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Mondays 3:30-5pm,
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Revolution, Evolution, and the Global Nineteenth Century
CLCS/HIST/VICT 150.01
MWF 1:30-2:20
TENT 2
Fall 2020

The world as we know it largely came into being during the nineteenth century. Marked by social, political, cultural, and technological transformations, the nineteenth century witnessed the emergence of modernity out of the instabilities of change. Railways crisscrossed continents; European empires expanded; agricultural laborers flocked into mushrooming urban centers; and the enslaved, the colonized, and the disenfranchised around the world fought for liberty and citizenship. In this course, we consider these and other nineteenth-century transformations in a global context by focusing on the interconnections between North America, South America, Europe, Africa, Asia, and Australia. Our investigations are organized around five core areas: revolutions, emancipations, evolution and “progress,” popular culture, and the domestic sphere. Students analyze a variety of sources, including novels, short stories, photographs, early films, paintings, periodicals and pamphlets, government documents, letters, and scientific works. The course will be team taught with occasional guest lectures.

Books (available at Vassar College Store)

- Sir Arthur Conan Doyle, *Sherlock Holmes: Selected Stories* (Oxford: Oxford University Press, 2014). (Or another edition of “The Sign of Four”)
- Karl Marx and Friedrich Engels, *The Communist Manifesto*, trans. Samuel Moore (London: Penguin Books, 2002; English trans. 1888; 1848).
- Bram Stoker, *Dracula*, ed. Roger Luckhurst (Oxford: Oxford University Press, 2011; 1897).

All other readings are on Moodle, or available at the links below.

Course Requirements

1. Attendance: In this course, we will follow the English Department's guidelines for class attendance that are posted on the English Department website (see under Major: Policies). In accordance with the department's policy, three unexcused absences will result in your grade being lowered one full grade. Five unexcused absences can result in your failing the course.

Only the Dean of Studies Office or Health Services can provide you with an official excuse for an absence. Exceptions are made for religious observation. Please notify us in advance if you will be absent due to a religious holiday.

2. Assignments: Each student will be responsible for two short writing assignments, two essays, four Moodle posts, and a small research assignment that asks you to explore a nineteenth-century US presidential election. All written assignments must be submitted to pass the course. Every student is allowed three grace days over the course of the semester, but extensions beyond the three grace days must be approved by the Dean of Studies Office. (As a tribute to nineteenth-century union battles for the five-day work week, the weekend counts as one grace day.) In the absence of extensions or grace days, late assignments will be penalized, and those over a week late receive a failing grade.

3. Grading:

Class Participation 25%

Short analysis due either 9/9 or 9/14 (5%)

Short analysis due 9/25 (10%)

Four Moodle posts, due 10/5, 10/19, 11/30, and either 12/7 or 12/9, total of 10%

Report on the nineteenth-century election, 5%

Midterm essay due Sunday 10/25 by midnight, 20%

Final essay due Sunday 12/13 by 8 pm, 25%

4. Class conduct: You are expected to keep up with the reading and to participate intelligently and productively in the class discussion.. As a courtesy to the class, all cell phones should be turned off at the beginning of class. In order to help create a productive and respectful class environment, it is important that you arrive on time so as not to distract the class. You should avoid leaving unless there is a dire emergency; please take care of your needs prior to class.

5. Academic accommodations: Academic accommodations are available for students registered with the Office for Accessibility and Educational Opportunity. Students in need of ADA/504 accommodations should schedule an appointment with me early in the semester to discuss any accommodations for this course that have been approved by the Office for Accessibility and Educational Opportunity, as indicated in your AEO accommodation letter.

Introduction: Modernity and the Global Nineteenth Century

Week #1

8/31 Introductions (and what's "Victorian," anyway?)

9/2 Defining Modernity

- José C. Moya, "Modernization, Modernity, and the Trans/formation of the Atlantic World in the Nineteenth Century," in *The Atlantic in Global History, 1500-2000*, eds.

Jorge Cañizares-Esguerra and Erik R. Seeman (Upper Saddle River, NJ: Pearson, 2007), 179-198.

Slavery, Freedom, and Citizenship

9/4 Global Slave Trade

- Andrew Kahn and Jamelle Bouie, “The Atlantic Slave Trade in Two Minutes,” *Slate* (June 25, 2015):
www.slate.com/articles/life/the_history_of_american_slavery/2015/06/animated_interactive_of_the_history_of_the_atlantic_slave_trade.html.
- British protesters topple statue of Edward Colston on June 7, 2020:
www.youtube.com/watch?v=04NXGb1pA6g.
- “272 Slaves Were Sold to Save Georgetown: What does it Owe Their Descendants?”
www.nytimes.com/2016/04/17/us/georgetown-university-search-for-slave-descendants.html.
- *The Georgetown Slavery Archive* <https://slaveryarchive.georgetown.edu/> (browse)
- Ronjaanee Chatterjee, Alicia Mireles Christoff, and Amy R. Wong, “Undisciplining Victorian Studies,” *Los Angeles Review of Books*, July 10, 2020,
lareviewofbooks.org/article/undisciplining-victorian-studies/.
- Recommended: *The New York Times*, *The 1619 Project*:
www.nytimes.com/interactive/2019/08/14/magazine/1619-america-slavery.html.
(Browse.)

Week #2

9/7 Labor Day: no class meeting. (Celebrate the heroic struggles of the nineteenth-century working class!)

9/9 Revolutionary Principles [FIRST 2-PAGE ANALYSIS DUE TODAY OR 9/14]

- “The Declaration of Independence” (1776), *America’s Founding Documents*,
www.archives.gov/founding-docs/declaration-transcript.
- “The Declaration of the Rights of Man,” (1789), in Lynn Hunt, *The French Revolution and Human Rights: A Brief Documentary History* (Boston: Bedford St. Martin’s, 1996), 77-79.
- Excerpt from Haitian Constitution of 1805, from Sue Peabody and Keila Grinberg, eds., *Slavery, Freedom, and the Law in the Atlantic World: A Brief History with Documents* (Boston: Bedford St. Martin’s, 2007), 193-196.

9/11 From Subjects to Citizens

- Thomas Paine, *The Rights of Man* (1791), selected in Walter L. Arnstein, ed., *The Past Speaks: Sources and Problems in British History, vol. II: Since 1688*, 2nd ed. (Lexington, MA: D. C. Heath and Company, 1993), 127-133.
- Introduction, “The Civil Code” (1803): Book 1, Chapter 1, no. 7-16, “On the Enjoyment of Civil Rights”; and Title V, Chapter VI, no. 212-226, “On the

Respective Rights and Duties of Married Persons,” *Napoleonic Code*. Go to:
www.napoleon-series.org/research/government/code/book1/c_title01.html#chapter1.

- “The Sphere of Woman: Translated from the German of Goethe, *Godey’s Lady’s Book*, March 1850,” in *At Home in Nineteenth-Century America* (New York: New York University, 2015), ed. Amy Richter, 33-36.
- “Declaration of Sentiments,” Seneca Falls (1848), National Park Service, www.nps.gov/wori/learn/historyculture/declaration-of-sentiments.htm.

Week #3

9/14 Slavery, Commodities, and Capitalism in the Caribbean [FIRST 2-PAGE ANALYSIS DUE TODAY IF NOT TURNED IN ON 9/9]

- Mary Prince, *A History of Mary Prince, a West Indian Slave* (London: F. Westley and A. H. Davis, 1831), www.gutenberg.org/files/17851/17851-h/17851-h.htm.
- Matthew Lewis, *Journal of a West India Proprietor, Kept During a Residence in the Island of Jamaica* (London: J. Murray, 1835), 203-207.
- Sidney Mintz, *Sweetness and Power: The Place of Sugar in Modern History* (New York: Penguin Books, 1985), 53-59.

9/16 Slavery, Family, and Freedom: A Story from the Caribbean

- Victor Séjour, “The Mulatto,” trans. Andrea Lee, in *The Multilingual Anthology of American Literature* (New York: New York University Press, 2000), 146-181.

9/17 Russia: War, Serfdom, and Revolution / Charles Arndt III, Department of Russian Studies. NOTE: This guest lecture will be on Zoom at 7pm on Thursday, September 17.

- Mikhail Lermontov, “Borodino,” trans. Robin Kallsen, lyricstranslate.com/en/%D0%B1%D0%BE%D1%80%D0%BE%D0%B4%D0%B8%D0%BDo-borodino-rhyming.html.
- Excerpts from Leo Tolstoy’s novel *War and Peace*, trans. George Gibian (New York: W. W. Norton, 1996).
- Excerpt from Philippe-Paul de Ségur, “The Army Enters Moscow,” in *Defeat: Napoleon’s Russian Campaign* (New York: NYRB Classics, 2008), trans. J. David Townsend, 89-103.
- Excerpt on serfdom from Alan Palmer, *Russia in War and Peace* (New York: Macmillan, 1972).

Empires, Markets, Migration

Week #4

9/21 Empire and the Global Movement of Laborers

- Captain and Mrs. E. Swinton, *Journal of a Voyage with Coolie Emigrants, from Calcutta to Trinidad* (London: A.W. Bennett, 1859).
- Edward Mellilo and Thomas Wilkins, “The Pacific Century Revisited: Historical and Contemporary Perspectives” (read introduction and “From Coffin to the Stove”),

Pacific Rim Report 49 (August 2007),
<https://www.usfca.edu/sites/default/files/pdfs/report-49.pdf>.

- “Roger Casement’s Congo Report” (1904), in D.C.R.A. Goonetilleke, ed., Joseph Conrad, *Heart of Darkness* (Toronto: Broadview, 1999), 208-215.
- Alice Harris Congo photographs. (Moodle).
- Global Migration Map. (Moodle).

9/23 Free Markets in a Global Context: The Opium Wars / Wayne Soon, Dept. of History. Note: This guest lecture will take place on Zoom.

- “The First Clash with the West: Palmerston’s Declaration of War,” in Janet Chen, Pei-Kai-Cheng and Michael Lestz, eds., *The Search for Modern China: A Documentary Collection* (New York: W.W. Norton, 1999), 94-110.

9/25 Immigrant Narratives [SECOND TWO-PAGE ANALYSIS DUE TODAY]

- Review background on the Page Act (1875) and Chinese Exclusion Act (1882) on the AAPF website: aapf.org/chinese-exclusion-act.
- “Confession of a Chinese Slave-Dealer,” from Judy Yung, *Unbound Voices: A Documentary History of Chinese Women in San Francisco* (Berkeley: University of California Press, 1999), 144-153; read also, from the same volume, the *headnotes only (in italics)* from “A Stain on the Flag,” 124-28, and “The Chinese Woman in America” 154-58. (Remainder of those pieces are available for further exploration and research.)
- Sui Sin Far, “In the Land of the Free” and “The Americanizing of Pau Tsu” from *Mrs. Spring Fragrance and Other Writings*, eds. Amy Ling and Annette White-Parks, (Urbana Champaign: University of Illinois Press, 1995), 83-101.

Industrialization and “Progress”

Week #5

9/28 Industrialization and Factory Conditions

- “Rules for Workers in the Foundry and Engineering Works of the Royal Overseas Trading Company, Berlin, 1844,” in Andrew Evans, Merry Wiesner, et al, *Discovering the Western Past: A Look at the Evidence, Volume II: Since 1500* (Cengage Learning: Stamford, CT, 2015), 152-154.
- “Evidence on the Employment of Children: No. 116--Sarah Gooder,” in Children’s Employment Commission, *First Report of the Commissioners, Mines*, Parliamentary Papers (1842), 252-253.

9/30 Workers’ Voices

- Selections from *The German Worker: Working-Class Autobiographies from the Age of Industrialization* (Berkeley: University of California Press, 1987), ed. and trans. Alfred Kelly, ASSIGNMENTS TBA:
 - “Otilie Baader, Seamstress,” 64-74.

- “Doris Viersbeck, Cook and House Maid,” 135-159.
- “Franz Rehbein, Farm Worker,” 188-203.
- “Lucy Luck, *Straw-Plait Worker*,” in John Burnett, ed., *Useful Toil: Autobiographies of Working People from the 1820s to the 1920s* (New York: Penguin Books, 1984), 67-77.
- “Leisure Hours of Mill Girls” in *The Lowell Offering*, Series II. Volume 2, 1842, 60-79, <https://catalog.hathitrust.org/Record/011570066>.

10/2 Female Producers, Gentleman Consumers

- Herman Melville, “The Paradise of Bachelors and the Tartarus of Maids” (1855), Electronic Text Center, The University of Virginia Library, <https://web.archive.org/web/20080212160122/http://etext.lib.virginia.edu/toc/modeng/public/MelPara.html>.

Week #6

10/5 Marxism

- *Communist Manifesto* (1848). Please read Engels's 1888 Preface to the English Edition and sections I, II, and IV of the *Communist Manifesto* (skip/skim section III, "Socialist and Communist Literature," which is a critique of existing socialist groups). In the Penguin Classic edition ordered for our class, this will be pages 199-204, 218-244, 257-258.
- OPTIONAL Film: *The Young Karl Marx* (2018). (Moodle).
Required Moodle post due before class.

10/7 NO CLASS--COMMUNITY CARE DAY

10/8 French Socialist Feminism / Kathleen Hart, Department of French and Francophone NOTE: This guest lecture will be on Zoom, on Thursday, October 8 at 7pm.

- “The Tribune of Women,” in *Feminism, Socialism and French Romanticism*, eds., Claire Goldberg Moses and Leslie Wahl Rabine (Bloomington, Indiana University Press, 1993), 282-289.

Evolution, Empire, and Technology

Week #7

10/12 Global Disease and Medicine / Lydia Murdoch, Department of History

- “Vaccination,” in *A Domestic Guide to Mothers in India*, 2nd ed. (Bombay: American Mission Press, 1848), 77-80.
- “Vaccination,” in Georgiana Kingscote, *The English Baby in India and How to Rear It* (London: J. & A. Churchill, 1893), 37-42.

10/14 Charles Darwin and His Legacies / Kathleen Susman, Department of Biology.

Note: This guest lecture will take place on Zoom.

- Darwin, chapter 15, *Origin of Species* (1859), in *Darwin: A Norton Critical Edition*, Philip Appleman, ed. (New York: W. W. Norton & Company, 1970), 1st ed., 175-199. (Skim.)
- Selections from *The Descent of Man*, in *Darwin: A Norton Critical Edition*, Philip Appleman, ed. (New York: W. W. Norton & Company, 2001), 3rd. ed., 234-236, 252-254. (Skim except for the last paragraph!)

10/16 Darwin and Eugenics in the British and American Context

- Diane Paul and James Moore, “The Darwinian Context: Evolution and Inheritance” in *The Oxford Handbook of the History of Eugenics*, eds. Alison Bashford and Philippa Levine (Oxford University Press, 2010), pages 27-42.
- Edward A. Ross, “The Causes of Race Superiority,” *The Annals of the American Academy of Political and Social Science*, vol. 18, no. 1, 1901, pp. 67–89. (Skim; read carefully the last pages on “race suicide.”)

Week #8

10/19 Popularizing Darwin: Sherlock Holmes, Race, and Empire

- Sir Arthur Conan Doyle, *The Sign of Four* (1890), in *Sherlock Holmes: Selected Stories*, edited by Barry McCrae, 3-101. Oxford: Oxford University Press, 2014.

Required Moodle post due before class.

10/21 What the Railroad Brought Us

- William Cronon, “Pricing the Future: Grain,” from *Nature's Metropolis: Chicago and the Great West* (New York: W. W. Norton, 1991), 97-147.

10/23 Railroads, Empire, and Global Finance

- Caleb Tuke, “Railroads of Change in Mexico and India,” *Edges of Empire* (April 30, 2015), https://people.smu.edu/knw2399/2015/04/30/749/#_ftn1.
- Michael Adas, “Machine as Civilizer,” from *Machines as the Measure of Men* (1989), reprinted in *European Imperialism, 1830-1930: Climax and Contradiction* (Boston: Houghton Mifflin, 1999), edited by Alice L. Conklin and Ian Christopher Fletcher, 67-74.
- Railroad/telegraph images (Moodle):
 - “The Modern Colossus of Railroads” (Vanderbilt, Gould, Fields) (1878).
 - Rhodes Colossus “From Cape Town to Cairo,” *Punch* (1892).
 - Railway Stations and Advertising: www.bl.uk/learning/timeline/large106197.html.
 - Currier & Ives, “Across the Continent”: faculty.washington.edu/lnash/221/wward_empire.html.

**** SHORT ESSAY DUE SUNDAY 10/25 BY MIDNIGHT****

Commodities and Globalizing Culture

Week #9

10/26 Commodifying the Other: Sara Baartman

- Film: *The Life and Times of Sara Baartman: The "Hottentot Venus"* (1998), directed by Zola Maseko. (link on Moodle)
- Clifton Crais and Pamela Scully, "Introduction," *Sara Baartman and the Hottentot Venus: A Ghost Story and a Biography* (Princeton: Princeton University Press, 2009), 1-6.

10/28 World Fairs

- John Rennie Short, "Mega-Events: Urban Spectaculars and Globalization," in *International Handbook of Globalization and World Cities* (Cheltenham, UK, Northampton, MA: Edward Elgar Publishing, 2012), eds. Ben Derudder, Michael Hoyler, et al., 188-192.
- Ida B. Wells, et al, *The Reason Why the Colored American is Not in the World's Columbian Exposition* (Chicago, 1893); assignments TBA:
digital.library.upenn.edu/women/wells/exposition/exposition.html.
- Browse images of the Chicago World's Fair: worldsfairchicago1893.com/ (more on Moodle).

10/30 Nineteenth-Century Photography and the Classification of Humanity / Brian Lukacher, Department of Art History. Note: This guest lecture will take place on Zoom.

- Zahid R. Chaudhary, *Afterimage of Empire: Photography in Nineteenth-Century India* (Minneapolis: University of Minnesota Press, 2012), excerpt from "Introduction: Sensation and Photography," 1-12:
books.google.com/books?id=RSjgANSSMOgC&pg=PA1&source=gbs_toc_r&cad=3#v=onepage&q&f=false.
- (Optional) For introductory information on early photographic processes, see:
www.nms.ac.uk/explore-our-collections/stories/science-and-technology/victorian-photography/victorian-photography/victorian-photographic-techniques/.

Politics and Memory in Nineteenth-Century America

A brief electoral interlude in honor of Nov. 3 and the people around the globe who struggled for Emancipation and voting rights throughout the nineteenth century

Week #10

11/2 Elections in America: the 1850s and the 1890s**11/4 Emancipation in a Global Context**

- Thomas Bender, "Freedom in an Age of Nation-Making," from *A Nation Among Nations: America's Place in World History* (New York: Hill and Wang, 2006), 116-181.

(Moodle)

11/6 Discussion of Bender, “Freedom,” continued

Public and Private: Urban Culture and Domestic Spheres

Week #11

11/9 Building the Modern City

- David Harvey, “Consumerism, Spectacle, and Leisure,” in *Paris: Capital of Modernity* (London: Routledge, 2003), 209-224.
- Friedrich Engels, “Industrial Manchester,” selection from *The Condition of the Working Class in England* (1845), at the Modern History Sourcebook: www.fordham.edu/halsall/mod/1844engels.html.

11/11 The Urban Flaneur

- Edgar Allan Poe, “The Man of the Crowd,” in *Edgar Allan Poe: Poetry, Tales, and Selected Essays* (New York: Library of America, 1996), ed. by Patrick Quinn and G.R. Thompson, 388-396.
- Charles Baudelaire, selection from *The Painter of Modern Life and Other Essays*, trans. and ed. by Jonathan Mayne (London: Phaidon Press, 1964), 5-13. (Skim, focus on figure of the flaneur and read the first paragraph of the section on “Modernity.”)
- Images of Women in the City (Moodle).

11/13 “Another Civilization under Britannia’s Umbrella: Architecture as a Sensuous Modernity in the Lagos Colony” (1860s -1910s) / Adedoyin Teriba, Department of Art.

Note: This guest lecture will take place on Zoom.

- Adedoyin Teriba, “The Return to the Motherland: Afro-Brazilians’ Architecture and Societal Aims in Colonial West Africa,” in *Design Dispersed: Forms of Migration in Flight*, eds. Burcu Dogramaci and Kerstin Pinther (New York: Columbia University Press, 2019), 233-247.

Week #12

11/16 Costume and Performance in Nineteenth-Century Jamaica / Kenisha Kelly, Department of Drama. **Note: This guest lecture will take place on Zoom.**

- Readings TBA

11/18 Separate Spheres and Domesticity

- Review “The Sphere of Woman,” from *Godey’s Lady’s Book* (discussed on 9/9).
- Isabella Beeton, *Mrs. Beeton’s Book of Household Management* (London: Cassell & Co., 2000; London: S. O. Beeton, 1861). (Read first paragraph, “As with a Commander of an Army,” then skim from 2-20.)
- Higuchi Ichiyo, “The Thirteenth Night” (1895), from *In the Shade of Spring Leaves: The Life and Writing of Higuchi Ichiyo, a Woman of Letters in Meiji Japan*, trans. Robert Lyons Danly (New Haven: Yale University Press, 1981), 241-253.

*** CLASS BEGINS MEETING ON ZOOM ***

11/20 Printing in the Global Nineteenth Century / Ron Patkus, Associate Director of the Library for Special Collections

THANKSGIVING BREAK

Week #13

11/30 Domestic Commodities and Global Trade

Required Moodle Post: upload and describe one image of a nineteenth century commodity (tea, opium, chocolate, soap, etc.) advertisement that draws on global imagery.

- Erika Rappaport, “Industry and Empire: Manufacturing Imperial Tastes in Victorian Britain,” in *A Thirst for Empire: How Tea Shaped the Modern World* (Princeton: Princeton University Press, 2017), 147-182.
- OPTIONAL: read about the Victorian Tea Infomercial <https://daily.jstor.org/the-victorian-tea-infomercial/>.

12/2 Homosexuality by Trial (and Error): The Scandals of Queer Emancipation / Jeff Schneider, Department of German Studies

12/4 Sigmund Freud and the Invention of the Modern Mind

- Selections from Freud’s writings. (Moodle)

Week #14

12/7 *Dracula*

Required Moodle post due before class (first half of class alphabetically by last name)

12/9: *Dracula*

Required Moodle post due before class (second half of class alphabetically by last name)

Final essay (1200 words) due on 12/13 at 8 pm