busy during those times we can meet another time. I very STRONGLY encourage every student to visit me during office hours in the first two weeks of the quarter. An early meeting will help set you on a successful course for the rest of the quarter. Office hours will be fun if students come. Office hours will be boring (for me) if nobody comes. If I ever suggest that you come to office
hours in my written response on your assignment, it does NOT mean you are in trouble. It means that I have something very specific to go over with you that will improve your work in the class.

The best way to contact me is via email. My email address is smjohnston@ucsd.edu. Do keep in mind, I will only respond to emails for section once per day. This means that you might not receive a response from me until nighttime of the next day. Please include the words “MMW 13” somewhere in your subject heading on each email.

Course Resources:
Course Website: http://ted.ucsd.edu
MMW13 Homepage: http://roosevelt.ucsd.edu/mmw/courses/mmw13.html
UCSD Writing Center: http://writingcenter.ucsd.edu/

Counseling and Psychological Services (CAPS):
College life can be stressful, and it is normal to feel overwhelmed at times. UCSD has a staff of professionals that are available for confidential meetings to discuss any personal concerns you might have. Feel free to contact CAPS at anytime to set up an appointment: http://psychservices.ucsd.edu/#students

Academic Integrity: You are responsible for the honesty and integrity of your academic work at UCSD. The University has a strict policy prohibiting cheating of any kind. If you are suspected of cheating, you will be required to meet with an academic coordinator, who will then discuss your case with the professor. If the professor charges you with misconduct, the professor will determine the penalty for your grade in the course, which can range from deductions to failing the paper, section, or the course. Then you will have to meet with the Dean of Student Affairs, who will determine additional penalties, which can range from failing the course and taking an academic integrity seminar to suspension to expulsion.

Throughout this process, a hold will be put on your grade. Even a first offense can result in a quarter’s suspension, and the standard sanction for a second offense is suspension or permanent dismissal from the university. Any instance of academic misconduct can be recorded in a student’s file. Such a record might interfere with a student’s acceptance into law, medical, or graduate school, or might make that student ineligible for positions requiring a security clearance, such as a government internship.

In brief, the University’s Policy on Integrity of Scholarship states that students are expected to complete the course in compliance with the instructor’s standards. No student shall engage in any activity that involves attempting to receive a grade by means other than honest effort; for example:

1. No student shall knowingly procure, provide, or accept any unauthorized material that contains questions, or answers to any examination or assignment to be given at a subsequent time.
2. No student shall complete, in part or in total, any examination nor assignment for another person.
3. No student shall knowingly allow any examination or assignment to be completed, in part or in total, for himself or herself by another person.

4. No student shall plagiarize or copy the work of another person and submit it as his or her own work.

5. No student shall employ aids excluded by the instructor in undertaking course work or in completing any exam or assignment.

6. No student shall alter graded class assignments or examinations and then resubmit them for regrading.

7. No student shall submit substantially the same material in more than one course without prior authorization.

Please read the full Policy: [http://students.ucsd.edu/academics/academic-integrity/policy.html](http://students.ucsd.edu/academics/academic-integrity/policy.html). If you have any questions, ask me.