History 1809G
International History, 1880s-1990s: Together and Apart
Winter 2024

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This is a **draft** syllabus. Please see the course site on OWL for a final version.

**Course Description**
The rise of nations gave rise to the ‘international’ as a space, community, experience and ideology. People everywhere had ideas and experiences that were international – in the food they ate, the information they consumed, through their work, pastimes and civic engagement. Nation-states also engaged in international relations through the wars they fought, the foreign missions they conducted, and their relationships with other nations and peoples. In this course, we examine how individuals, groups, movements and nations participated in, or were affected by, economic, social, cultural, and political components of international contact, exchange, circulation and relationships from the 1880s to the 1990s. Internationalism took many forms. To some people, internationalism was an ideal, to others it was a threat. International history is not a story of progress and cooperation, but of acceptance and rejection, inclusion and exclusion.

**Learning objectives:**
- Improve research skills
- Improve ability to interpret primary sources
- Develop oral and written communication skills
- Understand multiple forms of internationalism
- Understand and explain tension between nationalism and internationalism
- Develop and complicate understanding of the history of the 20th century
Poster for the 1900 World Fair in Paris

Course Syllabus
There are weekly readings for lectures and tutorials; there is no assigned textbook. Readings marked with an * are available digitally through Weldon library. There will be a copy of all other readings on the course owlsite.

Jan. 9: Introduction to the class. What is international history?

No tutorials this week.

Part 1: 1880s to 1930s

Jan 16: People on the move I

Readings for class:


Glenda Sluga, Internationalism in the Age of Nationalism, Chapter 1: ‘The International Turn’, pp. 11-44.*

Tutorial topic: Tourism


**Jan. 23:** International Movements I: Women’s Rights, the Peace Movement, Trade Unionism

**Readings for class:**


**Canadian Women recognized as legal persons 1929**

**Tutorial topic: Women’s Rights**

Henrice Altink, ‘We are equal to men in ability to do anything: African Jamaican Women and citizenship in the interwar years’ in *Women’s Activism: Global Perspectives from the 1890s to the present*, ed, by Francisca de Haan et al.


**Jan. 30:** The Global Economy I: Multinational Corporations, Global Trade, and Consumption

**No class readings this week.**

**Tutorial topic: Tea**


**Feb. 6:** International Relations and Global Politics I: The League of Nations

**Readings for class:**


**Tutorial topic: International News Assignment**

This tutorial is dedicated to your newspaper assignment. You should have chosen your topic by now and found your newspaper articles. This is a time to ask questions, discuss preliminary ideas, and brainstorm.

**Feb. 13:** Dark Internationalism: Nationalism, Communism, Fascism, Imperialism


**Tutorial topic: 1936 Olympic Games in Berlin**


Jesse Owens winning one of four gold medals at the 1936 Olympics in Berlin.
Feb. 17-25: Reading Week. No office hours this week.

**Part II: 1940s-1990s**

Feb. 27: International Relations and Global Politics II: Recovery and Reconstruction: Inclusion, Exclusion and the UN-system

**Readings for class:**


**Tutorial topic: Human Rights**


**March 5:** International Relations and Global Politics III: the Cold War, Non-Alignment and Decolonization

**Readings for class:**


**Tutorial topic: Internationalism essay**

Discuss the internationalism assignment, including how to select good sources, developing an historical interpretation, and effective writing.

**March 12:** The Global Economy II: Development, Inequality, and Geopolitical Fault lines

**Readings for class:**

**Tutorial:** This tutorial is a work period. Your TA will be available if you want to drop by to discuss your paper.

**Inaugural G77 meeting, 1964**

**March 19:** International Movements II: Anti-war, Anti-nukes, Student Unrest, Women’s Rights, LGBT Rights

**Readings for class:**


**American women protesting nuclear weapons.**
Tutorial topic: Student activism


March 26: People on the Move II: Migrants, Refugees, Tourists, and Students

No class readings this week.

Tutorial topic: Refugees


April 2: Last class. Review and exam preparation.

No tutorials this week.

Methods of Evaluation
Late penalty for assignments: 5%/day

Assignment 1: International News 1880s-1930s (25% of final mark)

You will compare how three different newspapers from three different countries cover an international event or topic. I have identified several topics and I have also found newspaper stories for one topic from each decade – you can find this on the class owlsite under assignments. You can supplement the list in two ways: you can find another topic, along with the newspaper articles (please confirm your choice with your TA) or you can find other articles for a topic on the list. If you do additional research for a new topic or to supplement the list of stories, you will be eligible for a bonus of up to 5%, depending on the quality of your research. Please attach a brief explanation at the end of your paper about how you found the article and why you selected it. Attach a copy of the
articles you found to your paper. If you can read in a language other than the ones included in the list, please feel free to use newspapers stories in that language.

You can find historical newspapers through the World Newspaper Archive at the Center for Research Libraries (available online through Weldon; these newspapers are primarily from Latin America) as well as through Proquest Historical Newspapers.

This is a research assignment in which you will use a comparative methodology. You should do some basic research about the newspapers (When was it established? Who owned and/or wrote the stories? Did it have an ideological approach? Who was the intended audience?) and the country in which it was printed (think about how a country’s geographic position and historical experience affected how the ‘international’ was conceived). There are some additional references on the class owlsite about comparative history and the history of newspapers.

Your paper should be 1250-1500 words. It is due on 16 February 2024 by 5 pm.

**Assignment 2: Dissecting internationalism (30% of final mark)**

Choose an internationalist ideology and explain its core features and evolution. How did this ideology circulate internationally? Who supported it? Was it divisive or unifying?

Democratic, Fascist, Pacifist, Communist, Feminist, Black, Legal

This is a research essay. It should be 1500-1750 words. If you want to work on a different type of internationalism, please confirm your choice with your TA. This paper is due on 15 March 2024 at 5pm.

**Final exam** (30% of final mark)

The final exam will be scheduled during the exam period. It will examine your understanding of all course material.

Make-up tests, midterms, and exams can only be approved by Academic Counselling. Please see [https://history.uwo.ca/undergraduate/program_module_information/policies.html](https://history.uwo.ca/undergraduate/program_module_information/policies.html) for department procedures and requirements involving make-up tests and exams.

**Participation** (15% of final mark)

Attending the tutorial is a minimum expectation. Please be prepared to participate constructively and thoughtfully to tutorial discussions.

**Additional Statements**

**Use of generative AI tools:** The use of generative AI tools like ChatGPT is permitted in this course for activities such as brainstorming and refining your ideas, drafting an outline to organize your thoughts, or checking grammar and style. Any use of such tools should be properly documented and cited. If in doubt, please ask me for clarification.

Please review the Department of History’s shared policies and statements for all undergraduate courses at: [https://history.uwo.ca/undergraduate/program_module_information/policies.html](https://history.uwo.ca/undergraduate/program_module_information/policies.html) for important information regarding accessibility options, make-up exams, medical accommodations, health and wellness, academic integrity, plagiarism, and more.