INST 201:
THE EXPANSION OF INTERNATIONAL SOCIETY

This is the required, introductory, sophomore-level course for the major in International Studies. It has two main objectives: (1) International Studies majors (and other students) will acquire a common basis of knowledge about the evolution of our modern world system, as some prefer to call it, or our contemporary international society, as this course labels it. No one-semester course can cover all aspects of the evolution of our international society; this course chooses as its subject the relations between the imperial powers and the peoples they colonized from the sixteenth century to the present, emphasizing particularly the wave of Spanish colonization, nineteenth-century colonization, and twentieth-century reactions by the colonized peoples to imperialism. The economic, political, and cultural forces that propelled European imperialism will be explored, as will the cultural, religious, social, political, and economic consequences of imperialism. Considerable attention will be paid to the emerging international society of the twenty-first century. Alternative disciplinary approaches and alternative social science paradigms that consider these issues will be assessed. (2) Students will focus on the country or region in which they plan to study for their junior semester or year abroad, thereby gaining specific knowledge of that country or region before going there to study. This focus will be acquired through a research paper, the major assignment for the course. Those who have already studied abroad or will not have the opportunity to do so will also be able to learn more about one other country or region through this assignment.

Requirements. A research paper of about fifteen pages in length is the most important writing assignment in this course. It will count as 35 percent of the final grade and will be due on April 27. The objectives of the research paper are twofold: (1) to allow students to learn something in detail about the country in which they will study next year (or might wish to study at another time, for those who will not be studying abroad next year), and (2) to help students learn how to acquire information about other countries and international affairs generally in the library, especially in light of the explosion of electronic sources of information in recent years. In fact, we will pay special attention to studying resources produced in a variety of media that reflect the interdisciplinary and international goals of the course. Therefore, there will be a series of research exercises designed to teach students about sources on information to use for research. The research exercises will be worth 10 percent of the grade.

In addition, there will be a midterm and a final examination. These will be blue-book exams. I will distribute a set of possible exam questions prior to each exam and choose the essay
topic on which you will write at random at the time of the exam. The midterm, scheduled for February 28, will be worth 15 percent of the grade; the final will be worth 30 percent. The final is scheduled for Friday, May 13 at 8:30 a.m. for the 9:10-10:00 section and at 6:30 p.m. for the 12:10-1:00 section.

Finally, class participation will be worth 10 percent of the final grade. Class participation will involve attendance and participation during class sessions. We will especially reserve days in which we have watch videos or read works of fiction for class discussion. More generally, our discussion will focus on the books and articles assigned for the course, the videos presented, and short documents, which will be handed out to the class or made available on the course website. Follow this link to the schedule of video showings.

Summary of final grade components:

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<tr>
<th>Component</th>
<th>Percentage</th>
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<tr>
<td>Research Paper</td>
<td>35 %</td>
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<tr>
<td>Midterm Exam</td>
<td>15 %</td>
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<tr>
<td>Final Exam</td>
<td>30 %</td>
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<tr>
<td>Research Assignments</td>
<td>10 %</td>
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<tr>
<td>Participation</td>
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<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
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Separate documents will be distributed and made available on the website which describe the process of writing research papers and bibliographic sources available in the Kenyon libraries which should be used in writing research papers. The books assigned for the course are available at the Kenyon College Bookstore and most will be on reserve in Olin Library. There will be several readings made available on electronic reserve (ERES).

A note on the agenda. This course will rely extensively on videos, both documentaries and feature films. In order to make sure that we are able to discuss those videos adequately, I have scheduled one class period per week (often Friday) that will be devoted to discussion of the video of the week, to the documents I mentioned above, and perhaps to another reading. Most of the videos will be scheduled for a time outside of the regularly scheduled class period. We will jointly determine times for watching these videos during the first or second class session.

This course is labeled a lecture course, which means a lecture-and-discussion course. Discussion is always welcome. It will frequently be expected as an integral part of a class session even if that class session is not labeled a discussion. Please come prepared by having read the assigned material. However, please be aware that frequent interruptions of lectures can be disruptive for your fellow students and that part of a good discussion involves allowing other
students to participate too.

Three Important Announcements

First, if you have a disability and therefore may have need of some type of accommodation(s) in order to participate fully in this class, please feel free to discuss your concerns in private with me and also self identify yourself to Erin Salva, Coordinator of Disability Services, at PBX 5453 or via e-mail at salvae@kenyon.edu.

Second, the Kenyon College Course of Study has defined plagiarism in this way:

Learning from another artist or scholar is commendable, but to use the ideas (written, oral, graphic or artistic) or the phraseology of another person covertly, so as to represent the material as one's own, constitutes plagiarism.

The Course of Study has an extensive discussion of academic honesty which you are responsible for reading and understanding. If you have any questions, you should feel free to ask your instructor or members of the Academic Infractions Board. Different disciplines have different needs and accepted methods of referencing, and faculty can help you determine what is proper, but it is the student's responsibility to be aware of Kenyon's policy on academic dishonesty.

Third, my office hours for the semester are 10:10-12:00 on Mondays, Wednesdays, and Fridays. If you are unable to meet me during those times, please call me or e-mail me and we will arrange another time to meet. My home telephone number is 427-2274. Do not hesitate to call me at home during the afternoon and early evening; I frequently work in my office at home and I am happy to take calls about the course or other curricular matters. A good way to contact me is by e-mail-just send a message to klesner@kenyon.edu and I'll respond, probably within a couple of hours.
## AGENDA AND READING ASSIGNMENTS

### Part I  
**Introduction**

**January 17**

**Introduction**: Interdisciplinary International History

How this Course Will Be Conducted

### Part II  
**Bases of the Rise of the West: Competing Explanations**

**January 19**

**An Economic Argument**


**January 21**

**World-Systems Theories**

Finish Wallerstein reading, only pp. ix-59.

**January 24**

**A Military-Political Argument**

### Part III  
**Europe and the New World**

**January 26**

**The Discovery of the New World**


**January 28**

**The Spanish Conquest**


**January 31**

**Impact of the Spanish Conquest: The Demographic Collapse**

February 2  Consequences for the New World: Political and Economic

Document: Spanish debate on human rights


February 4  Consequences for the World: Beginnings of the Global Economy

View for Discussion: *The Columbian Exchange*, part 6 of *Columbus and the Age of Discovery*, written, produced, and directed by Graham Chedd (PBS, 1991).

February 7  Consequences for Africa: The Atlantic Slave Trade


Part IV  Imperialism in the Old World

February 9  Theoretical Debates on the Causes of Imperialism


February 11  The Industrial Revolution and Its Consequences for International Relations: China


Document for discussion: Chi’en Lung letter to George III


February 14  How To Write A Research Paper: A Set Of Strategies For Conceptualization And Research

Be sure to have read thoroughly the handout/web document on research papers.
February 16  Industry and Empire: Cultural and Ideological Aspects

Read for Discussion: Rudyard Kipling, "The Bridge Builders," from The Day's Work.

Read for Discussion: Kipling, "The White Man's Burden".


February 18  The Scramble for Africa I: International Factors and Metropolitan Initiatives

Hobson, Imperialism, pp. 196-284 and 356-68.

February 21  The Scramble for Africa II: Local Context and Imperial Response

The Impact of Imperialism in Africa

Read for Discussion: Chinua Achebe, Things Fall Apart (1958).

February 23  Imperialism, Race and Gender: How Imperialism Structured Roles

View for Discussion: A Passage to India, directed by David Lean, based on the novel by E.M. Forster and the play by Sentha Rama Rau (Columbia Pictures, 1985).

February 25  East Asia and Imperialism: The Collapse of China and the Japanese Exception


Documents from Fukuzowa and Soseki


February 28  Midterm Examination

Part V  Reactions to Imperialism and Western Domination: Revolution

March 2  The Mexican Revolution

INST 201: Expansion of International Society

March 4
Forging a New National Consciousness: The Mexican Muralist Movement


March 21
The Russian Revolution: Causes


March 23
Stalin and the Revolution from Above: Challenging the West

Document from *Stalin*

Document on *Social Realism*

Notes on Collectization


March 25
Successes and Failures of the Soviet Experiment


Part VI
Reactions to Imperialism and Western Domination: Nationalism

March 28
Decolonization and Nationalism: *What is Nationalism? How is It Expressed?*


March 30
*Origins of Nationalism*

April 1  Indian Independence and Indian Nationalism

View for Discussion: Gandhi, produced and directed by Richard Attenborough (Columbia Pictures, 1982).

April 4  Nationalism and Ethnic Conflict

Read for Discussion: Khushwant Singh, Train to Pakistan (Grove Press, 1956).

View for Discussion: We are All Neighbours: Bosnia, produced & directed by Debbie Christie (Granada Television, 1993).

Part VII  Race, International Politics, and War

April 6  The Second World War in the Pacific


April 8  The U.S. View of the Japanese Enemy

Dower, War Without Mercy, Chs. 4-7, pp. 77-200.

Using Racist Views to Encourage Soldiers

View for discussion: Know Your Enemy—Japan, produced by Frank Capra (Army Pictorial Service/Signal Corps, 1945).

April 11  Japanese Views of the Western Enemy

Dower, War Without Mercy, Chs. 8-10, pp. 203-290.

Part VIII  The Contemporary Moment: U.S. Power and Its Opponents

April 13  Understanding Globalization and Cultural Change

Wallerstein, World –Systems Analysis, Ch. 4, pp. 60-75.

April 15  
The Breakdown of Order?


View in class: *Ghosts of Rwanda*, a Frontline co-production with the BBC and Silverbridge Productions Limited; written, produced and directed by Greg Barker (WGBH Boston, 2004).

April 18  
International Obligations to Address Political Violence


Discussion of *Ghosts of Rwanda*

April 20  
The Clash of Civilizations?

Read: Samuel P. Huntington, "The Clash of Civilizations?" *Foreign Affairs*, 72, 3 (Summer 1993), pp. 22-49.


April 22  
Religion and Unrest in the Islamic World I: The Roots of 9/11


April 25  Religion and Unrest in the Islamic World II


April 27  Understanding the Depths of Commitment: Suicide Terrorism


Paper Due

April 29  Islam in Europe


May 2  Expressions of U.S. Power: The Bush Doctrine


President George W. Bush’s West Point Address, June 1, 2002.

May 4  The Iraq War and the Future of Peace


May 6  America and the World in the Twenty-First Century


May 13  Final Examination