



**SCHOOL OF HISTORY, PHILOSOPHY, POLITICAL SCIENCE AND INTERNATIONAL  
RELATIONS**

**HISTORY PROGRAMME  
2009 TRIMESTER 1**

(Monday 2 March to Wednesday 1 July 2009)

**HIST 235: The Terrible Wonder of Modernity. The World Re-made, c.1880s-1930s  
CRN 10182**

**Course Co-ordinator** Associate Professor Charlotte Macdonald  
**Room** OK 416  
**Phone** 463 6761  
**Email** charlotte.macdonald@vuw.ac.nz

**Lectures** Tues and Thurs 10-10.50am  
**Venue** Easterfield EA LT 206

**Tutorials**

Weekly tutorials begin in the second week of the course (9 March). Allocation into tutorial groups will occur in the first week of the semester. Times and rooms for tutorials are tentatively scheduled as follows:

Tues 11-11.50 OK406  
Tues 2.10-3 MY303  
Thur 11-11.50 MY303  
Thur 2.10-3 KK203

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

**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.

**Communication of additional information**

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

The Blackboard class email function uses your student email ([name@myvuw.ac.nz](mailto:name@myvuw.ac.nz)) so please set up your student email account to redirect your messages to your preferred email address if you do not regularly check your student email account.

**Course description**

Why did people in many parts of the world come to see themselves as 'modern' and thereby distinctly different from their forbears in the period c.1880s-1930s? Tracking across New

Zealand, Australia, the United Kingdom, North America and possibly also 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 (ie 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 (1888 and 1938).

### **Course delivery**

HIST 235 is taught via two weekly lectures and weekly small group tutorials. There will also be two class sessions held at national repositories, Te Papa Tongarewa-Museum of New Zealand and the New Zealand Film Archive –Nga Kaitiaki O Nga Taonga Whitiāhua.

### **Learning 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).

### **Relationship between Assessment, Lectures and Tutorials, Learning objectives and Skills development:**

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 one-hour lectures and one one-hour 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 for \$29.13.

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. More details regarding assessment will be found in Course Programme & Assignments, 2009.

Assessment is made up of the following tasks:

Conceptual Review, 1000 words, Friday 27 March, 20%

Source Project, 2 parts: 6 April and 11 May, 20%

Research Essay, 2500 words, 25 May, 35%

In-class Test, Thursday 4 June, 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. It is in your interests to contact the course co-ordinator as soon as a potential problem emerges – not on the day the assignment is due or after the due date has passed. Obtain an extension form from the History programme Administrator (room OK405) and agree to a new date for the assignment.

### **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 on which any written work can be accepted in this course is **Friday 12 June 2009**. The provision for late submission with a penalty does not apply beyond this date. Permission to submit work after this date must be sought in writing from the Head of the History Programme, Dr Glyn Parry, and will only be granted for serious medical reasons (supported by a medical certificate) or in case of serious personal crisis.

### **Academic integrity and plagiarism**

Academic integrity means that university staff and students, in their teaching and learning are expected to treat others honestly, fairly and with respect at all times. It is not acceptable to mistreat academic, intellectual or creative work that has been done by other people by representing it as your own original work.

Academic integrity is important because it is the core value on which the University's learning, teaching and research activities are based. Victoria University's reputation for academic integrity adds value to your qualification.

The University defines plagiarism as presenting someone else's work as if it were your own, whether you mean to or not. 'Someone else's work' means anything that is not your own idea. Even if it is presented in your own style, you must acknowledge your sources fully and appropriately. This includes:

- Material from books, journals or any other printed source
- The work of other students or staff
- Information from the internet
- Software programs and other electronic material
- Designs and ideas
- The organisation or structuring of any such material

Find out more about plagiarism, how to avoid it and penalties, on the University's website: <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* or go to the Academic Policy and Student Policy sections on:

<http://www.victoria.ac.nz/home/about/policy>

This website also provides information for students in a number of areas including Academic Grievances, Student and Staff conduct, Meeting the needs of students with impairments, and student support/VUWSA student advocates.