



**FACULTY OF HUMANITIES AND SOCIAL SCIENCES
SCHOOL OF HISTORY, PHILOSOPHY, POLITICAL SCIENCE AND INTERNATIONAL
RELATIONS**

HISTORY PROGRAMME

**HIST 250: The Terrible Wonder of Modernity: The World Re-Made, c.1880s-1930s
20 POINTS**

TRIMESTER 2 2013

Important dates

Trimester dates: 15 July to 17 November 2013

Teaching dates: 15 July to 18 October 2013

Mid-trimester break: 26 August to 8 September 2013

Last assessment item due: 16 October 2013

Withdrawal dates: Refer to www.victoria.ac.nz/home/admisenrol/payments/withdrawalsrefunds

If you cannot complete an assignment or sit a test or examination (aegrotats), refer to

www.victoria.ac.nz/home/study/exams-and-assessments/aegrotat

Class times and locations

Lectures: Tuesday and Wednesday, 3.10 - 4.00 pm

Lecture Venue: Murphy 220 (MYLT220)

Tutorials: Will begin in week 2 of the trimester. Tutorial times are provisionally scheduled as follows: Weds 4.10 - 5.00 pm (OK301); Thur 11.00 - 11.50 am (MY617); Thur 12.00 - 12.50 pm (MY 617).

Names and contact details

Course Coordinator: Professor Charlotte Macdonald

Room No: Old Kirk (OK) 416

Phone: 463 6761

Email: charlotte.macdonald@vuw.ac.nz

Office hours: I am usually available to discuss matters with students after lectures; otherwise times can be made by appointment.

Communication of additional information

This course uses Blackboard and presumes that all enrolled students have valid myvuw.ac.nz addresses. Please check that this account is active and you have organised email forwarding. Additional information and any changes to the timetable or lecture and seminar programme will be announced in lectures, and posted on the course Blackboard site.

Prescription

Tracking across New Zealand, Australia, the United Kingdom, North America and parts of Europe, the course examines what it means to 'be modern'. Why did people in many different parts of the world come to see themselves as 'modern' and thereby distinctly different from their forbears in the period c.1880s-1930s? How do we understand the history and problem of modernity - a notion that promised progress but also nurtured fascism, exclusion and conformity.

Course content

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

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).

The Lecture and Tutorial Programme will give a more detailed outline of the course content; this will be circulated at the first meeting of the class.

Course learning objectives (CLOs)

Students who pass this course will be able 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;
2. explore the use of the 'slice' approach to historical research;
3. identify and critique a range of sources, primary and secondary, and discuss differing arguments presented by historians;
4. investigate two or three topics in greater depth;
5. work constructively in tutorial groups and individually;
6. write clearly, effectively and imaginatively;
7. apply conventions of historical scholarship including referencing through footnotes and bibliography, and an understanding of historical craft.

Teaching format

HIST 235 is taught in two one-hour lectures each week plus a weekly small group one-hour tutorial. 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 Whitiwhia. Students are expected to participate fully in the course.

Maintaining required attendance at tutorials and adequate preparation for tutorial discussions is central to satisfactory participation.

Mandatory course requirements

In addition to achieving an overall pass mark of 50%, students must:

- Hand in the written work specified for this course, on or by the specified dates (subject to the provisions above for late work) and sit the in-class test.
- Attend 7 of the 10 tutorials.

The tutorial attendance requirement sets a minimum standard. Students are strongly encouraged to attend all tutorials. Tutorial participation is a central part of the course. Tutorial readings and discussion form the basis for the end of course test.

Workload

In accordance with Faculty Guidelines, this course has been constructed on the assumption that students will devote 200 hours to the course throughout the trimester. This includes weekly attendance at lectures and tutorials, completion of all set weekly readings and research and writing for set assessment tasks.

Assessment

The course is internally assessed. Assessment is made up of the following tasks:

Assessment items and weighting per item		%	CLO(s)	Due date
1	Review Essay, 1,000 words	25%	1, 3,4,6,7	Monday 12 August
2	Journal entries, 150-200 words + sources (2 x 10%)	20%	2,3,4,5,6,7	Monday 19 August & Monday 16 September
3	Research Essay, 2500 words	35%	4,5,6,7	Friday 27 September
4	In-class test, 50 minutes	20%	1,2,3,6,7	Wednesday 16 October

Marking criteria:

The Review Essay will be assessed on i) comprehensiveness of coverage, ii) clarity in critique, iii) application of conventions of historical scholarship (especially footnotes and bibliography) as outlined in *Writing History Essays*.

The Journal Entries will be assessed on the quality and originality of the items identified; on the level of success in using the sources to illuminate the slice year, and on accuracy and completeness of citation given for the sources used in research.

The Research Essay will be assessed on i) extent and appropriateness of research, including identification and discrimination in the use of sources, ii) construction of an effective answer to the question or problem posed, and the use of historical imagination, iii) the level of organisation in the structure of the essay and coherence in expression, iv) application of the conventions of historical scholarship, especially footnotes and bibliography, as specified in *Writing History Essays*.

The In-class Test will be assessed on the basis of i) overall success in answering the question, ii) demonstration of knowledge and themes running across the course, iii) clarity and effectiveness of expression.

Further details of the assessment tasks will be found in the Assignments handout distributed at the commencement of the course.

Submission and return of work

Essays should be submitted through the office essay drop-off point, Old Kirk 405, together with completed cover sheet which is available on Blackboard and from the office (OK405).

Essays and tests will be returned at times to be advised. If students fail to attend these times, they may collect their essay from the Office, Room 405, Old Kirk Building between the hours of 1.30 and 2.30 pm from Monday to Friday and must show their Student ID card before collection.

Penalties

Students will be penalised for late submission of assignments – **a deduction of 5% for the first weekday late, and 2% per weekday thereafter, up to a maximum of 10 weekdays**. Work that is more than 10 weekdays late can be accepted for mandatory course requirements but may not be marked. Penalties may be waived if there are valid grounds (for example, illness [presentation of a medical certificate will be necessary] or similar other contingencies). In such cases, students should get in touch with the course coordinator as soon as possible.

Field trip arrangements

During the course the class will be visiting Te Papa Tongarewa Museum of New Zealand and the New Zealand Film Archive. Both visits will take place in the lecture time allocated to the course, but may take up a little longer than the usual 50 minutes. Advice as to dates and meeting arrangements will be announced in lectures and posted on the Blackboard site.

Set texts

The required text for the course is the HIST 250 Book of Readings, 2013. It can be purchased at vicbooks. See www.vicbooks.co.nz.

Recommended reading

- Conekin, Becky, Frank Mort and Chris Waters, eds, *Moments of Modernity*, London, 1999
- Daunton, Martin and Bernhard Rieger, ed, *Meanings of Modernity. Britain from the Late-Victorian Era to World War II*, Oxford 2001
- Gatley, Julia. *Long Live the Modern. New Zealand's New Architecture 1904-1984*, Auckland, 2008
- Griffin, Roger. *Modernism and Fascism: The sense of a beginning under Mussolini and Hitler*, Basingstoke, 2007
- Macdonald, Charlotte. *Strong, Beautiful and Modern. National Fitness in Britain, New Zealand, Australia and Canada, 1935-1960*, Wellington, 2011
- 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

Class representative

The class representative provides a useful way to communicate feedback to the teaching staff during the course. A class representative will be selected at the first lecture of the course.

Student feedback

This course has been taught previously under the HIST 235 Special Topic label. The change in numbering does not indicate any significant change in the course content. Feedback on the course has generally been favourable with particular reference made to the liveliness of tutorial discussions, the range of topics covered and the field trips. In keeping with research-led teaching the specific approach to topics and content is updated in line with new developments in the field.

Student feedback on University courses may be found at www.cad.vuw.ac.nz/feedback/feedback_display.php.

Other important information

The information above is specific to this course. There is other important information that students must familiarise themselves with, including:

- Academic Integrity and Plagiarism: www.victoria.ac.nz/home/study/plagiarism

- Aegrotats: www.victoria.ac.nz/home/study/exams-and-assessments/aegrotat
- Academic Progress: www.victoria.ac.nz/home/study/academic-progress (including restrictions and non-engagement)
- Dates and deadlines: www.victoria.ac.nz/home/study/dates
- FHSS Student and Academic Services Office: www.victoria.ac.nz/fhss/student-admin
- Grades: www.victoria.ac.nz/home/study/exams-and-assessments/grades
- Graduate attributes: <http://www.victoria.ac.nz/hppi/about/overview-of-the-school/hist-overview#grad-attributes>
- Resolving academic issues: www.victoria.ac.nz/home/about/avcacademic/publications2#grievances
- Special passes: www.victoria.ac.nz/home/about/avcacademic/publications2#specialpass
- Statutes and policies including the Student Conduct Statute: www.victoria.ac.nz/home/about/policy
- Student support: www.victoria.ac.nz/home/viclife/student-service
- Students with disabilities: www.victoria.ac.nz/st_services/disability
- Student Charter: www.victoria.ac.nz/home/viclife/student-charter
- Student Contract: www.victoria.ac.nz/home/admisenrol/enrol/studentcontract
- Turnitin: www.cad.vuw.ac.nz/wiki/index.php/Turnitin
- University structure: www.victoria.ac.nz/home/about
- VUWSA: www.vuwsa.org.nz