UNI 222: WORLD CIVILIZATIONS & GLOBAL ENCOUNTERS – II
SYLLABUS

Basic Information:
Schedule: Lectures: Tuesdays 15:00-17:00 - Thursdays, 15:00-15:50
Discussion sessions: Fridays, 09:00-10:00, 10:00-11:00, 11:00-
12:00, 14:00-15:00, 15:00-16:00, 16:00-17:00 or 17:00-18:00
Venue: Conference Room 02 (West Campus)
Instructor & office hours: Günhan Börekçi (gunhanborekci@sehir.edu.tr)
Tuesday and Thursday, 13:30-14:30 or by appointment
Course Coordinators: Hümeysa Bostan (humeyrabostan@std.sehir.edu.tr)
Azize Fatma Çakır (azizecakir@std.sehir.edu.tr)
Teaching Assistants: Hümeysa Bostan, Azize Fatma Çakır, Ayşegül Çimen, Fikriye Karaman,
Sefure Özokur, Padraic Rohan, Elif Sezer
Textbook: Robert Tignor et al., Worlds Together, Worlds Apart: From the
[henceforth WTWA].
Assessment: Mid-term exam: 25 %
Final exam: 40 %
Homework assignments: 25 %
Attendance & participation in discussion sessions: 10 %

Course Description:
World Civilizations & Global Encounters is a two-semester compulsory university course providing a
cross-cultural overview of world history from ancient to modern times. The course proceeds
chronologically, but has the objective of exploring crucial themes of human activity from a global
perspective. The course traces the diversity of human civilizations in terms of their historical, cultural,
political and economic formation with an emphasis on their interactions, similarities and differences. The
ultimate aim of the course is to reflect on the concept of historical change and its connotations for the
present day.

The second semester of the course will start with the themes of “Common Cultures of 600-1000 CE”
and “Regional Worlds of 1100-1300 CE” and then proceed with the Eurasian crisis of the 13th and
14th centuries and the Pax Mongolica, followed by a discussion of the concept of early modernity and
its application to post-1400 world history. In the coming weeks, the lectures will explore the
dynamics, factors and paths of specific historical change in different regions of the world from the
14th century onwards. Major topics of discussion will include different forms of imperialism;
ecological problems; the state, society and culture in the early modern Middle East; transformations in
European feudalism; the political and industrial revolutions in Europe; Safavid and Mughal empires;
the changing dynamics of Ottoman imperial power in relation to the Habsburg, Russian and Chinese
empires; nations and nationalisms; The Great War and World War III; and the questions of modernity
and globalization. Issues regarding the transformations in the political, cultural, ideological and
institutional make-up of different imperial structures that ushered in the modern era will remain a
focus throughout the survey.

Format:
Each week there will be three 50-minute lectures, complemented by one-hour discussion sessions on
Fridays. The lectures and overall course material will largely follow the textbook by Tignor et al., WTWA.
The Friday discussions will cover the main themes and issues of the lectures, but they will not serve as
summary sessions. Moreover, during the discussion sessions, students will do some of their homework
assignments under the supervision of their Teaching Assistants. Thus students are required to come to their
Friday sessions prepared and with all their class and reading notes as well as any assigned
primary/secondary source documents.
We will make announcements to keep you update regarding the course, lectures, discussion sessions, homework assignments and exams through the LMS. Hence, use your university email address and be sure that you receive LMS announcements. If required, we will distribute any extra course material electronically and upload them to the LMS Dropbox folder.

**Textbook:**
You can either purchase a hard-copy of your textbook from the campus bookstore or alternatively a digital, downloadable copy from the publisher’s website:

**Attendance Requirements:**
Attendance at lectures is NOT mandatory, but **it is mandatory for ALL discussion sessions**. Be advised that **less than 80 % attendance at the discussion sections will result in DIRECT FAILURE.** Indeed, last semester, around 10% of the registered students failed from this course simply because they do not follow this important rule. So, attend your Friday sessions regularly.

Absences from discussion sessions will be excused ONLY in the case of illness or dire emergency, for which you must present an **official written** excuse to your Teaching Assistant (TA). In such cases of absences, without exception, please send an email to your TA immediately (preferably before the discussion session), explaining the reason for your absence. If you have a medical report, also send its scanned version.

In addition, **NOTE THAT this semester some discussion sessions will serve as a venue to prepare and submit certain homework assignments as in-class activity.** That is to say, if you miss such a discussion hour, you will automatically loose the points from that homework activity. **Also note that there will no make-ups for homework assignments. You have to submit your homework at the time as instructed. Thus, read homework assignment sheets carefully and consult your TA if you have any questions.**

Finally, **ALL students must attend only those sections for which they are officially registered. DO NOT attend other sessions at any time without making official registration; such attendances will not be counted.**

**Homework assignments:**
There will be **FIVE homework assignments** throughout the semester. In these exercises, you will be asked to write papers on certain selected topics, problems or primary sources related to the lectures, readings and/or discussion sessions. Each homework, worth 5 points of your total grade, will be assigned at least a week prior to its submission deadline, which are indicated below under the course schedule. All these assignments will be announced electronically through the LMS.

Unlike in previous semesters, students will submit some of their completed assignments electronically to an anti-plagiarism website (e.g. Turnitin or Ithenticate). Further instructions on this submission process will be given during the first week of the semester. Also see the “Academic Misconduct” section below.

**Make-up examinations:**
You are responsible for taking the midterm and final examinations at the appointed time. Do not ask for exceptional treatment! **Do not ask for a make-up examination, except in the case of a health problem, which you must document with an official written excuse.** It is the student’s responsibility to take the make-up exam at the time and place that the instructor specifies. **NOTE: ONLY MEDICAL REPORTS TAKEN FROM A HOSPITAL (NOT FROM A PRIVATE DOCTOR OR CLINIC) WILL BE ACCEPTED FOR MAKE-UP EXAMS.**

**Additional Class Policies:**
I will start and end my lectures on time, and I expect you to arrive on time and stay until the end of class. Disruptions --including late arrival, early departure, talking to friends during lecture, taking calls on cell phones, text messaging, surfing online-- are disrespectful and distracting to both the professor and your fellow students. Any repeated such disruptive behavior may be cause for dismissal from class. Cell phones must be turned off during class time.
ACADEMIC MISCONDUCT:
The term ‘academic misconduct’ includes all forms of student academic misconduct wherever committed; illustrated by, but not limited to, cases of plagiarism and dishonest practices in connection with written assignments and examinations. Instructors shall report all instances of alleged academic misconduct to the Committee on Academic Misconduct. Keep in mind: Your teaching assistants and I have to report any academic misconduct to the Committee.

In this respect, particularly in your homework assignments, NEVER EVER attempt to copy a friend’s homework or anything you find on the internet. Always use your own sentences and wording as this semester you will be asked to upload some of your papers to an anti-plagiarism website, which will automatically check the authenticity of your work. These systems are very efficient and easily find any copied material. When such a plagiarized homework is detected, you can be sure that it will reported to the Committee! All in all, copying a person’s work or writing (in any form) without proper citation constitutes plagiarism and it is a serious offence. If you have any questions at all about what constitutes plagiarism or about the consequences of academic misconduct, please come and talk to me or your Teaching Assistant.

Study Suggestions:
- Do each week’s reading before that week’s classes. Go over your notes after each class. Number the pages of your notes, and cross-reference them with your textbook book.
- Use the atlas; as well as the focus questions, maps, timelines, glossary and other internet resources of your textbook as study aids. Your textbook provides very useful study materials. Be sure you utilize them regularly during your readings:
  
- Above all, keep up with the reading. There is a large amount of diverse information in this course; you cannot hope to master it by cramming at the last minute.
- In case you have any questions regarding the lectures and course materials, or if there is a gap in your notes or a concept that you just cannot figure out, please consult your Teaching Assistant or come to me.

RESERVE CLAUSE:
I reserve the right to make changes in the syllabus when necessary to meet the learning outcome objectives, to compensate for missed classes or schedule changes, or for similar legitimate reasons. Students will be notified of any such changes to the syllabus in adequate time to adjust to those changes.

WEEKLY PROGRAM

Week 1 (FEB. 17-19): BECOMING “THE WORLD,” 1000–1300 CE
Themes of the Week: Introduction to the course and syllabus; common cultures, 600-1000 CE; regional worlds of 1100-1300 CE; Pax Mongolica
Readings: WTWA, Chapter 9, pp. 339-359; Chapter 10, pp. 359-403.
Discussion session topic: Understanding the syllabus, course organization, homework assignments\ exams; tips about how to study for UNI 122; Pax Mongolica

Week 2 (FEB. 24-26): CRISES AND RECOVERY IN AFRO-EURASIA, 1300–1500
Themes of the Week: Plague, disaster and crises; Islamic dynasties; the rise of Ottomans; Western Christendom and Ming China
Readings: WTWA, Chapter 11, pp. 405-439.
Discussion session topic: Understanding crisis and recovery in world history
Homework #1 Assignment (Feb. 27)
Week 3 (MAR. 3-5): CONTACT, COMMERCE AND COLONIZATION, 1450–1600
Themes of the Week: Old and new trade patterns; European exploration and expansion; the Atlantic world and the transformation of Europe; prosperity in Asia
Readings: WTWA, Chapter 12, pp. 441-475.
Discussion session topic: The question of “Rise of the West”
Homework #1 Submission Deadline (March 3)

Week 4 (MAR. 10-12): WORLDS ENTANGLED, 1600–1750
Themes of the Week: Economic and political Impacts of global commerce; slave trade and Africa; Eurasia in the 17th-18th centuries; Ottoman 17th-century crisis and change
Readings: WTWA, Chapter 13, pp. 477-517.
Discussion session topic: The 17th-century global crisis; empires in transformation
Homework #2 Assignment (Feb. 27)

Week 5 (MAR. 17-19): CULTURES OF SPLENDOR AND POWER, 1500–1780
Themes of the Week: Cultural developments in Eurasia and the Americas; the “Enlightenment” in Europe; on the eve of “Industrial Revolution”
Readings: WTWA, Chapter 14, pp. 519-553.
Discussion session topic: The question of “European Enlightenment”
Homework #2 Submission Deadline (March 20)

Week 6 (MAR. 24-26): REORDERING THE WORLD, 1750–1850
Themes of the Week: Western and non-Western revolutions and revolutionary transformations; economic reordering and change in Afro-Eurasia
Readings: WTWA, Chapter 15, pp. 556-593.
Discussion session topic: Western-inspired revolutions in the non-Western world

Week 7 (MAR. 31- APR. 2): ALTERNATIVE VISIONS OF THE NINETEENTH CENTURY
Themes of the Week: Reactions to social and political revolutions; the Islamic world in the 19th century; rebellion in China; socialists and radicals in Europe
Readings: WTWA, Chapter 16, pp. 596-627.
Discussion session topic: Preparation for the midterm exam

***MIDTERM EXAM: APRIL 3, 2014***

Week 8 (APR. 7-9): NATIONS AND EMPIRES, 1850–1914
Themes of the Week: Building nations and empires; industry, science and technology; pressures of expansion in Japan, Russia and China; age of imperialism
Readings: WTWA, Chapter 17, pp. 629-665.
Discussion session topic: The question of “Industrial Revolution”; the age of imperialism
Homework #3 Assignment (Apr. 10)

Week 9 (APR. 14-16): AN UNSETTLED WORLD, 1890–1914
Themes of the Week: People in motion; discontent with imperialism; worldwide insecurities; cultural modernism
Readings: WTWA, Chapter 18, pp. 667-692.
Discussion session topic: Modernity and its discontents
Homework #3 Submission Deadline (April 17)

Week 10 (APR. 21-23): NO CLASS – SPRING BREAK
Week 11 (APR. 28-30): AN UNSETTLED WORLD, 1890–1914 (cont.)
Themes of the Week: Rethinking race and reimagining nation
Readings: WTWA, Chapter 18, pp. 692-703.
Discussion session topic: Nations and nationalisms before WWI
Homework #4 Assignment (May 1)

Week 12 (MAY 5-7): OF MASSES AND VISIONS OF THE MODERN, 1910–1939
Themes of the Week: The Great War and its aftermath; the end of the Ottoman Empire; mass politics and visions of modern state
Readings: WTWA, Chapter 19, pp. 706-741.
Discussion session topic: World War I; post-war mass politics
Homework #4 Submission Deadline (May 8)

Week 13 (MAY 12-14): THE THREE-WORLD ORDER, 1940–1975
Themes of the Week: World War II and its aftermath; Cold War, three worlds and decolonization
Readings: WTWA, Chapter 20, pp. 743-783.
Discussion session topic: Understanding the Cold War Era
Homework #5 Assignment (May 15)

Themes of the Week: Dynamics and problems of globalization; a new citizenship in the global world?
Readings: WTWA, Chapter 21, pp. 785-823.
Discussion session topic: What is globalization?
Homework #5 Submission (May 22)

Themes of the Week: The world and the Middle East in the 21st century; concluding remarks
Readings: WTWA, Chapter 22, pp. 825-847.
Discussion session topic: Preparation for the Final

FINAL EXAM: TBA