

HI 254: Modern American History

Spring 2020

Addendum to the Syllabus

General Information

This Addendum is intended to address all changes to HI 254 for Spring 2020 caused by NCSU's directive for all courses to "go digital" to prevent the spread of the novel coronavirus. If, after carefully reading this Addendum, you still have questions not addressed herein, please email me as soon as possible. I will try to address your question, and, if I deem it necessary, share it with the group (without identifying who asked it). Also, if you anticipate having access issues that might prevent you from following this plan, please explain the issue to me as soon as possible. Good communication will be vital as we move forward, so do not hesitate to reach out AND please check your email regularly.

FQs

You will complete the FQs for each class session as already assigned. The answers should be at least as thorough as if you were bringing them to class.

Students will complete their answers in Word saving the final version as a Word document, not as a PDF nor any other format, naming the document as follows: your first and last name, date of the class session. Also, please put your first and last name on the actual Word document. The FQs MUST be submitted to Moodle no later than the start of the class to which they apply. No credit will be given for FQs not submitted in a timely fashion.

Special Note* To keep changes to a minimum, we will NOT modify the course schedule set forth in the Syllabus. Unfortunately, this means that we will miss the two class sessions on the 1940s and the World War II era, normally a "fan favorite." I will record two lectures (See "Lectures" section below) on that chapter and post them to Moodle before we start on 3/23. You will NOT be responsible for the FQs for those class sessions, and in fact, you will receive credit as if you had completed them. Nonetheless, I encourage you to read the material and take notes in preparation for the final exam.

To be clear, **the first FQ you will need to submit to Moodle will be for the 3/23 class session.**

Discussion Questions

In order to replicate some of the substantive aspects of our class discussions, **I will assign one additional question (usually taken from Foner's questions at the back of the GML chapters) to each student for each class session.** I will email a document with these assigned questions next week. Each student will answer their "additional" question along with the FQs corresponding to that class session (in one Word document, as mentioned in the "FQs" section above). Answering the additional question will constitute your participation for that class session, so be thorough, thoughtful, and punctual. The best answers will restate the question, provide a factual and analytical response, and give page citations from GML and VOF. Accordingly, the answer to the additional question should be at least a thick paragraph (1/2-2/3 page). I will take each of these additional answers, compile them into a *master document*, and post that master document to the Moodle page as soon as possible. If an answer is not up to par, it will not be added to the master document (which will be a sign unto you to "up your game"). Your fellow teammates will be counting on you to do a great job with this assignment, so do not let them down.

Done well, this information can serve as a helpful resource for final exam preparation. Again, this will constitute your participation for the second half of this course.

Lectures

I have chosen to use audio lectures to convey the most important parts of the readings (GML and VOF). This was a difficult decision because listening to a lecture is NOT the best way for you to gain the skills of an historian (i.e., interpreting and communicating). However, the use of audio lectures will give each student as much flexibility as possible with respect to their overall schedule, an important consideration given the circumstances. I will post the audio lectures to Moodle under the weeks to which they relate. I encourage you to stay current with the audio lectures.

Power Points

I will add a bit of content to each lecture specifically relating to the power points that are already posted on Moodle. These will be incorporated into the larger audio file referenced above.

Paper 2

Going digital will not require substantial changes to *Paper 2*. The new deadline to submit a proposal via Moodle is **Wednesday, March 25th by 11:55 PM**. After that time, submit via email. The deadline for the final paper will remain **Sunday, April 26th by 11:55 PM**. After that time, submit via email. Late penalties will be applied as per the Syllabus.

Quizzes

We cannot replicate the unannounced quizzes relating to the VOF readings. Therefore, I will distribute four short quizzes as Word documents on specific dates. The quizzes will be distributed as follows:¹ Quiz # 2: Thursday 4/2 by 9 pm; Quiz 3: Thursday 4/9 by 9 pm; Quiz 4: Thursday 4/16 by 9 pm; and Quiz 5: Thursday 4/23. **The student must complete the quiz, save it as a PDF, and post it to Moodle by 11:55 pm the following day.** Therefore, the quizzes will be due as follows: Quiz 2 due Friday 4/3 by 11:55 pm; Quiz 3 due Friday 4/10 by 11:55 pm; Quiz 4 due Friday 4/17 by 11:55 pm; and Quiz 5 due Friday 4/24 by 11:55 pm. **No late quizzes shall be accepted.** The quizzes will be short answer and will relate to the readings (GML **and** VOF) from the PRIOR week (the Monday and Wednesday content from that prior week). The quizzes will be “open book,” meaning that you can use GML, VOF, the audio lectures, and the FQs.

Final Exam

The final exam will be converted to a take-home version.² I will distribute the exam as a Word document three full days before your section’s scheduled final exam date and time. You will complete the exam as a Word document, save it as a PDF, and submit it to Moodle. The deadline to submit will correspond to the end time of your originally scheduled final exam. Thus, the schedule will be:

Section 2: Final exam distributed Tuesday, April 28 @ 8:00 AM – due Friday, May 1 by 11 AM

Section 3: Final Exam distributed Friday 1, May 1 @ 8:00 AM – due Monday, May 4 by 11 AM

¹ As you will recall, we took one quiz during the first half of the class.

² You will receive a study guide at least one week ahead of time, although the format of the guide and the exam may differ from the in-person Midterm (e.g. – there may be fewer choices now that you will have time to compose an answer over the span of several days)