

**Department of History****Instructor:** Dr Matt Bucholtz

Fall 2015

**Office:** SS643**E-mail:** mbucholt@ucalgary.ca**Office Hours:** M1-2, W 1-2**Class Time:** MWF 12-1**Location:** ST 132**HTST 303: GREAT EXPLORATIONS  
CONQUEST AND EMPIRE BUILDING**

This course will explore several key concepts throughout the age of exploration including the concept of the frontier, the nature of exploration, “discovery,” and their roles in the creation of early empires. Additionally students will examine early trends in globalization, the colonization of Africa and Asia to compare and contrast the ideas of the colonizers and the colonized. Finally, we will examine several different expressions of empire from Philipp II of Spain, to Islamic regimes in northern Africa, the global dominance of the British Empire, and finally 20<sup>th</sup> century states, including Nazi Germany, the United States of America and Soviet Russia.

**REQUIRED TEXTS**

Students will be required to read:

- Fernández-Armesto, Felipe. *Pathfinders: A Global History of Exploration*. WW Norton, 2006.
- Kennedy, Dane (ed). *Reinterpreting History: How Historical Assessments Change over Time: Reinterpreting Exploration: The West in the World*. Oxford: Oxford University Press, 2014.

**COURSE AIMS**

This course is designed to develop students’ analytical and writing skills. Particular focus will be given to the creation of a strong thesis statement for the term paper. Participation in class discussions is also expected in this course.

**EVALUATION**

Thesis Statement: 5% - 7 October

Midterm: 30% - 16 October

Research Paper: 35% - 18 November

Final Exam: 30% - Registrar scheduled exam.

## **THESIS STATEMENT/BIBLIOGRAPHY**

### **MANDATORY – DUE 7 OCTOBER**

This assignment is designed to help you produce a strong thesis for your major research paper. When you write a research paper for a university course, it is essential that your entire paper be written to defend an argument rather than merely to report on the evidence you have collected or to piece together a narrative (story). Transitioning from narrative writing to analytical research is crucial to your development as a student of history. **The linchpin of your paper is the thesis statement: a clear and precise statement of your central argument.**

For this assignment, you will turn in a thesis and a one paragraph explanation of your argument—providing necessary context and what evidence you will consult (etc.). You must also include a bibliography of at least **SIX** sources (not including the course texts). It will be to your benefit to have examined these sources first.

### **MIDTERM**

#### **16 OCTOBER**

#### **30% of Course Grade**

**Identification Questions:** Students will pick 5 key figures, themes, or events from only the first half of the course material. Answers should be roughly a paragraph (5-6 sentences) in length.

**Essay Component:** Students will be given 3 short essay topics, spanning the MAJOR themes of the course. You will have to write on **ONLY ONE** of these topics.

### **RESEARCH PAPER**

#### **DUE: 18 NOVEMBER**

#### **40% of Course Grade**

Term papers should be 2500 words (about 8-10 pages) in length, and be drawn from some of the most important works relevant to the topic. You must make use of a reasonable number of different sources—at least **SIX** monographs, or the equivalent in academic articles (about two articles are equivalent of one book). The course textbooks do NOT count toward this total. In most cases you will also be able to use primary sources, which are available in many forms in the university library and on the library website. If you wish to use an internet source, you **MUST** have it approved by the instructor first.

## **FINAL EXAM**

### **Registrar Scheduled:**

#### **30% of Course Grade –**

**Identification Questions:** Students will pick 5 key figures, themes, or events from only the second half of the course material. Answers should be roughly a paragraph (5-6 sentences) in length.

#### **Essay Component 1:**

Students will answer 1 of 3 possible essay topics, concerning only the major themes of the second half of the course. You will have to write on **ONLY ONE** of these topics.

**Essay Component 2:** Students will choose 1 of 2 possible essay topics, concerning the major themes that have been discussed throughout the entire duration of the course.

These two questions will directly deal with the two major themes of the course, the act of “exploration” and the creation of empires.

## **LATE WORK**

Students will be penalized one-third of a letter grade per day for late work. I am very willing to work around scheduling conflicts and unexpected events and am usually open to extensions. However penalties for late work will be strictly enforced to ensure fair treatment for all students.

## COURSE STRUCTURE

Week 1 Sept 9, 11	Introduction - Syllabus	Readings: D2L Readings Kennedy – CH 1,2
Week 2 Sept 14 - 18	The World of Marco Polo Early Explorations – Early Empires	Pathfinders – CH 3
Week 3 Sept 21 - 25	The 1490s Columbus, Magellan, de Gama, Cortes	Pathfinders – CH 4, 5
Week 4 Sept 28,30, Oct 2	The Dawn of the Atlantic World Spain, France, England in the New World	D2L Readings
Week 5 Oct 5-9	Early Colonies – Early Discoveries Britain, France and the New World	Pathfinders – CH 6
Week 6 Oct 12-16	Capitalism and Slavery The Triangular Trade <b>MIDTERM (16 Oct)</b>	D2L Readings
Week 7 Oct 19-23	Early North American Exploration Cook, Cabot, Cartier, Hudson	Pathfinders – CH 7 Kennedy – CH 5
Week 8 Oct 26-30	Late North American Exploration Lewis & Clark Manifest Destiny	Pathfinders – CH 8
Week 9 Nov 2-6	Africa “The Great Race” Colonizers and the Colonized	Kennedy – CH 8
Week 10 Nov 9-13	Asia The Open Door Policy “Asia for Asians”	Kennedy – CH 7, 9
Week 11 Nov 16-20	<b>ESSAY (18 Nov)</b> Exploration and Pop Culture Film, Novels, and Art	D2L Readings
Week 12 Nov 23-27	“The Frontier” Arctic and Antarctic Exploration	Kennedy – CH 10
Week 13 Nov 30, Dec 2,4	Space: The Final Frontier USA, USSR and the Moon	Pathfinders – CH 9
Week 14 Dec 7	Conclusion	



## **Important Departmental, Faculty, and University Information**

### **Faculty of Arts Program Advising and Student Information Resources:**

Have a question, but not sure where to start? The Arts Students Centre is your information resource for everything in Arts! Drop in at SS110, call 403-220-3580, or email [artsads@ucalgary.ca](mailto:artsads@ucalgary.ca). You can also visit the Faculty of Arts website at <http://arts.ucalgary.ca/undergraduate> which has detailed information on common academic concerns.

For program planning and advice, contact the Arts Students Centre, Social Sciences 102, 403-220-3580, or visit <http://arts.ucalgary.ca/advising>.

For registration (add/drop/swap), paying fees and assistance with your Student Centre, contact Enrolment Services at 403-210-ROCK [7625] or visit the office in the MacKimmie Library Block.

### **Writing:**

This course will include written assignments. Faculty policy directs that all written assignments (including, although to a lesser extent, written exam responses) will be assessed at least partly on writing skills. Writing skills include not only surface correctness (grammar, punctuation, sentence structure, etc.) but also general clarity and organization. Research papers must be properly documented.

### **Writing Support:**

Need help coming up with a thesis statement? Confused about the proper way to use footnotes? Just want to ask someone about your written assignment for this or any other history class? The Department of History offers small-group and individual writing support for all students registered in a History class from some of our top graduate students. Check with your instructor for the scheduled weekly drop-in times, sign-up for one of the writing workshops, or arrange to meet with our writing tutors individually. More information about this program will be posted on the Department of History web site: [hist.ucalgary.ca](http://hist.ucalgary.ca).

Students are also encouraged to use Writing Support Services and other Student Success Centre Services, located on the 3<sup>rd</sup> floor of the Taylor Family Digital Library. Writing Support Services assist with a variety of assignments, from essays to lab reports. Students can book 30-minute one-on-one appointments online, sign up for 15-minute drop-in appointments, and register for a variety of writing workshops. For more information on this and other Student Success Centre services, please visit [www.ucalgary.ca/ssc](http://www.ucalgary.ca/ssc).

### **Copyright:**

The University of Calgary has opted out of the Access Copyright Interim Tariff proposed by the Copyright Board. This means that instructors in all University of Calgary courses will strictly adhere to Copyright Act regulations and the educational exceptions permitted by the Act for both print and digital course material. What this simply means is that no copyrighted material may be placed on course D2L or web sites without the prior permission of the copyright holders. In

some cases, this may mean that instructors will require you to purchase a print coursepack from the University of Calgary bookstore or that you will have to consult books in the library reserve room. For more information on the University of Calgary's copyright policy, see <http://library.ucalgary.ca/copyright>.

**Red Box Policy:**

Essays and other assignments may be handed in to the red box located outside of the History Department office (SS 656). Assignments received after 4:00 p.m. will be date stamped with the date of the next business day. We do not time stamp any papers. Please do not bring your paper into the office to be stamped. The box is emptied promptly at 8:30 a.m. and at 4:00 p.m. Monday to Friday.

**Departmental Grading System:**

The following percentage-to-letter grade conversion scheme has been adopted for use in all Canadian Studies, History, and Latin American Studies courses.

Percentage	Letter Grade	Grade Point Value	Description
90-100	A+	4.00	Outstanding
85-89	A	4.00	Excellent—superior performance showing comprehensive understanding of subject matter.
80-84	A-	3.70	
77-79	B+	3.30	
73-76	B	3.00	Good—clearly above average performance with knowledge of subject matter generally complete.
70-72	B-	2.70	
67-69	C+	2.30	
63-66	C	2.00	Satisfactory—basic understanding of the subject matter.

Percentage	Letter Grade	Grade Point Value	Description
60–62	C–	1.70	Receipt of a grade point average of 1.70 may not be sufficient for promotion or graduation.
56–59	D+	1.30	Minimal pass—marginal performance; generally insufficient preparation for subsequent courses in the same subject.
50–55	D	1.00	
0–49	F	0	Fail—unsatisfactory performance or failure to meet course requirements.

### **Plagiarism:**

Plagiarism occurs when one submits or presents one's work in a course, or ideas and/or passages in a written piece of work, as if it were one's own work done expressly for that particular course, when, in fact, it is not. As noted in *The History Student's Handbook*, plagiarism may take several forms:

- Failure to cite sources properly may be considered plagiarism. This could include quotations, and wording used from another source but not acknowledged.
- Borrowed, purchased, and/or ghostwritten papers are considered plagiarism, as is submitting one's own work for more than one course without the permission of the instructor(s) involved.
- Extensive paraphrasing of one or a few sources is also considered plagiarism, even when notes are used, unless the essay is a critical analysis of those works.
- The use of notes does not justify the sustained presentation of another author's language and ideas as one's own.

Plagiarism is a serious academic offence and written work that appears to contain plagiarized passages will not be graded. All such work will be reported to the Faculty of Arts' associate deans of students who will apply the penalties specified in the *University of Calgary Calendar*.

### **Universal Student Ratings of Instruction:**

At the University of Calgary, feedback provided by students through the Universal Student Ratings of Instruction (USRI) survey provides valuable information to help with evaluating instruction, enhancing learning and teaching, and selecting courses



([www.ucalgary.ca/usri](http://www.ucalgary.ca/usri)). Your responses make a difference. Please participate in USRI Surveys.

**Student Accommodations:**

Students seeking an accommodation based on disability or medical concerns should contact Student Accessibility Services; SAS will process the request and issue letters of accommodation to instructors. For additional information on support services and accommodations for students with disabilities, visit [www.ucalgary.ca/access/](http://www.ucalgary.ca/access/).

Students who require an accommodation in relation to their coursework based on a protected grounds other than disability should communicate this need in writing to their Instructor.

The full policy on Student Accommodations is available at [http://www.ucalgary.ca/policies/files/policies/student-accommodation-policy\\_0.pdf](http://www.ucalgary.ca/policies/files/policies/student-accommodation-policy_0.pdf).

**Other Useful Information:**

Faculty of Arts Representatives: 403-220-6551, [arts1@su.ucalgary.ca](mailto:arts1@su.ucalgary.ca),  
[arts2@su.ucalgary.ca](mailto:arts2@su.ucalgary.ca), [arts3@su.ucalgary.ca](mailto:arts3@su.ucalgary.ca), [arts4@su.ucalgary.ca](mailto:arts4@su.ucalgary.ca).

*Safewalk and Campus Security*: 403-220-5333.

Please also familiarize yourself about the following topics by consulting the information at these links:

*Freedom of Information*: <http://www.ucalgary.ca/secretariat/privacy>

*Emergency Evacuation Assembly Points*:

<http://www.ucalgary.ca/emergencyplan/assemblypoints>

*Safewalk*: <http://www.ucalgary.ca/security/safewalk>

*Student Union Information*: <http://www.su.ucalgary.ca/>

*Graduate Student Association*: <http://www.ucalgary.ca/gsa/>

*Student Ombudsman Office*:

<http://www.ucalgary.ca/provost/students/ombuds>

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