

HISTORY 3750F
Encounter and Transformation in the Atlantic World, 1450-1700
Summer 2024
Online May 6 to June 14

Instructor: Professor Mitchell Hammond

Office Hours: 2:00-3:00 pm Tuesday and 10:00-11:00 am Thursday
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Course Description:

This course investigates the social and cultural changes that flowed from contact between American, African and European peoples from the mid-15th to the later 17th centuries. Topics will include the initial conflicts among Europeans and Indigenous societies in Meso-America; the far-reaching demographic impact of intercontinental contact; the formation of Atlantic economic patterns often rooted in forced labor; and the reciprocal cultural impact of Atlantic encounters.

Course Delivery:

The main course platform (except the final exam) is online and asynchronous. All required course materials will be available online either through OWL or through the Weldon Library website. However, Dr. Hammond will be available each week at two times (and by appointment):

Tuesdays 2:00-3:00 pm: a short session to introduce themes for the week, explain assignments, answer questions and discuss class material. Dr. Hammond's presentations will be recorded and posted on OWL.

Thursdays 10:00-11:00 am: an open office hour for questions or discussion.

Please plan for a synchronous (not in-person) final exam on **Sunday, June 16.**

Course Syllabus:

Students will build the following competencies and skills:

- Identify and describe key events and concepts in the history of the Atlantic World
- Consider the diverse relationships among European, Indigenous and African peoples in the Americas and elsewhere
- Evaluate diverse forms of historical evidence and cultivate interpretive skills
- Strengthen writing skills with attention to composition for history and related disciplines
- Engage with faculty and peers in a collaborative, respectful atmosphere

Course Materials:

Readings will be posted in OWL or available online through Weldon Library. Presentations will be posted in OWL. Assignments will be based on class readings in addition to other materials that students find in their research.

Required Texts: John Birmingham, *Trade and Empire in the Atlantic*

Other readings will include chapters from David Carrasco, *Aztecs: A Very Short Introduction*; Thomas Benjamin, *The Atlantic World: Europeans, Africans, Indians and Their Shared History, 1400-1900*; Kenneth Townsend, *First Americans: A History of Native Peoples*; and Robert Harms, *Africa in Global History*

Methods of Evaluation:

Three Discussion Forums worth 5% each	(15%)	May 16-17; May 30-31; and June 12-13 Forums are open until 11:55pm on the later day
Primary source essay (about 1000-1200 words)	(15%)	Due Date: Tuesday, May 21 at 11:55pm
Term essay, footnotes and bibliography (About 2500 words total)	(30%)	Due Date: Wednesday, June 12 at 11:55pm
Open-note exercise on assigned reading:	(10%)	Completed: 9:00am-11:55pm Monday May 27
Open-note final exam:	(30%)	Completed: 9:00am-12:00pm Sunday June 16

Assignment Submission Policy: Discussion forums, the exercise on assigned reading, and the final exam must all be completed during the stated time unless a formal consideration is granted. Essays may be submitted **up to three days late** (by 11:55pm) with a 10% deduction. Thereafter, essays will not be accepted without a formal consideration.

Additional Statements:

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 for important information regarding accessibility options, make-up exams, medical accommodations, health and wellness, academic integrity, plagiarism, and more.