

**AP/HIST 1010 FW 2020-21 6.0**  
**War, Revolution and Society in the Twentieth Century**  
Dr. Deborah Neill, Department of History

**Course Format/Time:**

This course will be offered as a fully online course. The lectures will be pre-recorded and accessible on the class moodle site, and all assignment guidelines and key information will be posted weekly. Students will have opportunities for scheduled, real-time meetings for discussions and feedback from their TAs and Professor, but these sessions will not be mandatory; all course components can be completed online.

**Course Description:**

In this course we explore the most violent century in human history. We will pay special attention to the two defining wars of the 20<sup>th</sup> century, World Wars I and II, and we also aim to contextualize and understand the world-changing revolutions in Russia, China and Latin America. We will discuss the crucial development of colonialism and the consequences of decolonization, the impact of the Cold War, and the roots of horrific genocides such as the Holocaust, the Rwandan genocide, and the Killing Fields of Cambodia. We will also explore the ways in which societies have sought to deal with the impact of the traumas they have faced, and discuss how concepts of human rights have developed and changed as a result of the horrors of the twentieth century.

**Course Organization:**

Each week, the Professor will post the recorded lecture and any other relevant material, and students can access this material at a time convenient to their schedules. The Professor will also hold live discussions on Thursdays at 11:30-12:30, the original class time of this course, for students who are interested in discussing lecture or other class material, but these are not mandatory sessions. The Professor and the Tutorial Leaders will also be available for live office hours, or by appointment if students cannot make posted times.

**Course Goals:**

- 1) Learn factual information about the 20<sup>th</sup> century, including dates, names, events, geography;
- 2) Learn how a historical argument is constructed and work with primary/secondary sources;
- 3) Understand how historians present different views of past events (historiography);
- 4) Evaluate the written work of historians (critical reading and thinking);
- 5) Write your own historical essay.

**Assignments and Grade Breakdown (tentative)**

Participation (short answers to weekly questions & online plagiarism assignment) ..... 15%

|                    |     |
|--------------------|-----|
| 2 Mini-Papers..... | 20% |
| Memoir Study.....  | 15% |
| Major Paper.....   | 20% |
| Final Exam.....    | 30% |

**Textbooks (in addition there will be short primary and secondary source readings available via moodle each week)**

1) Daniel R. Brower and Thomas Saunders, *The World in the Twentieth Century: From Empires to Nations*, Seventh Edition.

2) Sean Kennedy, *The Shock of War. Civilian Experiences, 1937-1945*

**Suggested Weekly Lecture Topics**

**First Term**

|         |                                                                 |
|---------|-----------------------------------------------------------------|
| Week 1  | Imperialism, nationalism and the lead up to World War One       |
| Week 2  | The Outbreak of the First World War                             |
| Week 3  | World War One                                                   |
| Week 4  | Verdun and the Collapse of Russia                               |
| Week 5  | The Russian Civil War to the rise of Stalinism                  |
| Week 6  | The War and its Consequences in Africa                          |
| Week 7  | 1918: the Collapse of Austria-Hungary and the German Revolution |
| Week 8  | The Collapse of the Ottoman Empire and its Consequences         |
| Week 9  | the Versailles Treaty and the Spanish Flu                       |
| Week 10 | Postwar Disasters                                               |
| Week 11 | The Rise of Fascism and Nazism                                  |
| Week 12 | The Spanish Civil War                                           |

**Second Term**

|         |                                               |
|---------|-----------------------------------------------|
| Week 1  | The Rise of Imperial Japan                    |
| Week 2  | Hitler's Foreign Policy and Appeasement       |
| Week 3  | World War Two                                 |
| Week 4  | The Holocaust                                 |
| Week 5  | Postwar Problems: Cold War and Reconstruction |
| Week 6  | Decolonization in India and Africa            |
| Week 7  | Vietnam, Algeria, and the Middle East         |
| Week 8  | China's Revolution                            |
| Week 9  | Life in the Soviet Bloc                       |
| Week 10 | American Life: Civil Rights and 1968          |
| Week 11 | Latin America: Violence and Revolution        |
| Week 12 | Genocide: Cambodia and Rwanda                 |