



SCHOOL OF HISTORY, PHILOSOPHY, POLITICAL SCIENCE AND INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS

**HISTORY PROGRAMME - 2008 TRIMESTER 2**

Monday 7 July to Saturday 8 November 2008

**HIST 235: The Terrible Wonder of Modernity. The World Re-made, c.1880s-1930s**

**CRN 10182**

**Lecturer:** Associate Professor Charlotte Macdonald  
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**Lecture Times:** Mon and Weds 2.10-3pm  
**Venue:** Hugh Mackenzie, LT 002

**Office Hours:** will be announced at the first lecture and posted on the Blackboard site for the course. You are also welcome to telephone or email me.

**Class times and locations**

HIST 235 will be taught through two lectures a week, Mondays and Wednesdays 2.10-3pm in Hugh Mackenzie LT 002, and all students will be required to attend a weekly tutorial. Times for the tutorials are tentatively scheduled as follows:

Monday	3:10- 4:00	OK523
Wednesday	10:00 – 10:50	OK501
Wednesday	3:10 – 4:00	OK523

These will be confirmed at the end of the first week.

**Communication of additional information**

Additional information for the course will be announced in lectures and posted on the Blackboard site for the course.

**Course description**

Why did people in many parts of the world come to see themselves as 'modern' in the period c.1880s-1930s and thereby distinctly different from their forbears? Tracking across New Zealand, Australia, the United Kingdom, North America and Scandinavia - but more specifically Wellington, Sydney, London, Toronto and Stockholm - the course examines what it meant to 'be modern'. Politics, culture, aesthetics and technologies of modernity (i.e. universal suffrage democracies, clothing and hair styles, design and art, consumption, transport and communication) will form some of the topics under examination. The overarching question however concerns the problem of modernity: why did it hold so much potential, including the promise of progress, while also nurturing fascism, Aryanism, eugenics, exclusion and conformity? An answer to the problem will be pursued using a 'slice' approach with detailed research undertaken on topics in two selected years, one at either end of the 'modern' transformation (probably 1888 and 1938).

### Course objectives

At the conclusion of HIST 235 students will have developed and been assessed on their ability to:

1. understand and critique the idea of modernity as a way to characterise and explain the nature of historical change in a select number of societies (specifically Conceptual Review and End of course Test)
2. explore the use of the 'slice' approach to historical research (Source Project and End of course Test)
3. identify and critique a range of sources, primary and secondary, and discuss differing arguments presented by historians (All assignments)
4. investigate two or three topics in greater depth (Essay, Source Project, Conceptual Review)
5. work constructively in tutorial groups and individually (specifically Source Project for groups)
6. write clearly, effectively and imaginatively (All assignments)
7. apply conventions of historical scholarship including referencing through footnotes and bibliography, and an understanding of historical craft (All assignments).

The core attributes of VUW graduates: creative and critical thinking; communication skills and leadership are built into the course design as a whole. For History students the particular skills which are emphasised in the nature of assessment tasks are those which ensure abilities to read with accuracy and discrimination; distinguish fact from opinion; weigh up evidence; come to terms with conflicting or different arguments; formulate arguments convincingly and concisely; write in a clear, logical and lively way; present an oral argument with lucidity and conviction; use information resources efficiently and constructively; understand the nature and development of history as a discipline.

### Expected workload

In accordance with Faculty Guidelines, this course has been constructed on the assumption that students will devote 15 hours per week to Course. This includes two hours of lectures and one tutorial hour per week.

### Essential texts:

The key text for the course is the HIST 235 Book of Readings available from the Student Notes Shop in the Student Union Building. *Writing History Essays* is also strongly recommended.

Textbooks can be purchased from Vicbooks located on the top floor of the Student Union Building, Kelburn Campus. Books of Reading are distributed from the Student Notes Shop on the ground floor of the Student Union Building.

Customers can order textbooks and student notes online at [www.vicbooks.co.nz](http://www.vicbooks.co.nz) or can email an order or enquiry to [enquiries@vicbooks.co.nz](mailto:enquiries@vicbooks.co.nz). Books can be couriered to customers or they can be picked up from the shop the day after placing an order online.

Opening hours are 8.00 am – 6.00 pm, Monday – Friday during term time (closing at 5.00 pm in the holidays), 10.00 am – 1.00 pm Saturdays.

Phone: 463 5515

### **Recommended Reading:**

Griffin, Roger, *Modernism and Fascism: The sense of a beginning under Mussolini and Hitler*, Basingstoke, 2007

Matthews, Jill Julius, *Dance Hall and Picture Palace: Sydney's romance with modernity*, Sydney, 2005

Wilk, Christopher, ed, *Modernism 1914-39: Designing a new world*, London, 2006

Wilson, John, ed, *Zeal and Crusade: The Modern Movement in Wellington*, Christchurch, 1996

### **Assessment requirements**

The course is internally assessed.

Assessment is made up of the following tasks:

Conceptual Review, 1000 words, 1 August, 20%

Source Project, 2 parts: 18 August and 15 September, 20%

Research Essay, 2500 words, 29 September, 35%

In-class Test, Wednesday 8 October, 25%

### **Statement on penalties**

Students will be penalised for late submission of assignments—a deduction of 5% for the first day late, and 2% per day thereafter, up to a maximum of 8 days. Work that is more than 8 days late can be accepted for mandatory course requirements but will not be marked. However, penalties may be waived if there are valid grounds, e.g., illness (presentation of a medical certificate will be necessary) or similar other contingencies. In such cases prior information will be necessary.

### **Mandatory course requirements**

To gain a pass in this course each student must:

- a) Submit the written work specified for this course, on or by the specified dates (subject to such provisions as are stated for late submission of work)
- b) Attend a minimum of 8 tutorials.

The final date I will accept work for this course is 17 October 2008.

To pass the course each student must gain an overall grade of C 50, for the work which is specified as contributing to the final grade. The course is internally assessed. Assessment tasks are outlined above.

### **Academic integrity and plagiarism**

Academic integrity is about honesty – put simply it means *no cheating*. All members of the University community are responsible for upholding academic integrity, which means staff and students are expected to behave honestly, fairly and with respect for others at all times.

Plagiarism is a form of cheating which undermines academic integrity. The University defines plagiarism as follows:

*The presentation of the work of another person or other persons as if it were one's own, whether intended or not. This includes published or unpublished work, material on the Internet and the work of other students or staff.*

It is still plagiarism even if you re-structure the material or present it in your own style or words.

*Note: It is however, perfectly acceptable to include the work of others as long as that is acknowledged by appropriate referencing.*

Plagiarism is prohibited at Victoria and is not worth the risk. Any enrolled student found guilty of plagiarism will be subject to disciplinary procedures under the Statute on Student Conduct and may be penalized severely. Consequences of being found guilty of plagiarism can include:

- an oral or written warning
- cancellation of your mark for an assessment or a fail grade for the course
- suspension from the course or the University.

Find out more about plagiarism, and how to avoid it, on the University's website:

[www.victoria.ac.nz/home/study/plagiarism.aspx](http://www.victoria.ac.nz/home/study/plagiarism.aspx)

### **GENERAL UNIVERSITY STATUTES AND POLICIES**

Students should familiarise themselves with the University's policies and statutes, particularly the Assessment Statute, the Personal Courses of Study Statute, the Statute on Student Conduct and any statutes relating to the particular qualifications being studied; see the *Victoria University Calendar* available in hardcopy or under "about Victoria" on the Victoria homepage at:

[http://www.victoria.ac.nz/home/about\\_victoria/calendar\\_intro.html](http://www.victoria.ac.nz/home/about_victoria/calendar_intro.html)

Information on the following topics is available electronically under "Course Outline General Information" at:

<http://www.victoria.ac.nz/home/about/newspubs/universitypubs.aspx#general>

- Student and Staff Conduct
- Academic Grievances
- Academic Integrity and Plagiarism
- Meeting the Needs of Students with Impairments
- Student Support