MMW 14: Revolution, Industry, & Empire
Professor Blanco
Sections B03 and B04

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Section Objective:
The purpose of section is to improve your understanding of and engagement with the course content by giving you an opportunity to exercise critical thinking, writing, reading, studying, listening, and speaking skills in a small, supportive group led by a knowledgeable guide.

Section will help you to:
• Interpret and analyze course material in its historical context, developing ideas in dialogue with course readings and lectures
• Conduct academic research and use library resources
• Write coherent academic argument essays that address a significant issue; ask a specific, open-ended, arguable question; answer the question by making a claim and backing it up with sufficient, relevant, specific, compelling evidence; consider and rebut counterarguments; demonstrate significance of the argument; and accurately cite sources in MLA format
• Know the difference between primary and secondary sources and how to use them in academic writing
• Engage in substantive and respectful discussion of course concepts with peers

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

Attendance, Participation, and Section Requirements
Regular attendance and participation in section is mandatory. Students who miss 3 sections—excused or unexcused—will fail section. Students who miss 5 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 notes from the lectures and readings to the section each week. We will be working with this material hands-on in the classroom. In order to participate successfully, you will need to be prepared for each section. For each section meeting, you will be responsible for readings and material assigned for all lectures that have already taken place.
**Homework, Quizzes, In-Class Work:** I will not assign regular outside homework. Weekly quizzes may be given in section. Therefore, each student is expected to do all the required readings for the course and to go over the notes and readings BEFORE coming to class. You are responsible for thinking about the topics and themes discussed in lecture and sections on your own. If you do not do the work before coming to class, you will not be able to participate in the section. Make sure you come to class with questions regarding the material, and be prepared for group discussions and in-class activities. I reserve the right to give pop quizzes and homework if I see that lots of students are not keeping up with class readings.

**Grading:**
Section counts for 10% of the overall class grade. This will be determined by regular attendance, participation, and quizzes which, along with reading and assignments (done out of class) will not only help your course grade but also ensure your overall success in MMW.

**Writing Assignments and Late Policy:**
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:**
1. Section meetings will simulate a “workshop” environment in which you will be guided through the process of academic, argumentative-based writing and have the opportunity to develop original hypotheses and discuss your insights about the course material with your peers.

2. University education is about more than learning subject material. It is also about learning how to successfully and respectfully engage ideas, both your own, and those of others. In this section we will engage in discussion, and at times debate, about ideas, issues, and cultures that may range from personally sensitive to completely alien in our own views of the world. You will be expected to act in a respectful manner to your classmates, to me, and to the subject matter.

3. Note-taking is essential for your success in section and the course overall. You may use electronic or hand-written notes. I strongly recommend using **Evernote** for electronic note-taking, but your preferred method is up to you. That said, I reserve the right to prohibit electronic devices if I feel they are being misused or are distracting you and/or others. Phones are to be turned off. If your phone rings in class, you will receive a warning the first time. If there are any subsequent disturbances you will be asked to leave the section and your participation grade will be affected negatively.

4. Having an open environment for discussion will help to develop a deeper level of understanding of course materials. A friendly, positive, and mutually respectful atmosphere is necessary for effective learning. You are required to be respectful to all
views and opinions expressed in class and avoid making offensive comments or being disruptive. Since we have a limited time for each section, avoid discussions that are unrelated to course material or section exercises.

Communicating with Me/Office Hours/Email/Piazza: If you have questions, I encourage you to come to my office hours. E-mail me only when you cannot meet me otherwise. Please utilize our Piazza page where you can post questions to your peers and engage in discussions with both sections.

My office hours are on Monday, 1-2 and Wednesday 1-2

If you would like to meet me in person, but cannot make it my office hours, speak to me and we will arrange another meeting time.

In writing emails to a TA or professor, practice formal communication etiquette at ALL times (otherwise, you are sending a signal that you do not take the course, or their time, seriously). Please use the following format to send courteous emails when communicating with your TAs and professors:

Subject: MMW 12 Section B03 or B04

Dear/Hello/Greetings [name]

[Text of your message: The text should conform to standard English, meaning you should write in complete sentences with the first letter of each sentence capitalized and with appropriate punctuation to signal the end of a sentence, introduce a new clause, or separate items on a list]

Sincerely, Cheers, Best, Thanks,
Your First and Last name (your name is not always clear from your email address)

Keep it concise! Your teachers are very busy; they will appreciate it if you can get to the point quickly and do not ask vague, open-ended questions. If your email does not follow these guidelines, you can expect to receive this format back as a response (signaling that you must revise and re-send your email).

In case you do decide to e-mail me, be aware that it may take 24 hours or more for you to get a response.