

## HIST 102: World History, 1500 to the Present

On Demand

### Instructor Information

Dr. Kate Brown

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### Regular and Substantive Interaction Statement:

The U.S. Department of Education requires that distance education courses must include regular and substantive interaction between students and faculty. For more information about Regular and Substantive Interaction at WKU, please visit the Regular and Substantive Interaction in Online and Distance Learning webpage.

In this course, regular and substantive interaction will take place in the following ways:

- Timely and detailed feedback on assignments provided within one week of submission.
- Available weekly online, synchronous office hours if student wishes to attend.

*Email is the best way to contact me; I usually respond quickly and within 24 hours.*

*If you contact me to confirm that you will be there, I will be available for virtual office hours on Mondays from 9:30am-10:30am CT. Please use this Zoom link:*

*<https://us06web.zoom.us/j/89231352204>*

### Course Description

A comparative historical survey of the major political, religious, and cultural developments in Asia, Africa, Europe, and the Americas from 1500 to present.

### Course Objectives

We will aim to achieve two ESSENTIAL objectives throughout our course:

- 1) **Gaining factual knowledge** through lectures, readings, and historical immersion.
- 2) **Learning to analyze and critically evaluate ideas, arguments, and points of view** through discussions of course readings, modern dramatizations of historical events, discussion of historical monographs, and student debates.

### Course Goals

This course aims to teach you about the historical events that shaped the world as we know it today, but, most importantly, to teach you how to think critically, to question thoughtfully, and to question/analyze the world around you. These are transferrable skills that will benefit you in any chosen discipline or pursuit.

### Course Materials

In addition to course materials made available on Blackboard, the following texts are required and will be discussed throughout the semester:

- Bonnie G. Smith, et al, *World in the Making: A Global History* (Volume 2: Since 1300)
  - **E-book or print book ONLY (no map book or source book necessary)**
- Wolfgang Schivelbusch, *Tastes of Paradise: A Social History of Spices, Stimulants, and Intoxicants* (9780679744382)
- Adam Hochschild, *King Leopold's Ghost* (9780358212508)

## Required work:

- Send an email to Dr. Brown introducing yourself and she will introduce you to the course ([kate.brown@wku.edu](mailto:kate.brown@wku.edu))
- Review the Start Here folder, including the Helpful Resources folder

### Unit 1:

- Read chapters 16, 17, 18, 19, 20 of the *World in the Making* and take the associated quizzes (5 points each)
- Watch videos in Unit 1 folder
- Read *Tastes of Paradise*, chapters 1, 2, 3 (on spices, coffee, and chocolate)
- Complete Global Trade essay (*Tastes of Paradise*, *WM*, and associated videos required materials needed to complete this assignment; 15 points)

### Unit 2:

- Watch French Revolution Documentary and take associated quiz (5 points)
- Watch Industrial Revolution Documentary and take associated quiz (5 points)
- Read chapters 21, 22, 23, 24, 25 of the *World in the Making* and take the associated quizzes (5 points each)
- Read *Tastes of Paradise*, pages 147-226 and take associated quiz (5 points)
- Read *King Leopold's Ghost*
- Watch "Kongo and the Scramble for Africa" Documentary
- Complete Final Paper Assignment (*King Leopold's Ghost*, "Kongo and the Scramble for Africa," and *WM* are required materials needed to complete this assignment; 20 points)

### **Grade Scale**

*A (roughly 90-100 points) – Exceptional work; pays excellent attention to, and clearly achieves, the goals of the assignment (especially pertaining to the student’s analytical efforts and written work)*

*B (roughly 80-89 points) – Good work; shows a significant achievement of the goals of the assignment*

*C (roughly 70-79 points) – Adequate work; demonstrates a basic effort to achieve the goals of the assignment*

*D (roughly 60-69 points) – Less-than-adequate work, demonstrates inadequate attention to the goals of the assignment*

*F (roughly 0-59 points) -- Unacceptable work; demonstrates an outright failure to meet the goals of the assignment*

### **Artificial Intelligence (e.g. ChatGPT) Policy**

Artificial intelligence (AI) tools are not permitted for any type of work in this class. If you choose to use these tools, your actions will be considered academically dishonest and a violation of the [WKU Student Code of Conduct](#).

If Dr. Brown suspects you of using ChatGPT or any other artificial intelligence on any assignment, then there are three possible outcomes:

- 1) You receive a zero on the assignment (with possible escalation, see academic integrity policy, below.
- 2) You receive a zero on the assignment until you can prove to Dr. Brown that the work submitted is original (for example, producing multiple, time-stamped drafts from MS Word or a Google Document demonstrating that you produced the work and revised it).
- 3) You receive a zero on the assignment, but Dr. Brown allows you to submit another assignment in its place for substitute credit.

### **On Plagiarism and Academic Honesty and Integrity**

Plagiarism will not be tolerated, and all assignments must be your original work, produced for this course. Plagiarism is a form of academic dishonesty where a student either intentionally or unintentionally uses the words/wording and/or ideas of another without proper citation (that is, without proper acknowledgement—see Dr. Brown for the proper way to cite information). This improper use of another’s words/wording/ideas/information gives a false or misleading impression that the material is original to the student. Plagiarism will result in an automatic **zero** on the plagiarized assignment, and possibly an automatic F in the course. Plagiarism also violates WKU’s Student Code of Conduct:

“The Student Code of Conduct educates students about appropriate behavior and fosters a community in which academic success can occur. The following Student Codes of Conduct are the regulations that apply to ALL WKU students, including the satellite campuses: ...

**1. Dishonesty.** Dishonesty, such as cheating, plagiarism, misrepresenting of oneself or an organization, knowingly furnishing false information to the University, or omitting relevant or necessary information to gain a benefit, to injure, or to defraud is prohibited.”

Because plagiarism is a serious offense, please see Dr. Brown with any and all questions you have when in doubt—and, if in doubt, cite! (See the History Department’s Style Sheet available at the [History Department's Style Sheet](https://www.wku.edu/history/writing/writing-citations.php), at <https://www.wku.edu/history/writing/writing-citations.php>).

Note that common oversights **that count as plagiarism include**: using someone else’s words/phrases/sentences precisely—or almost precisely (e.g. copying their quote and changing around a few words) or paraphrasing their thought—counts as plagiarism unless you use quotes (to indicate direct copying of their words) and/or you include a footnote with a citation to the source of the idea/thoughts/words. If the words, thoughts, phrases, ideas, sentences, etc. are not your own then you **MUST** cite the source of those words, thoughts, phrases, ideas, sentences, etc. or you will be plagiarizing.

As a student at WKU, you are expected to adhere to the university’s “Student Life Policies on Student Rights and Responsibilities” in the Student Handbook. This document is available online at Student Rights and Responsibilities at <https://www.wku.edu/studentconduct/student-rights-responsibilities.php>.

### **A Statement on Title IX Policy**

Western Kentucky University (WKU) is committed to supporting faculty, staff and students by upholding WKU’s Title IX Sexual Misconduct/Assault Policy (#0.2070), the Title IX Policy and Discrimination and Harassment Policy (#0.2040), and the Discrimination and Harassment Policy. Under these policies, discrimination, harassment and/or sexual misconduct based on sex/gender are prohibited. If you experience an incident of sex/gender-based discrimination, harassment and/or sexual misconduct, you are encouraged to report it to the Title IX Coordinator, Andrea Anderson, 270-745-5398 or Title IX Investigators, Michael Crowe, 270-745-5429 or Joshua Hayes, 270-745-5121. Please note that while you may report an incident of sex/gender based discrimination, harassment and/or sexual misconduct to a faculty member, WKU faculty are “Responsible Employees” of the University and **MUST** report what you share to WKU’s Title IX Coordinator or Title IX Investigator. If you would like to speak with someone who may be able to afford you confidentiality, you may contact WKU’s Counseling and Testing Center (<https://www.wku.edu/heretohelp/>) at 270-745-3159.

### **A Statement on Student Disability Services and the ADA**

In compliance with University policy, students with disabilities who require academic and/or auxiliary accommodations for this course must contact the Student Accessibility Resource Center located in Downing Student Union, 1074. SARC can be reached by phone number at 270-745-5004 [270-745-3030 TTY] or via email at [sarc.connect@wku.edu](mailto:sarc.connect@wku.edu) . Please do not request accommodations

directly from the professor or instructor without a faculty notification letter (FNL) from The Student Accessibility Resource Center.

See [Syllabus Info](https://www.wku.edu/syllabusinfo/) (<https://www.wku.edu/syllabusinfo/>) for other helpful links and information.

### **Notices Relating to Online Course Formats:**

Make sure you know how to use Blackboard: If you have not used Blackboard before, I highly advise that you contact WKU IT Help Desk to complete a Blackboard Student User Training Module.

Blackboard Help/WKU IT Help Desk: 270-745-7000

You can also sign up by signing into Blackboard, clicking the IT TRAINING tab (black with white writing, at the top. Look for IT Blackboard Student User Training.

WKU Online Student Resource Center: [WKU Student Resource Center](http://www.wku.edu/online/src/)  
(<http://www.wku.edu/online/src/>)

Other items needed for an online class (in addition to the course materials described above):

- Access to a computer (your own) with a reliable Internet connection
- Microsoft Word in docx, file format
- The texts assigned for this course (online versions or hardcopies)

### **Course Policies**

#### Technology & Due Dates (Late Work)

All required work will be completed online. You will submit your work through Blackboard, with the exception of your historiographical essay drafts (you will email those to Dr. Brown at [kate.brown@wku.edu](mailto:kate.brown@wku.edu)).

#### Announcements

I will use email and Blackboard announcements as a way of communicating to the entire class during the course. For individual communications, I will use email or comments posted to your discussion posts. Please look out for email and Blackboard communications from me.

#### Work Submission

All work will be submitted via our course site on Blackboard or email (for the historiographical essay drafts), and must be submitted in the appropriate docx format (or they will not be graded).

### Failure of Technology

It happens. Plan for it in advance. Late work will NOT be accepted if you submit it after your extended on-demand course term has ended, even if it is late because your laptop/internet connection/electricity, etc. malfunctioned. The only exception to this is if the Blackboard platform is inaccessible to WKU users.