

Course Title	: IDEAS IN MODERN HISTORY
Course Code	: HST1002
Recommended Study Year	: 1
No. of Credits/Term	: 3
Mode of Tuition	: Sectional
Class Contact Hours	: 3 hours per week
Category in Major Prog.	: Required
Prerequisite(s)	: HST1001 Historian's Craft, or by instructor approval
Co-requisite(s)	: None
Exemption Requirement(s)	: None

Brief Course Description

This course constitutes the second required course in the History programme. It builds on the foundation laid by HST1001 Historian's Craft by furthering developing disciplinary knowledge and skills. The course trains intellectual fluency in the vocabulary of modern world history by introducing students to its key ideas and their multiple applications and interpretations. The course also advances historical thinking and reading by prompting students to compare and contrast modern ideas, to critically evaluate select primary and secondary sources, and to situate ideas in their historical context. The course takes a twofold approach to the role of ideas in history. First, we will examine how ideas have been mobilized by diverse historical actors. Second, we will consider how, as scholars, we may use them to conceptualize historical change.

Aims

This course stimulates students to develop an understanding of major ideas in the modern world. It guides them to comprehend how these ideas have been interpreted and applied by historical actors in the unfolding of modern world history, and to explain the connection between ideas and history in their written and spoken work.

Learning Outcomes

Upon completion of this course, students will be able to:

1. Articulate the content and development of major ideas in modern world history.
2. Compare diverse intellectual trends through the examination of primary and secondary sources.
3. Connect major historical ideas to key processes and events that have shaped the modern world.
4. Speak and write effectively about modern ideas and their relationship to modern history.

Indicative Content

- I. Imperialism and Colonialism
- II. Republicanism
- III. Conservatism
- IV. Liberalism: Political and Economic
- V. Feminism
- VI. Nationalism
- VII. Racism
- VIII. Anarchism
- IX. Socialism and Communism
- X. Anti-imperialism and Anti-colonialism
- XI. Fascism
- XII. Populism
- XIII. Fundamentalism
- XIV. Communalism
- XV. Neoliberalism

Teaching Method

The course is taught in the sectional approach, with a maximum class size of 20 students. As the second required course for the History programme, it is taught in a small-class setting in order to solidify the in-depth training students need to succeed in future disciplinary coursework. The course emphasizes close analysis of primary and secondary historical texts, which requires extensive in-class discussion, debate, and interactive exercises. Assignments provide students an opportunity to apply the skills and knowledge acquired in class, while thorough teacher feedback enables students to improve their skills.

Measurement of Learning Outcomes

- Quizzes (LOs 1, 3)
Regular quizzes will test students' comprehension of key concepts presented in class sessions and reading assignments.
- Reading responses (LOs 1, 2, 4)
Written reading responses will measure students' ability to understand, compare and summarize key ideas discussed in assigned primary and secondary sources.
- Essay (LOs 1, 2, 3, 4)
An essay assignment will prompt students to connect and compare two of the main ideas covered in the course, and to situate them in historical context using both primary and secondary sources.
- Presentations and Discussion Leadership (LOs 1, 3, 4)
Students will present individually during the semester in order to demonstrate their ability to explain and connect select concepts covered in the course.
- Class participation (LOs 1, 2, 3, 4)
Course participation will be assessed on the basis of factors including performance in class discussions and attendance.

Assessment

Continuous Assessment: 100%

Written: 70%

- Quizzes 25%
- Reading responses 20%
- Essay 25%

Oral: 30%

- Presentations and discussion leadership 20%
- Class participation 10%

Required Readings

Readings will include selections from the following (the precise readings may vary from term to term):

- Anderson, Benedict, *Imagined Communities: Reflections on the Origin and Spread of Nationalism*
- Armitage, David, and Sanjay Subrahmanyam, eds., *The Age of Revolutions in Global Context, c. 1760-1840*
- Beckert, Sven, and Seth Rockman, eds., *Slavery's Capitalism: A New History of American Economic Development*
- Berg, Manfred, and Simon Wendt, eds., *Racism in the Modern World: Historical Perspectives on Cultural Transfer and Adaptation*
- Cohen, Mitchell, *Princeton Readings in Political Thought: Essential Texts from Plato to Populism*, 2nd edn
- Cooper, Frederick, *Africa in the World: Capitalism, Empire, Nation-State*
- Fanon, Frantz, *The Wretched of the Earth*
- Freedman, Estelle, ed., *The Essential Feminist Reader*
- Gandhi, Mahatma, *Selected Political Writings*
- Goldstone, Jack A., *Revolutions: A Very Short Introduction*
- Hobsbawm, Eric, and Terence Ranger, eds., *The Invention of Tradition*
- Judis, John B., *The Populist Explosion: How the Great Recession Transformed American and European Politics*
- Manela, Erez, *The Wilsonian Moment: Self-Determination and the Origins of Anticolonial Nationalism*
- Mao Tse-tung, *The Political Thought of Mao Tse-tung*
- Paxton, Robert O., *The Anatomy of Fascism*
- Rosen, Michael, Jonathan Wolff, eds., with Catriona Mackinnon, *Political Thought*
- Schmitt, Carl, *The Concept of the Political*
- Steger, Manfred B., *The Rise of the Global Imaginary: Political Ideologies from the French Revolution to the War on Terror*
- Vajpeyi, Ananya, *Righteous Republic: The Political Foundations of Modern India*

Supplementary Readings

- Arendt, Hannah, *The Origins of Totalitarianism*
- Burton, Antoinette, *Burdens of History: British Feminists, Indian Women, and Imperial Culture, 1865-1915*
- Conklin, Alice, *A Mission to Civilize: The Republican Idea of Empire in France and West Africa, 1895-1930*
- Darwin, John, *The Empire Project: The Rise and Fall of the British World-System, 1830-1970*
- Duranti, Marco, *The Conservative Human Rights Revolution: European Identity, Transnational Politics, and the Origins of the European Convention*
- Du Bois, W. E. B., *The Souls of Black Folk*
- Eley, Geoff, *Forging Democracy: The History of the Left in Europe, 1850-2000*
- Freedman, Estelle, *No Turning Back: The History of Feminism and the Future of Women*
- Galeano, Eduardo, *Open Veins of Latin America: Five Centuries of the Pillage of a Continent*
- Immerwahr, Daniel, *How to Hide an Empire: A History of the Greater United States*
- Khilnani, Sunil, *The Idea of India*
- Muthu, Sankar, ed., *Empire and Modern Political Thought*
- Pitts, Jennifer, *A Turn to Empire: The Rise of Imperial Liberalism in Britain and France*
- Rodgers, Daniel, *Age of Fracture*
- Slobodian, Quinn, *Globalists: The End of Empire and the Birth of Neoliberalism*
- West, Michael O., et al, eds., *From Toussaint to Tupac: The Black International since the Age of Revolution*
- Westad, Odd Arne, *The Global Cold War*
- Whitman, James Q., *Hitler's American Model: The United States and the Making of Nazi Race Law*

Important Notes:

- (1) Students are expected to spend a total of 9 hours (i.e. 3 hours of class contact and 6 hours of personal study) per week to achieve the course learning outcomes.
- (2) Students shall be aware of the University regulations about dishonest practice in course work, tests and examinations, and the possible consequences as stipulated in the Regulations Governing University Examinations. In particular, plagiarism, being a kind of dishonest practice, is “the presentation of another person’s work without proper acknowledgement of the source, including exact phrases, or summarised ideas, or even footnotes/citations, whether protected by copyright or not, as the student’s own work”. Students are required to strictly follow university regulations governing academic integrity and honesty.
- (3) Students are required to submit writing assignment(s) using Turnitin.
- (4) To enhance students’ understanding of plagiarism, a mini-course “Online Tutorial on Plagiarism Awareness” is available on <https://pla.ln.edu.hk/>.