

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-centrally, 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

9. Oct. 4 T - Eighteenth century prime: class

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

28. Dec. 13 T - 19th century to 1945
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