

HIST 2670 History of Capitalism A01

Winter 2021

M/W/F 8:30-9:20

Room: Classes will be conducted via Zoom. The course will be delivered in synchronous format

Instructor

George Buri

Email

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Office Location & Hours

Monday and Wednesday 2:30 - 4
by appointment

General Information

Description

This course traces the development and evolution of the capitalist system from the 15th to 21st Centuries. Specific questions to be addressed include: What is capitalism? When and why did Capitalism develop? How has capitalism evolved over the centuries? What has been the impact of capitalism on society throughout history?

Delivery and Technology Requirements

This is a lecture and discussion-based course. Lectures will be synchronous and be conducted via Zoom. Seminars will involve small breakout groups within zoom. Students are expected to attend lectures, take notes and ask questions. Students are encouraged to have their cameras and microphones on in order to participate fully in the class. Both video and text chat will be in use in order to facilitate discussion. Lectures will NOT be recorded to view later so students must attend class.

All assignments are to be handed in via electronic format through UM Learn.

Students must have access to a computer that meets the U of M minimum system requirements

While regular attendance on-line is expected, if you experience unanticipated technical issues, family responsibilities, or illness that prevent attendance please contact the instructor. Students registered through Student Accessibility Services will be accommodated as per SAS recommendations

Required Materials

All the required readings for this class can be found through UM Learn. See the class schedule below for specific readings and dates.

Assignments

Detailed instructions for each of the essays can be found on a separate handout which is posted on UM learn. Each essay is to be 6-8 pages (1800-2400 words) in length.

The Seminar Response requires students to write 1-2 pages on 4 of the assigned readings for this class. The assignment will contain the student's observations about the reading. The student may choose to answer a specific question about the reading that I provide or may discuss any other relevant issues arising from the reading. This assignment must be submitted prior to the day of discussion of that particular reading. The readings themselves can be found on UM learn and the dates they will be discussed can be found in the class schedule.

The final exam will be a take home exam and will consist of two essay questions. You will receive the exam 1 week before it is due to be handed in. The hand in date is TBA

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Essay 1 The Standard of Living Debate	25%	Due Feb 26
Essay 2 Capitalism and Ecology	25%	Due April 9
Seminar Response	4x5%=20%	Throughout semester
Final Exam	30%	Take Home Date TBA

Late assignments will receive a penalty of 5% per class up to a total of 50%. No late assignments will be accepted after the last class of the term. Extensions may be granted on compassionate grounds if requested ahead of the due date.

Students are to submit each paper electronically through UM Learn (as a word document). The file name for the document should be as follows: SURNAME Given name Assign # HIST 2670

Since this is a course that meets the University Senate's W requirement, students must pass the requirement for written English in order to pass the course

Four months from the end of the final examination period, unclaimed student work from that term will become property of the Faculty of Arts and be destroyed according to FIPPA guidelines and using confidential measures for disposal.

Grading

Letter grades correspond to number grades as follows:

- A+ = 90-100
- A = 80-89
- B+ = 75-79
- B = 70-74
- C+ = 65-69
- C = 60-64
- D = 50-59
- F = below 50

Keep in mind that the goal of this course should be to improve your skills, NOT to achieve any specific grade. Thus, my comments on your assignments are far more important than the specific grade given. Please read comments carefully.

Students who wish to appeal a grade given for term work must do so within 10 working days after the grade for the term work has been made available to them

Students who are unable to meet a course requirement due to medical circumstances are currently not required to submit medical notes. However, students are required to contact their instructor or academic advisor by email to inform of the missed work and to make arrangements for extensions, deferrals, or make-up assignments. Please follow these guidelines if you are unable to meet an academic requirement for your courses.

- Contact your instructor for term work such as a class, quiz, midterm/test, assignment, lab;
- Contact an advisor in your faculty/college/school of registration for a missed final exam (scheduled in the final examination period);
- Inform your instructor/advisor as soon as possible do not delay. Note for final exams, students must contact within 48 hours of the date of the final exam; and

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- Email your instructor/advisor from a U of M email address, and include your full name, student number, course number, and academic work that was missed.

Additional Information and Resources

Plagiarism

The common penalty in Arts for plagiarism on a written assignment is a grade of F on the paper and a final grade of F (DISC) (for Disciplinary Action) for the course. For the most serious acts of plagiarism, such as purchase of an essay and repeat violations, this penalty can also include suspension for a period of up to five (5) years from registration in courses taught in a particular department/program in Arts or from all courses taught in this Faculty.

The Faculty also reserves the right to submit student work that is suspected of being plagiarized to Internet sites designed to detect plagiarism or to other experts for authentication.

The common penalty in Arts for academic dishonesty on a test or examination is F for the paper, F (DISC) for the course, and a one-year suspension from courses acceptable for credit in the Faculty. For more serious acts of academic dishonesty on a test or examination, such as repeat violations, this penalty can also include suspension for a period of up to five years from registration in courses taught in a particular department or program in Arts or from all courses taught in or accepted for credit by this Faculty.

Voluntary Withdrawal

The voluntary withdrawal date for this course is March 31 2021. Some evaluation of term work will be provided prior to this date.

Student Resources

***Student supports and resources are available throughout the Fall and Winter terms. Please consult the appropriate webpages for information on virtual appointments or other modes of contact during this period of limited in-person services.**

Academic Resources

You have access to several important resources to help you navigate your classes and university life more generally. There are writing tutors available to help you with your essays through the Academic Learning Centre (ALC): <http://umanitoba.ca/student/academiclearning/>. The History department will also make a writing tutor available exclusively to History students in the department on one day a week. More information about scheduling, etc., TBA.

The ALC page also has resources to help you with study skills, organization, as well as assistance for students using English as an Additional Language (EAL). Other issues, including accessibility services, workshops, and tips about academic integrity are addressed at the Student Advocacy Services webpage (http://umanitoba.ca/student/resource/student_advocacy/).

All of the above services can also be accessed under the heading of Student Resources on the Student Affairs website: <http://umanitoba.ca/student/studentlife/index.html>.

History students can also take advantage of the huge range of academic materials (including primary and secondary sources, as well as pages to help with writing and referencing) made available by the History subject librarian, tailored just for you! They are available on the Libraries page at this link: <http://libguides.lib.umanitoba.ca/history>. Students who need research assistance can also schedule an appointment with a librarian through the website.

Student Counselling Centre

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Contact SCC if you are concerned about any aspect of your mental health, including anxiety, stress, or depression, or for help with relationships or other life concerns. SCC offers crisis services as well as counseling. <http://umanitoba.ca/student/counselling/index.html>

Student Support Case Management

Contact the Student Support Case Management team if you are concerned about yourself or another student and don't know where to turn. SSCM helps connect students with on and off campus resources, provides safety planning, and offers other supports, including consultation, educational workshops, and referral to the STATIS threat assessment team. <http://umanitoba.ca/student/case-manager/index.html>

University Health Service

Contact UHS for any medical concerns, including mental health problems. UHS offers a full range of medical services to students, including psychiatric consultation. <http://umanitoba.ca/student/health/>

Student Advocacy

Contact Student Advocacy if you want to know more about your rights and responsibilities as a student, have questions about policies and procedures, and/or want support in dealing with academic or discipline concerns. <http://umanitoba.ca/student/advocacy>

UM History Student Association (UMHiSA)

UMHiSA is a history undergraduate student run organization that seeks to establish a sense of community for students studying all facets of history, and provide support for them in their academic career. Students interested in fun times, spirited debate, new opportunities, a community of like-minded students, or all of the above, check out UMHiSA on our twitter account @UMH_Undergrad, our instagram account @UMHISA_Undergrad, or emailing umhisau@gmail.com .

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Class Schedule

Seminar Dates and Readings in Italics

DUE DATES IN BOLD

Jan 18: Introduction to Course

Jan 20,22: Origins of Capitalism

Jan 25: Seminar: What is Capitalism?

Reading: Karl Marx, The Communist Manifesto

Jan 27,29: Origins of Capitalism: Italian City States

Feb 1: Seminar: The Origins of Capitalism Debate

Reading: Kristin Plys, "Eurocentrism and the Origin of Capitalism"

Feb 3,5: Early Capitalism: Mercantilism, New World, and the Dutch

Feb 8: Seminar: Slavery and Capitalism

Reading: Sven Beckert: Empire of Cotton: A Global History. (selection),

Feb 10: The Industrial Revolution: Origins

Feb 12: Seminar: The Industrial Revolution

Reading: Karl Polanyi, The Great Transformation (selection)

Feb 15-19 NO CLASS READING WEEK

Feb 22, 24: The Industrial Revolution II: Spread and Impact

Feb 26: Seminar: Standard of Living Debate (Essay Due Today)

March 1: Capitalism and Colonialism

March 3: Seminar: WWI and Capitalism

Reading: V. I. Lenin: Imperialism: The highest stage of capitalism (selection)

March 5: Early 20th Century Capitalism

March 8,10: Capitalism in Crisis: The Great Depression

March 12: Seminar: Solutions to Economic Crisis

Reading: Nicholas Wapshott, "Keynes Hayek: The Clash that Defined Modern Economics" (selection)

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March 15: The Welfare State and the “Golden Age”

March 17,19: Advertising and Consumerism

March 22: Seminar: Consumerism

Reading: Lizabeth Cohen, A Consumers’ Republic (selection)

March 24,26: Third World Capitalist Development in the Cold War Era

Mar 29: Seminar: Capitalism and Neocolonialism

Reading: Kwame Nkrumah, “Neocolonialism, the Last Stage of imperialism”

March 31: Neoliberalism I: 1970s Crisis and The Chicago School

April 2: NO CLASS GOOD FRIDAY

April 5: Seminar: Neoliberalism and Geopolitics

Reading: David Harvey: “Accumulation by Dispossession”

April 7,9: Neoliberalism II: “Globalization” and its impact

April 9: Essay #2 Capitalism and Ecology Due Today

April 12,14: 2008 Financial Crisis and the End of Neoliberalism?

April 16: Seminar: Disaster Capitalism

Reading: Naomi Klein, “The Shock Doctrine” (selection)