

**History 1809G**  
**International History, 1880s-1990s: Together and Apart**  
**Winter 2027**

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

### **Course Description**

International history could be simplified to be diplomatic history while focusing on a global perspective. While this is part of what scholars call “international history,” the field has expanded to cover so much more – from the traditional diplomatic history, to the history of global order, to the history of global movements that span across borders and connect different groups with similar goals in different parts of the world, to economic integration, cultural exchange, and other phenomena. It can discuss how people or states in one region interact with other parts of the world. It includes matters that connect the domestic to the regional to the transnational to the international. It overlaps political, economic, social, and cultural histories. It can also intersect culture, race, gender, sexuality, and class. This class will focus broadly on the period, generally temporally defined as the 1880s to the 1990s, and focus on the variety of topics that make up international history to provide a foundation to further studies in international relations, foreign policy studies, global economy, and more.

### **Course Syllabus**

In this class, students will:

- Understand what international history is
- Establish a foundation for the investigation of international relations and international history in the late 19<sup>th</sup> and 20<sup>th</sup> centuries
- Engage in a series of verbal discussions on primary and secondary sources, developing their understanding of the historical method
- Develop an argumentative research paper on a topic related to international history, and present early findings to their peers
- Show mastery of course material through a in-class midterm and final exam

Students are expected to regularly attend course tutorials and participate in class.

### **Methods of Evaluation**

Tutorial Participation: 20%

Research Paper Process: 40% total

- 10% for Proposal

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- 10% for Rough Draft (5% for draft; 5% for in-tutorial presentation of their topic and research)
- 20% Final Research Paper

Midterm: 10%

Final Exam: 30%

*Tutorial Participation:* Students are expected to have read assigned readings and to come to tutorial ready to discuss the readings, ask questions about the readings, and to make connections with themes of the course, while engaging in a discussion with their peers. The participation mark will be equally split between attendance in class and the quality of student contributions over the entire duration of the course. More information regarding tutorials will be posted on OWL Brightspace.

*Research Paper:* In this class, students will learn how to properly construct a research paper and engage in some deeper analysis on a specific topic. Throughout the year, students will engage in a series of assignments to ensure they are on the right path and to ensure their success.

First, students will need to submit a proposal. This proposal will require students to have a potential thesis and, in 300-400 words, frame their topic and explain why their argument is appropriate. Additionally, a list of potential topics will be made available to students at the start of the course; each topic will list a book, available digitally through Western libraries, to help in research which must be used in the proposal, rough draft, and final paper. This proposal should have footnotes or endnotes and a bibliography of at least four relevant academic sources (this includes the aforementioned book). The notes and bibliography do not count as part of the word count.

The second part will be the submission of a rough draft of their paper. While submissions will not be expected to be polished, students should start writing their papers and are expected to submit a few pages which could include a full introduction, some research notes, some brainstorming, or other related items that show the student is actively developing their paper. Of course, the fuller a draft, the better feedback they are likely to receive. Part of this step is to encourage work before the last minute and to develop good time management in completing course assignments. It is also an opportunity for students to gain valuable feedback to help them with their final paper. This part will be graded on a pass/fail basis; a good faith submission showing that tangible work has been completed as determined by your TA and the professor here will secure a pass.

In addition, students will be expected to present some of their work in class during the tutorial of Week 8. Should students miss this tutorial for any reason, they will be required to attend the professor's office hours at some point before the end of Week 10 to present their research to the professor and to obtain credit. Should they fail to attend tutorial or meet with the professor and present their research, they will be assigned a zero. This presentation will receive a numerical mark.

Finally, students will write a 1500 (+/- 150 words) word research paper (this word count does not include notes or bibliography) on the topic they proposed in their proposal and rough draft. This paper will require the use of a minimum of five academic sources, which includes the assigned book. Further information of expectations will be posted on Brightspace.

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*Midterm:* During tutorial in Week 6, students write their midterms. This midterm will require a written response to an essay prompt on a theme covered in the first half of History 1809G. Beyond introducing students to the expectations for an in-person essay exam in History 1809G, students will be given a list of potential exam questions during Week 5. Before each tutorial, one of the potential exam questions will be randomly selected for students to answer to ensure fairness across the many tutorials.

*Final Exam:* A final exam will take place during the April exam period, as scheduled by the Western University Registrar's Office. This exam will have a mix of identification and essay questions with some choice and will be two hours long.

**All assignments should be submitted online via OWL Brightspace at 11:59:59 pm ET on its due date. The timestamp on OWL Brightspace will be considered final for any disputes regarding the punctuality of submissions.** All written assignments will require citations (endnotes/footnotes and bibliography) in the most recent version of Chicago Style and require accurate page numbers. Hardcopies are not required nor will be accepted.

Make-up tests, midterms, and exams can only be approved by Academic Advising. 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.

***Absences and Late Assignments:*** For all late assignments, a late penalty of **2% per day (weekends will count as one day)** will be applied. Should you require accommodation due to medical reasons or otherwise, please see the following section, contact Academic Advising or consult the Undergraduate Policies and Statements on the History Department website. The final date any assignment will be accepted for evaluation is April 9, 2027.

**You must complete all written parts of the essay assignment in order to pass this course.**

### **Course Materials**

There are no course materials that will need to be purchased from the Campus Bookstore for this class. All course readings will be linked on Brightspace.

## Course Schedule and Readings

Please note as this is a draft syllabus, some topics or readings may change. Check Brightspace at the start of the course for the final syllabus.

Week 1:

Lecture – January 5 – Welcome/Introduction/The World in 1880

Tutorials – NO TUTORIALS

Week 2:

Lecture – January 12 – The Collapse of the Bismarckian System; Great Power Diplomacy 1880-1914

Tutorials – Introduction; The Alliance System and the leadup to World War I

- A collection of documents related to the diplomatic treaties leading to the First World War

Week 3:

Lecture – January 19 – International History from Below: Movement of Peoples, Internationalism, Solidarities, and More

Tutorials – The Rise of International Socialism

- A collection of documents discussing the prewar socialist movement

Week 4:

Lecture – January 26 – The First World War as a Global Moment

Tutorials – Transnational Anti-colonial Networks and Global War

- Heather Streets-Salter, *World War One in Southeast Asia: Colonialism and Anticolonialism in an Era of Global Conflict* (Cambridge University Press, 2017), excerpts

## PROPOSAL DUE BY JANUARY 25

Week 5:

Lecture – February 2 – The Interwar Period: Diplomatic Trends, 1919-1939

Tutorials – Soft Power and Cultural Exchange during the Interwar Period

- Lisa Kirschenbaum, *Soviet Adventures in the Land of the Capitalists: Ilf and Petrov's American Road Trip* (Cambridge University Press, 2024), excerpts.
- Michael David-Fox, *Showcasing the Great Experiment* (Oxford University Press, 2012), Chapter 3.

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Week 6:

Lecture – February 9 – Internationalisms between the Wars: Communism, Fascism, Socialism, and More

Tutorials – **MIDTERM**

-The Midterm will take place during tutorial. Possible questions, based on lecture content and course readings, will be given out before class to help you study. For each tutorial, one of the questions will be chosen at random for students to complete in a roughly 50 minute exam. Any make-up exams will operate under the same principle.

READING WEEK – February 13-21

Week 7:

Lecture – February 23- The Second World War as Global Moment

Tutorials – Transnational Ideological Movements of the Interwar Period

- Mark Mazower, *Dark Continent: Europe's Twentieth Century* (Vintage Books, 1998), 104-137.

**ROUGH DRAFT DUE FEBRUARY 24**

Week 8:

Lecture – March 2 – The Rise of International Organizations and the Development of the “Rules-Based International Order”

Tutorials – Discussion of Rough Drafts and Research Papers

- Attendance is required for this tutorial as it will comprise the presentation portion of the research paper assignment. Should students be unable to attend this tutorial for any reason, they will be required to attend the professor's office hours by the end of Week 10 to discuss their research paper rough draft and their research for evaluation. They should reach out to the professor to sign up for a time to meet. Failure to do so will result in a zero on this portion of the assignment.

Week 9:

Lecture – March 9 – The Global Cold War: International Rivalry, Decolonization, and Transnational Solidarities 1945-1990, Part I

Tutorials – International Human Rights

- Atlantic Charter, 1941
- Universal Declaration of Human Rights, 1948
- Bonny Ibhawoh, *Human Rights in Africa* (Cambridge University Press, 2018), 130-172.

Week 10:

Lecture – March 16 - The Global Cold War: International Rivalry, Decolonization, and Transnational Solidarities 1945-1990, Part II

Tutorials – 1968 and Detente

- Jeremi Suri, *Power and Protest: Global Revolution and the Rise of Détente* (Harvard University Press, 2005), 213-259

Week 11:

Lecture – March 23 – The Global Economy and the Impacts of Globalization in the Second Half of the 20<sup>th</sup> Century

Tutorials – Decolonization, Non-Alignment, and the Cold War

- Corinna Unger, *International Development: A Postwar History* (Bloomsbury, 2018), 79-102.
- Louisa Rice, “Between Empire and Nation: Francophone West African Students and Decolonization,” *Atlantic Studies* 10.1 (2013): 131–147.

## **RESEARCH PAPER DUE MARCH 26**

Week 12:

Lecture – March 30 – The Collapse of the Soviet Union and Reverberations in the Global Order

Tutorials – Global Capitalism in the late 20<sup>th</sup> Century

- Quinn Slobodian, *Crack-Up Capitalism: Market Radicals and the Dream of a World Without Democracy* (Metropolitan Books, 2023), 61-78.
- Kristy Ironside, “Because of Him, We Have Pizza Hut!”, Joint Ventures and the Opening Up of the Soviet Economy under Gorbachev,” *Russian History* 4 (2022): 238-263.

Week 13:

Lecture – April 6 – To the 21st Century; Overflow Lecture

Tutorials – NO TUTORIALS

## **Additional Statements**

**Communication policies:** Students are welcome to come to the professor’s office hours or to arrange another time to meet the professor at his office if they have questions or concerns about the course. Additionally, they may contact the professor via email. The professor will aim to respond to students within 24 hours on weekdays and within 48 hours on weekends. Please use your UWO email address for any correspondence.

**Use of electronic devices:** Students are welcome to use electronic devices for the purposes of writing notes or reviewing course materials. Recording tools are not allowed without written permission from the instructor.

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***Use of generative artificial intelligence (AI):*** You may not make any use of generative AI tools, such as ChatGPT, in this course. Any use of such tools for assignments in this course may be considered a form of academic misconduct.

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.