UNIVERSITY OF WISCONSIN
Department of History
Fall 1988

History 525
The World and the West from 1492
Smail

COURSE DESCRIPTION

This course departs somewhat from the normal pattern of history courses. Its purpose is not to relate a sequence of events in a given area but to describe and analyse the worldwide process that used to be called "the expansion of Europe." It differs from the older treatment of this subject, moreover, in trying to avoid seeing it Europe-centrically, as simply an extension of European history. The narrative of the doings of Europeans overseas is not entirely ignored but the emphasis throughout is on the kinds of relations that emerged from the meetings of Europeans and others. These relations can be seen to fall into certain constantly recurring major patterns, that provide the organizing skeleton of the course. Why this should be so, why and how one pattern modulates to another and what all this can suggest about the rhythms of world history in modern times is the meat on the bone.

The major patterns taken up are trading posts empires (Eastern spices, Northern furs), slave plantation colonies, true empires (minute Western ruling elites), creole empires (Latin America, South Africa) settlement colonies, and informal empire (neocolonialism).

LECTURES

Lectures with occasional discussions in class hours Tuesday and Thursday.

EXAMINATIONS

Undergraduates - Two hour exams (1/4 each); final exam (1/2)

Graduates - Final and paper (1/2 each) or audit.

REQUIRED READINGS

--No text, 3 outline maps (required) American Map Co. map 1723 (World)
--About 1,100 pages of assigned readings, all on Reserve in H.C. White Library.
--Lectures assume that you have read the required readings by the Tuesday of each week.

OFFICE HOURS

In 5219 Humanities - Tuesdays 2:30-3:30

Fridays 10:30-11:30

By agreement at other times.
1st Week

1. Sep. 6 T - Patterns. Discussion

TRADING POST EMPIRE

2. Sep. 8 R - The old maritime trade route
assigned
Marshall Hodgson, "Interrelations of societies in history" 227-31

2nd Week

3. Sep. 13 T - The prazos of Mozambique

4. Sep. 15 R - The trade of the Dutch East India Company
assigned
C. R. Boxer, Portuguese Seaborne Empire 39-83

James Duffy, Portugal in Africa, 73-98

C. R. Boxer, Fidalgos in the Far East 174-98

suggested
C. R. Boxer, Dutch Seaborne Empire

William Schurz, Manila Galleon, esp. 15-60

3rd Week

5. Sep. 20 T - Fur trading empires in Canada and Russia

PLANTATION COLONY

6. Sep. 22 R - Westwards: sugarcane & slave plantation
assigned
Raymond Fisher, Russian fur trade, 28-70

Boxer, Portuguese seaborne empire 84-105

Philip Curtin, "Slave trade of the Atlantic basin," in
Key issues in the Afro-American experience 74-95

4th Week

7. Sep. 27 T - Slavery
8. Sep. 29 R - 18th century prime: the plantation; caste
assigned
Moses Finley, "Slavery" 307-312
Curtin and others, African History 213-248
Laura Foner & Eugene Genovese (eds.)
Slavery in the New World, 38-83
suggested
Curtin, Atlantic slave trade


10. Oct. 6 R - Decline. Compare U.S. South
assigned
Richard Dunn, Sugar and slaves, 188-262
suggested
C. L. R. James, Black Jacobins

6th week

MODULATIONS

11. Oct. 11 T - Sri Lanka (Ceylon) cinnamon

12. Oct. 13 R - India and Java
assigned
S. Arasaratnam, Ceylon 51-97 (skim 98-123) 124-47
Percival Spear, India, a modern history 172-234
In search of Southeast Asia (2nd ed.) 83-90, 159

7th Week

13. Oct. 18 T - Plantations and tribute systems

14. Oct. 20 R - EXAM
assigned
none

8th week

15. Oct. 25 T - The fate of trading post empires
assigned
none
DIFFUSION

16. Oct. 27 R - Diseases, animals, and plants
   assigned
   Alfred Crosby, Columbian exchange 3-58

   Philip Curtin. "Epidemiology and the slave trade" (RB History C 9724)
   190-216

CREOLE EMPIRE

9th week

17. Nov. 1 T - Spanish America

18. Nov. 3 R - South Africa
   assigned
   Charles Gibson, Spain in America 48-159

   Philip Curtin & others, African History 277-331, 468-71, 487-91,
   500-502

10th week

19. Nov. 8 T - South Africa (Cont.)

20. Nov. 10 R - McNeill, Hodgson, and Webb
   assigned
   William McNeill, Rise of the West, 565-78, 653-74, 726-30

   Marshall Hodgson, Interrelations..., 227-5

   W. P. Webb, The great frontier, 1-28

SETTLEMENT COLONY

11th week

21. Nov. 15 T - Migrations

22. Nov. 17 R - Argentina
   assigned
   James Scobie, Argentina 11-135 & table on 276

   Frank Thistlethwaite, in Herbert Moller, ed., Population movements in
   modern European history 73-92
12th week

23. Nov. 22 T - EXAM
   Thanksgiving break

TRUE EMPIRE

13th week

24. Nov. 29 T - Conquest in general

25. Dec. 1 R - Conquest of East Africa
   assigned
   Curtin & others, African History 391-417

14th week

26. Dec. 6 T - True empire after conquest: in Southeast Asia

27. Dec. 8 R - True empire after conquest: in Southeast Asia
   assigned
   Harry Benda, "Non-Western Inteligentsias as Political elites
   suggested
   In Search of Southeast Asia chapter 27, 2nd ed., 292-310, 19 pp.

INFORMAL EMPIRE

15th week


29. Dec. 15 R - 1945 onwards
   assigned
   J. Robinson & R. Gallagher, "The imperialism of free trade" in G. H.
   Nadel & P. Curtis (eds.), Imperialism & colonialism 74-97

   Richard Barnet & Ronald Muller, Global reach, the power of the
   multinational corporations, chapters 1, 6, 7