

University of Calgary
HTST 406
The Mongol World Empire
MWF 10:00 – 10:50 a.m., online, synchronous
Winter semester 2022

Instructor: David Curtis Wright
Zoom office hours: MWF 3:30 – 4:30 pm

Links to class will be posted on D2L and emailed to class members approximately five minutes prior to starting time each class day. Links to office hours will be through D2L and will be posted there approximately five minutes prior to office hours.

Course description

This course examines the history of the Mongol world empire, which had its origins in the early thirteenth century. It considers all sections of the empire as it spread to Russia and eastern Europe, the Middle East, Central Asia, and East Asia (including China, Korea, and Japan). Political and cultural developments are central to the course's emphasis. Some consideration is given to the heritage of Mongol domination of these areas.

Course requirements

Term grades are assigned by percentages according to the departmental grading scale. The letter grades corresponding to percentages are listed on p.8 below. Students will write two midterm examinations and a final examination, submit a prospectus, and write a term a term paper of 3000-3500 words. The midterms and the final will consist of short ID and essay questions. The final examination will be comprehensive but will concentrate more heavily on the material covered since the second midterm. Review sheets will be distributed electronically approximately one week prior to the midterms and the final examination. Examinations will cover both lecture presentations and assigned readings. Students should neither expect lectures to be mere recitations of reading assignments nor regard the assigned readings as substitutes for lecture attendance. The lectures will contain some material not covered in detail in the readings. The reverse also holds. Before you write an examination, you should thoroughly review both your reading and your lecture notes. The midterms will be take-home examinations. The first and second midterms will be available on the D2L page and through links provided in an email starting from class times on 2 February 2022 and 16 March 2022 respectively and will be due 24 hours later respectively; that is, by 1:00 p.m. on 2 February 2022 and 16 March 2022 respectively. Submit midterms to Dropbox (under "Assessments") on the D2L page. Do not email midterms to the instructor. Details regarding the final exam will be forthcoming. The prospectus is an outline of what you propose to do for the term paper. It is a short (one-page) outline of your topic and at least three sources (books, articles, images) you have identified for it. You should use at least one book, one journal article, and one primary source in

your paper. (Primary sources are materials written by participants in, or observers of, historical events or developments. Primary sources may also include chronicles written by historians soon after the events they describe.) Of course, translations of primary sources are still considered primary sources themselves. The bibliographies in your assigned readings are valuable resources for you in considering a paper topic. Accordingly, please keep your use of the main textbook for the course, David Morgan's *The Mongols*, to a minimum. In your prospectus, please describe your topic in a few sentences and then list the sources you plan to use. The prospectus is due on 2 March 2022 by 11:55 p.m. Please submit it to D2L under "Assessments" and do not email it to the instructor. Late prospectuses will be penalized by 10% and an additional 10% thereafter for each week or portion thereof they are late.

The term paper, due 4 April 2022 by 11:55 p.m., is to be written in formal academic style with footnotes, endnotes, or parenthetical references. The paper will be graded on the basis of its focus, analysis, and correctness of grammar and language usage. Please submit your term paper under "Assessments" on D2L and do not email it to the instructor.

Students should read the University of Calgary's "Student Academic Misconduct Policy" at <https://www.ucalgary.ca/legal-services/university-policies-procedures/student-academic-misconduct-policy>. Cheating on examinations and plagiarism on term papers is a serious matter and never a good idea – just don't do it!

Grading

Students who attend lectures regularly and read the assigned material carefully stand a good chance of doing well in this course. Those who attend lectures sporadically and do only piecemeal reading will likely earn the fair to poor marks they deserve. Grades are calculated according to point totals. Possible point totals are as below.

Term grades are assigned by percentages according to the departmental grading scale.

The letter grades corresponding to percentages are listed on p. 8 below.

First midterm examination 20

Second midterm examination 20

Prospectus 5

Final examination 25

Paper 30

Total 100

Required reading

All of these books, with the possible exception of Peter Jackson, *The Mongols and the Islamic World*, are available for purchase at the University of Calgary Bookstore. See the details below for Jackson.

David Morgan, *The Mongols* (This is the main textbook for the course.)

Charles J. Halperin, *Russia and the Golden Horde: The Mongol Impact on Medieval Russian History*

Peter Jackson, *The Mongols and the Islamic World*. Available as an ebook at

store.vitalsource.com/products/the-mongols-and-the-islamic-world-from-conquest-peter-jackson-v9780300227284?term=978-0300125337

Paul Kahn, translator, *The Secret History of the Mongols: The Origins of Chingis Khan*, expanded edition

Morris Rossabi, *Khubilai Khan: His Life and Times*, 20th anniversary edition. Also available as an ebook at <https://calgary-store.vitalsource.com/products/khubilai-khan-morris-rossabi-v9780520945364?term=9780520261327>

Morris Rossabi, *The Mongols and Global History: A Norton Documents Reader*

Other important books

Below are some additional useful items on the history of the Mongol world empire. You should determine early in the semester whether books for your essay topic are available at the University of Calgary's Taylor Family Library, whether physically or somewhere online.

Thomas Allsen, *Mongol Imperialism*

Thomas J. Barfield, *The Perilous Frontier*

John Andrew Boyle, *The Mongol World Empire, 1206-1370*

John Andrew Boyle, ed., *The Cambridge History of Iran, V. 5: The Saljuk and Mongol Periods*

Anne F. Broadbridge, *Women and the Making of the Mongol Empire*

Hok-lam Chan and William Theodore de Bary, eds., *Yuan Thought*

Paul Heng-chao Ch'en, *Chinese Legal Tradition Under the Mongols*

Francis W. Cleaves, *The Secret History of the Mongols*

John W. Dardess, *Conquerors and Confucians*

Christopher Dawson, ed., *The Mongol Mission*

Martin H. Desmond, *The Rise of Chinggis Khan and His Conquest of Northern China*

Rene Grousset (Marian McKellar and Denis Sinor, translators), *Conqueror of the World*

Rene Grousset (Naomi Walford, trans.), *The Empire of the Steppes*

Charles J. Halperin, *Russia and the Golden Horde*

Ch'i-ch'ing Hsiao, *The Military Establishment of the Yuan Dynasty*

Sechin Jagchid, *Essays in Mongolian Studies*

Sechin Jagchid and Paul Hyer, *Mongolia's Culture and Society*

Sechin Jagchid and Van Jay Symons, *Peace, War and Trade Along the Great Wall*

Ata-Malik Juvaini (John A. Boyle, trans.), *The History of the World Conqueror*

John D. Langlois, ed., *China Under Mongol Rule*

LeBaron M. C. D'Ohsson, *Histoire des Mongols*

Paul Pelliot and Louis Hambil, *Histoire des Campagnes de Genghis Khan*

Igor de Rachewiltz, *Papal Envoys to the Great Khans*

Paul Ratchnevsky, *Genghis Khan* (This is the authoritative biography of Chinggis Khan in English.)

Rashid al-Din (John Andrew Boyle, translator), *The Successors of Genghis Khan*

David Robinson, *In the Shadow of the Mongol Empire: Ming China and Eurasia*

Morris Rossabi, *Voyager from Xanadu*

V. A. Riasanovsky, *Fundamental Principles of Mongol Law*

Jean-Paul Roux, *Histoire de l'empire Mongol*

Herbert Franz Schurman, Economic Structure of the Yuan Dynasty
 Bertold Spuler, History of the Mongols
 Bertold Spuler, The Mongol Period
 George Vernadsky, The Mongols and Russia
 Arthur Waley, Travels of an Alchemist
 David Curtis Wright, "Genghis Khan" (Oxford Bibliographies;
<http://www.oxfordbibliographies.com/view/document/obo-9780199791279/obo-9780199791279-0154.xml>)
 Sir Henry Yule, Cathay and the Way Thither

Lecture topics and reading assignments

N.B.: These topics, dates, and reading assignments are tentative and approximate. They are subject to change as class needs dictate. "Rossabi" below refers to his book on Khubilai Khan. (Rossabi's other book, The Mongols and Global History, is a book of primary sources that will be very useful for preparing the term paper.)

January

10 Introduction to course; who and what were the "barbarians"? Morgan, 1-29

PART I: THE GROWTH OF THE EMPIRE

12 Pre-Mongol barbarian empires; Morgan, 30-48

14 The Mongol world empire: overview; Rossabi, 1-21

17 The Mongol world empire: overview (cont'd.)

19 The origins of Chinggis Khan; Morgan, 49-73; Kahn, ix-xxx, 3-113

21 The life and exploits of Chinggis Khan; Morgan, 61-73; Kahn, 114-90

24 Chinggis Khan in the hearts and minds of Mongols today (no reading assignment)

26 The Mongol conquest of Islamic Central Asia (no reading assignment)

28 Persia and the Fertile Crescent; Morgan, 128-51; Jackson, 1-209

31 The Mongols and the Crusaders (no reading assignment)

February

2 First midterm examination

4 Mongol campaigns against northern China (no reading assignment)

- 7 The Mongol conquest of Russia; Morgan, 120-28
- 9 The Mongol invasion of Europe; Morgan, 152-170
- 11 The travels of John of Plano Carpini (no reading assignment)
- 14 The travels of William of Rubruck (no reading assignment)
- 16 The Mongols and Christendom (no reading assignment)
- 18 Mongolian religion and attitudes towards religion; Morgan 109-11
- 21 Term break / Alberta Family Day; no class meeting
- 23 Term break; no class meeting
- 25 Term break; no class meeting
- 28 The invasion and conquest of (Southern) Sung China; Rossabi, 22-114

PART II: THE SEPARATE DESTINIES OF THE KHANATES

A. Mongol institutions

March

- 2 Paper prospectus due
Mongol law; Morgan, 83-87
- 4 Mongol taxation; Morgan, 87-90
- 7 The Mongol armies; Morgan, 74-83, 90-94

B. The Golden Horde

- 9 Mongol rule in Russia; Halperin 1-60
- 11 The “Tartar yoke”; Halperin, 61-130
- 14 The dissolution of the Golden Horde; Morgan, 120–28

16 Second midterm examination

C. The Il Khanate

18 The Middle East and Persia before Ghazan; Morgan, 128-46

21 The Il Khanate from the reign of Ghazan; Morgan, 146-51; Jackson, 210-418

D. The Chagadai Khanate

23 Mongol domination of Turkestan (no reading assignment)

E. Yuan China

25 The reign of Khubilai Khan; Morgan, 99-109; review Rossabi, 22-75

28 Mongol governance in China; Morgan, 94-98, 111-19; Rossabi, 115-231

30 The travels and (tall?) tales of Marco Polo; review Rossabi, 147-52

April

1 Term paper due

The travels and (tall?) tales of Marco Polo (cont'd.)

4 The Mongol invasions of Japan (no reading assignment)

6 Yuan China after Khubilai; Morgan, 117-19

8 Mongolia: 1368 to the twentieth century; Morgan, 174-80

11 "The Mongol Empire since 1985"; Morgan, 181-206

Final examination time to be announced

THE FOLLOWING INFORMATION APPEARS ON ALL DEPARTMENT OF
HISTORY COURSE OUTLINES

Departmental Grading System

The following percentage-to-letter grade conversion scheme is used in all Canadian Studies, History, and Latin American Studies courses, except for HTST 200.

Percentage Letter

Grade

Grade Point

Value

Description

90-100 A+ 4.00 Outstanding performance

85-89 A 4.00 Excellent performance

80-84 A- 3.70 Approaching excellent performance

77-79 B+ 3.30 Exceeding good performance
 73-76 B 3.00 Good performance
 70-72 B- 2.70 Approaching good performance
 67-69 C+ 2.30 Exceeding satisfactory performance
 63-66 C 2.00 Satisfactory performance
 60-62 C- 1.70 Approaching satisfactory performance.
 56-59 D+ 1.30 Marginal pass. Insufficient preparation for subsequent courses in the same subject
 50-55 D 1.00 Minimal Pass. Insufficient preparation for subsequent courses in the same subject.
 0-49 F 0 Failure. Did not meet course requirements.

Please Note: Students are expected to reach the grade range to receive that letter grade (ie. to receive an A- a student will have earned an 80 or 3.7 in the course). Assume that there will be no rounding up unless a faculty member announces otherwise.

Program Advising and Student Information Resources

- For program advising in the Faculty of Arts, contact the Arts Students Centre (ASC).
- For questions about admissions, student awards, common registration issues, financial aid and student fees, contact Enrolment Services
- Sometimes unexpected circumstances may affect your schedule. You can change your registration during the course change period. Please see the Registration Changes and Exemption Requests page.

Attention history majors: History 300 is a required course for all history majors. You should normally take this course in your second year.

Writing

All written assignments and written exam responses are assessed partly on writing skills. Writing skills include surface correctness (grammar, punctuation, sentence structure, etc.) and general clarity and organization. Research papers must be properly documented according to the format described in The History Student's Handbook.

Academic Misconduct

Academic Misconduct refers to student behavior which compromises proper assessment of a student's academic activities and includes: cheating; fabrication; falsification; plagiarism; unauthorized assistance; failure to comply with an instructor's expectations regarding conduct required of students completing academic assessments in their courses; and failure to comply with exam regulations applied by the Registrar.

For more information, please see the University of Calgary Student Academic Misconduct Policy documents, and visit the Academic Integrity Website.

Plagiarism

Plagiarism occurs when students submit or present the ideas and/or writing of others as if they were their own or when they submit their own work to two different classes. Please see The

History Student's Handbook for more details, but to summarize, plagiarism may take several forms:

- Failing to cite sources properly
- Submitting borrowed, purchased, and/or ghostwritten papers
- 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, even when referenced properly, unless the essay is a critical analysis of those works

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 Art's associate deans of students who will apply the penalties specified in the university calendar.

Academic Accommodation

It is the student's responsibility to request academic accommodations according to the Student Accommodations policy. Students needing an accommodation based on disability or medical concerns should contact Student Accessibility Services (SAS) in accordance with the Procedure for Accommodations for Students with Disabilities. Students who require an accommodation in relation to their coursework based on a protected ground other than Disability should communicate this need in writing to their Instructor.

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 Student Accessibility Services.

Instructor Intellectual Property

Course materials created by instructors (including presentations and posted notes, labs, case studies, assignments and exams) remain the intellectual property of the instructor. These materials may NOT be reproduced, redistributed or copied without the explicit consent of the instructor. The posting of course materials to third party websites such as note-sharing sites without permission is prohibited. Sharing of extracts of these course materials with other students enrolled in the course at the same time may be allowed under fair dealing.

Copyright Legislation

All students are required to read the University of Calgary policy on Acceptable Use of Material Protected by Copyright and requirements of the Copyright Act to ensure they are aware of the consequences of unauthorised sharing of course materials (including instructor notes, electronic versions of textbooks etc.). Students who use material protected by copyright in violation of this policy may be disciplined under the Non-Academic Misconduct Policy.

Copyright of Educational Materials

The University of Calgary has opted out of the Access Copyright Interim Tariff proposed by the Copyright Board. Therefore, 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. 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 course pack from the University of Calgary bookstore or consult books on reserve at the library. Please see the University of Calgary copyright page.

Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy

Student information will be collected in accordance with usual classroom practice. Students' assignments will be accessible only by the authorized course faculty and teaching assistants. Private information related to the individual student is treated with the utmost regard.

Media Recording

The instructor may use media recordings to record the delivery of a lecture for various reasons, including lecture capture and self-assessment. Students will be informed of media recordings in advance and the recording device will be fixed on the instructor. In the event that incidental student participation is recorded, the instructor will ensure that any identifiable content (video or audio) is masked, or will seek consent from identifiable students, before making a recording available to the class.

Media Recording for the Assessment of Student Learning

The instructor may use media recordings as part of the assessment of students, by prior arrangement. This may include but is not limited to classroom discussions, presentations, clinical practice, or skills testing that occur during the course. These recordings will be used for student assessment purposes only and will not be shared or used for any other purpose.

Sexual Violence Policy

The University recognizes that all members of the University Community should be able to learn, work, teach and live in an environment where they are free from harassment, discrimination, and violence. The University of Calgary's sexual violence policy guides us in how we respond to incidents of sexual violence, including supports available to those who have experienced or witnessed sexual violence, or those who are alleged to have committed sexual violence. It provides clear response procedures and timelines, defines complex concepts, and addresses incidents that occur off-campus in certain circumstances. Please see the sexual violence policy.

Other Useful Information

Please see the Registrar's Course Outline Student Support and Resources page for information on:

- Wellness and Mental Health
- Student Success
- Student Ombuds Office
- Student Union (SU) Information
- Graduate Students' Association (GSA) Information
- Emergency Evacuation/Assembly Points
- Safewalk

Department of History Twitter @ucalgaryhist

Winter 2022