

HISTORY 3750
Encounter and Transformation in the Atlantic World, 1450-1700
Online Summer Term: May 5 to June 13

Instructor: Dr. Mitchell Hammond

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DRAFT COURSE OUTLINE

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.

Please plan for a synchronous (not in-person) final exam on **Sunday, June 15.**

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* (online at Weldon)
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:

Students must submit all written assignments and complete the exam to pass the course.

(20%) Primary source analysis (~1000-1200 words), due **Tuesday, May 20**

(35%) Essay (~3000 words) with notes and bibliography, due **Wednesday, June 11**

(15%) Open-note exercise on assigned reading, completed on **Monday May 26**

(30%) Open-note final exam, completed: **9:00am-12:00pm Sunday June 15**

NOTE: the final exam will be synchronous but not in person (posted online)

Assignment Submission Policy: the exercise on assigned reading, and the final exam must be completed during the stated time unless a formal consideration is granted. Essays may be submitted two days late (**by Friday the 13th**) Thereafter, essays will not be accepted without a formal consideration from Academic Counseling. The comprehension exercise and final exam must be taken at the stated time unless a formal consideration is granted.

Additional Statements:

- ***All work submitted in this course must be your own.*** You may not use any generative or analytical AI tools such as ChatGPT for assignments in this course. During the comprehension exercises, you may not consult classmates or post information about answers. Please review the Department of History Course Must-Knows document, <https://www.history.uwo.ca/undergraduate/Docs/Department%20of%20History%20Course%20Must-Knows.pdf>, for additional information regarding:
 - Academic Offences
 - Accessibility Options
 - Medical Issues
 - Plagiarism
 - Scholastic Offences
 - Copyright
 - Health and Wellness