

HIST 3401
SOCIETY AND CULTURE IN THE 20TH CENTURY WORLD
Tuesday/Thursday 3:00-4:15 PM in J-130

IMPORTANT!

Full details about graded assignments (essays, presentations, extra credit) are *not* included in this condensed syllabus, but are posted in the relevant sections of the course website. They apply to you *whether or not you are aware of them*.

I. COURSE BASICS

A. Contact Information

By E-mail: bvanripe@spsu.edu or sts2400@bellsouth.net

In Person: TTh 2:00-2:45 PM in J-319; or by appointment
Or leave a phone or written message in the SIS office (J-305) during business hours

Course Website: <http://spsu.view.usg.edu>
Log in using the same user ID and password you use for your SPSU email account

B. Books and Materials

- Geoffrey Blainey, *A Short History of the 20th Century* [ISBN 978-1-56663-793-0]
- Electronic readings posted on the course website
- Regular access to a computer with an internet connection

C. Course Objectives

When you finish HIST 3401, you should be able to:

1. Identify major social and cultural movements of the twentieth century in both Western and Non-Western cultures.
2. Recognize the connections between those movements and present-day social and cultural developments.
3. Appraise the historical context(s) within which particular artifacts, images, songs, or other non-literary materials were created and received.
4. Demonstrate the ability to communicate historical arguments supported by evidence and example.

II. Graded Assignments

This page is only a summary. Full details are available on the course website.

A. Attendance

What: Show up on time, with your eyes, ears, and mind open.

Why: A lot of what you'll get out of this course will come from being *in class* and interacting with the rest of us [Outcomes 1-3]

B. Reading Quizzes

What: Ten question, multiple-choice, open-book/open-note quizzes on the readings

Why: Making sure you get the background the reading offers [Outcome 1]

C. Essays

What: Short (5-6 page) essays in which you take and defend a position and defend it with evidence from the readings, class, or outside sources **or** (in alternate weeks) make an argument for the significance of a non-textual source.

Why: Practice with writing argument-driven essays [Outcome 4] and working with non-textual sources [Outcome 3]

D. Bring-a-Thing

What: Bring an artifact, image, sound clip, film still, or other non-text source and a note card with enough information to let you talk about it for 1-2 minutes

Why: Practice in thinking about non-literary sources [Outcome 3]

E. Oral Presentation

What: A 15-20 minute oral presentation, based on your essay #4, in which you analyze the historical roots of a present-day social or cultural phenomenon

Why: Practice in thinking about connections between past and present [Outcome 2]

F. Assignment Summary Chart

CAT.	ASSIGNMENTS	POINTS
A	30 attendance days @ 5 pts	150 pts
B	10 quizzes (out of 12) @ 10 pts	100 pts
C	4 short essays @ 25 pts	100 pts
D	10 Bring-a-Thing exercises @ 10 pts each	100 pts
E	Oral presentation @ 30 pts	30 pts
Total		480 PTS

III. COURSE POLICIES

A. Grading

Generally speaking, I assume that work fulfilling the basic requirements of the assignment and showing a basic grasp of the material deserves a "C." Work that fails on one count or the other gets a "D." Getting a "B" or an "A" means going *beyond* the basic requirements and demonstrating deeper understanding.

I grade with points, not letter grades. Your final grade is based *entirely* on the number of points that you earn, regardless of where they come from:

430 points or more	> 89.5%	A
382-429 points	79.5-89.4%	B
334-381 points	69.5-79.4 %	C
286-333 points	59.5-69.4%	D
285 points or less	< 59.4%	F

B. Late/Make-Up Assignments

Your first three absences from class will automatically be excused. Absences in excess of three will not. Quizzes may not be taken after they go offline. Essays may not be turned in after the end of class on the day they are due. Missed "Bring-a-Thing" deadlines may not be made up.

Waivers and extensions will be granted only in exceptional circumstances.

C. Academic Dishonesty

In accordance with the official SPSU policy, I reserve the right to remove any student from [the] course for disruptive behavior or academic dishonesty. Removal will result in a grade of F, which "shall not be superseded by a voluntary withdrawal and will be included in the student's cumulative grade point average calculated for graduation purposes."

Plagiarism—including, but not limited to, the use of other writers' exact or near-exact words *without* quotation marks and citations—is explicitly defined as academic dishonesty under the SPSU policy. Plagiarism will result in a grade of **a grade of zero on the assignment for the first offense and dismissal from the course for the second offense.** It is *your* responsibility to understand what plagiarism is and how to avoid it. Ignorance is *not* a legitimate defense, and will *not* excuse you from the penalties.

D. Students With Disabilities

If you believe you may need accommodations in this class, please contact the Disability Services Office, part of the ATTIC, at (678) 915-7903 so that they can be arranged.

E. University Closings

Conditions severe enough to close SPSU are rare, but they do happen. *Assignments are due on the days scheduled, however, regardless of weather conditions.* If SPSU is closed and you cannot turn in your assignment electronically, please notify me as soon as possible.

I will make allowances in marking attendance if driving conditions are hazardous.

In the event that SPSU is closed for more an one class meeting in a row, we will "meet" and discuss the scheduled topics using the "Discussion Board" section of the website. Quizzes and essays will be due as scheduled.

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IV. COURSE SCHEDULE

QUIZZES ARE ALWAYS “DUE” (GO OFFLINE) AT 2:30 PM ON TUESDAY

ESSAYS AND BRING-A-THING EXERCISES ARE ALWAYS DUE AT 2:30 PM ON THURSDAY

Unit I: The Great Unraveling (1900-1925)		
1	Aug 25 Aug 27	Course Overview: Administrative Details, Major Themes, Teaching Style The World in 1900 Reading: Blainey chapters 1-2 [required]; Quiz #0 [practice only; not graded] Assignment: Bring-a-Thing #1
2	Sep 1 Sep 3	Uncertain Truths: The Revolutions in Science, Music, and Art Uncertain Truths II: Challenges to Racial and Gender Hierarchies Reading: Blainey chap. 3; Quiz #1 Assignment: Bring-a-Thing #2
3	Sep 8 Sep 10	The 1910s and the “Death of Innocence” Aftermath: Internationalism, Zionism, Pacifism, Socialism, Fundamentalism Reading: Blainey chapters 4-5; Quiz #2 Assignment: Essay #1
Unit II: The Birth of the Modern (1925-1950)		
4	Sep 15 Sep 17	How to Build a New Society: Stalin, Ataturk, Gandhi, and company Airplanes, Radio, and the Shrinking World Reading: Blainey chapters 6-8; Quiz #3 Assignment: Bring-a-Thing #3
5	Sep 22 Sep 24	Spectacle: The Material World Spectacle II: Art and Performance Reading: TBA; Quiz #4 Assignment: Bring-a-Thing #4
6	Sep 29 Oct 1	How to Build a New Society II: Mussolini, Hitler, Roosevelt, and company Spectacle III: Politics as Theater and Mass Culture Reading: Blainey chapters 9-11; Quiz #5 Assignment: Bring-a-Thing #5
7	Oct 6 Oct 8	Dehumanization—Theory: From Buck v. Bell to The Final Solution Dehumanization—Practice: From Nanjing to Hiroshima Reading: Blainey chapters 12-14; Quiz #6 Assignment: Essay #2

Unit III: You Say You Want a Revolution (1950-1990)		
8	Oct 13 Oct 15	Cold War Culture Cold War Culture (continued) Reading: Blainey chapters 15, 18-19; Quiz #7 Assignment: Bring-a-Thing #6
	Oct 13	LAST DAY TO WITHDRAW WITH A “W”
9	Oct 20 Oct 22	Radical Traditionalism Radical Traditionalism (continued) Reading: Blainey chapters 16-17 [as background]; Quiz #8 Assignment: Bring-a-Thing #7
10	Oct 27 Oct 29	Television, Computers, and the Still-Shrinking World Vatican II, Liberation Theology, and the New Church Reading: Blainey chapters 20-21; Quiz #9 Assignment: Bring-a-Thing #8
11	Nov 3 Nov 5	Revolutions: Race, Gender, Age, Sexuality Revolutions (continued) Reading: Blainey chapters 22-24; Quiz #10 Assignment: Essay #3
Unit IV: From Then Until Now (1990-2009)		
12	Nov 10 Nov 12	Sushi in Scranton, Big Macs in Beijing: The Internationalization of Culture Special Guest Speaker Reading: TBA; Quiz #11 Assignment: Bring-a-Thing #9
13	Nov 17 Nov 19	Futures: The Global Village Futures: The Clash of Civilizations Reading: Blainey chapters 25-27; Quiz #12 Assignment: Bring-a-Thing #10
14	Nov 22	NO CLASS—CONTEMPLATE THE CULTURAL SIGNIFICANCE OF THANKSGIVING
15 16	Dec 1 Dec 3 Dec 8 Dec 10	Oral Presentations I [Assignment: Essay #4 due when you present] Oral Presentations II Oral Presentations III Course Evaluations and Class Wrap-Up