Course Description and Objectives

This course intends to introduce students to the sources for the study of Europe’s changing relationship with the outside world and to the controversies which have arisen in that study. To cover our subject the course begins with the era of the European Renaissance (ca. 1400-1600) and ends with the current post-colonial era of independent states.

The course also intends to introduce students to a college-level intellectual environment. Some activities will focus on time management issues, and others on handling intellectual discord. Polishing the essential skills of clarity of thought, speech and writing will be particularly emphasized. In the end the student’s ability to write clearly and convincingly should be improved.

Course Activities and Evaluation

Each class session we will consider the reading indicated for that day (the readings must be read for discussion on the day indicated in the syllabus). Other days we will hear and discuss oral reports and participate in debates. I will lecture for part of some class sessions when the readings have gaps. In general class activities will be diverse.

Students will be evaluated according to the following system:
3 or 4 argumentative essays (4-5 pp. each, deadlines indicated in the syllabus)- 35%
Research paper (12-15 pp., due Dec. 15th)- 35%
Quizzes on alternate Fridays- 15%
Quality and frequency of class participation- 15%

Readings

(Books are available for purchase at “Ruminator Books,” and most are on reserve in the Macalester Library under our course’s name).
Alfred Crosby, The Measure of Reality (Cambridge University Press)

Selected chapters and articles from other books and journals available on the Internet at the College’s web page (indicated in the syllabus as **ER**).

LQ

1. Sept. 2 (Orientation period). Discussion of E.M. Forster, *A Passage to India*

2. Sept. 6 (First day of classes). Same continued.

II. Theoretical Underpinnings of the Course


(Today bring to class the syllabi for all your courses and a daily appointment calendar)

(Today begin your time use log and continue it through the week until midnight on Sunday, Sept. 17th)


III. Does Europe Have a Special Character?


7. Sept. 18. Crosby, Part II (to 222), Part III (to the end)

(Bring time-use logs to class)

**First Essay (4—5 pp.) due in class**
   b. Jacob, “Thinking Unfashionable Thoughts, Asking Unfashionable Questions,” American Historical Review, April, 2000; and  
   c. Goldstone, “Whose Measure of Reality?,” American Historical Review, April, 2000 (All to be handed out to you in class).

IV. The European Renaissance (ca. 1400-1600 and European Expansion. Why and how? What did they think of the people they encountered? Did their expansion do them any good?

   A. The Why.

   B. The How.
10. Sept. 25. Parry, “Methods and Motives,” in Age of Reconnaissance. ER


   C. What did they think about the people they encountered?
12. Sept. 29. Lewis, Cultures in Conflict, Ch. 3.


   D. Did expansion do them any material good?
16. Oct. 9. Waites, Europe and the Third World. Ch. 3 (oral report on Ch. 2)

V. The European Scientific Revolution of the 17th and 18th centuries, and Its Effect on Europe’s Image of the Outside World.
17. Oct. 11. De Waal Malefijt, “The Proper Study of Mankind is Man,” in idem., Images of Man, Ch. 5. ER
**Second Essay (4-5 pp.) due in class**

18. Oct. 13. De Waal Malefijt, “The Fate of Reason,” in *Images of Man*, Ch. 6. *(To be handed out to you in class).*


VI. Industrial Revolution, European Thought and the Imperial Age (ca. 1860s-1970s)

A. Why?

Oral reports on:
   a. V.G. Kiernan, *Lords of Human Kind*. Ch. 1 (“Introduction”); and


B. Running the Empires


C. Race and Segregation


Nov. 10. No class. AAASS in Denver

D. The Selling of “Empire” in European Culture


E. Assault on Local Cultures
31. Nov. 20. Curtin, The World and the West. Ch. 4 (oral report on Ch. 5). **Third essay due in class**

32. Nov. 22. Curtin, Ch. 7 (oral report on Ch. 8).

Nov. 23-26 Thanksgiving Break.

33. Nov. 27. Curtin, Ch. 9 (oral report on Ch. 10).

F. Economics of Empire
34. Nov. 29. Waites, Europe and the Third World. Ch. 3.

35. Dec. 1. Waites, Ch. 4.

36. Dec. 4. Waites, Ch. 5.

VII. Resistance. Liberation and the Post-Imperial Age

39. Dec. 11. Curtin, Ch. 14


41. Dec. 15. Waites, Ch. 8.