

History 115: TECHNOLOGY AND HISTORY

HIST 115 – X50 (31412)

Time: T R 6:00PM – 8:50PM

Location: CCIS 1 140

Email: tsr@ualberta.ca Please check the syllabus before emailing. It may answer your question.

Instructor: Trevor Rockwell

Office: Tory 2–47

Office Hours: Tuesdays, 4:45–5:45pm

Students must attend the HIST 115 section they are registered in; attending exams or classes in a different section is not permitted.

Course Description:

This course examines the relationship between technology and social change throughout history. From prehistoric stone tools to twenty-first century nanotechnology, the topics will focus on how technological developments both shape society both and are shaped by it. Regular attendance is necessary to do well, since lectures will cover material not presented in the textbook. Course materials such as lecture notes and image slides will NOT be posted on the Internet or shared with students who miss class. It is your responsibility to attend regularly, to take notes, and to arrange help from a classmate if you miss a class.

Course Objectives:

- 1.) To survey important technological innovations from prehistory to the 21st century.
- 2.) To examine how technology shapes social change, and how society shapes technological change.
- 3.) To introduce students to the discipline of history and to the practice of historical analysis and critical thinking.

Assignments/Exams

Midterm Exam I	30%	Tuesday, July 25 th , 6:00pm–7:20pm
Midterm Exam II	30%	Tuesday, August 8 th , 6:00pm–7:20pm
Final Exam (cumulative)	40%	Thursday, August 17 th , 6:00–9:00pm*

*Students are responsible for verifying the date, location, and time of the Final Exam.

Required Text

Headrick, Daniel. *Technology: A World History*. Oxford University Press, 2009.

The textbook is to supplement the lectures, it does not parallel the class lectures. The exams will be based on both the lectures and the textbook.

Exams

Exams will include short answer identifications, fill in the blanks, multiple choice, and/or essays. Details about the exams and how to prepare for them will be provided in class during exam review sessions. Exams will be based on all course materials: textbook, lectures, images and videos shown in class.

Exams (continued)

Midterm I will be based on textbook chapters Intro to 3, and lectures from July 11-20. Midterm II will be based on textbook chapters 4 to 6, and lectures from July 25-August 3. The Final Exam will have the same format as the Midterms, and will be based on the textbook chapters 7 and 8, and lectures from August 8-15. The Final Exam will have an additional cumulative essay based on the entire course.

At all exams, students will put away all their electronic devices and notes into their backpacks, purses, etc., that will be placed at the front of the classroom. If staples are removed from exam books, or pages are loose in the exam books, the exam or loose pages may be graded as zero, at my discretion.

Outline of Lecture Topics and Readings

Week 1 July 11–13

READINGS: *Headrick, Intro. and Chapter 1*

EVOLUTION TO CIVILIZATION

- What is Technology? What is History?
- Humans as Technological Beings
- Agricultural Revolution
- Pyramids and Societies

Week 2 July 18–20

READINGS: *Headrick, Chapters 2 & 3*

GOLDEN AGES AND DARK AGES

- Greece and Rome
- Islam and the East
- Medieval Europe
- Renaissance & *Midterm Review*

Week 3 July 25–27

MIDTERM EXAM I – July 25th in class

READINGS: *Headrick, Chapters 4 & 5*

NEW WORLDS

- Printing Press
- Scientific Revolution
- The New World
- British Industrial Revolution
- Other Industrial Revolutions

Week 4 August 1–3

READINGS: *Headrick, Chapter 6*

SMALLER WORLDS

- Electricity, Telegraphs
- Railroads, Engineers
- Imperialism and Modern Wars
- Medicine & *Midterm Review*

Week 5 August 8–10

MIDTERM EXAM II – August 8th in class

READINGS: *Headrick, Chapter 7*

THE LONG TWENTIETH CENTURY

- Chemists' War and The Physicists' War
- Consumer Society
- The Computer Age
- Space Exploration

Week 6 August 15

READINGS: *Headrick, Chapter 8*

THE SHORT TWENTY-FIRST CENTURY

- Biology and Nanotechnology
- Environment, Anthropocene, *Exam Review*

FINAL EXAM

Thursday, August 17, 6:00-9:00pm

Room: CCIS 1 140

Grade Distribution

Grades will be assigned as follows:*

Grade	Percentage	Grade Point	Comments
A+	97-100	4.0	Outstanding**
A	92-96	4.0	Excellent
A-	87-91	3.7	Excellent
B+	81-86	3.3	Very Good
B	76-80	3.0	Good
B-	69-75	2.7	Average
C+	66-68	2.3	Satisfactory
C	61-65	2.0	Satisfactory
C-	56-60	1.7	Satisfactory
D+	53-55	1.3	Poor
D	50-52	1.0	Minimal Pass
F	0-49	0.0	Failure

* Grades in this class will not be curved, however, I reserve the right to lower or boost grades if the class as a whole appears to perform much better or much worse than expected by U of A standards.

** If no exam attains 97% or higher A+ may be granted to the highest exam/exams in the class.

Please note there will be NO makeup exams in this class. Your exam mark is final.

Course/University Policies:

1. Any recording (including taking of pictures) is strictly prohibited. Students who ignore this policy (intentionally or unintentionally) will have their cases submitted for disciplinary action.
2. Make sure to check your university email account regularly as this is the only way I can contact you outside of classroom.
3. You are always welcome during my office hours or you can make an appointment. I will be happy to discuss any concerns, problems, or suggestions you may have. Remember that you are **required** to report any problems with the course to the instructor **first**.
4. There will be no makeup exams or assignments in this class; your exam mark is final.

Course Prerequisite: **none**

Course-based Ethics Approval: **not needed**

Community Service Learning: **N/A**

Past or Representative Evaluative Course Material: **provided on eclass**

Additional Mandatory Instructional fees (approved by Board of Governors): **none**

Graded attendance and participation component: **none** (however regular attendance is necessary to do well)

Student Accessibility Services:

If you have special needs that could affect your performance in this class, please let me know during the first week of the term so that appropriate arrangements can be made. If you are not already registered with [Student Accessibility Services](#), contact their office immediately (1-80 SUB; Email sasrec@ualberta.ca; Email; phone 780-492-3381).

Exam Accommodation: <http://www.ssds.ualberta.ca/Students/ExamAccommodation.aspx>

Exam Accommodation Procedures:

<http://www.ssds.ualberta.ca/Students/ExamAccommodation/Procedures.aspx>

Required Notes:

"Policy about course outlines can be found in the "[Evaluation Procedures and Grading System](#) section of the University Calendar."

Academic Integrity

"The University of Alberta is committed to the highest standards of academic integrity and honesty. Students are expected to be familiar with these standards regarding academic honesty and to uphold the policies of the University in this respect. Students are particularly urged to familiarize themselves with the provisions of the Code of Student Behaviour (online at <http://www.governance.ualberta.ca/en/CodesofConductandResidenceCommunityStandards/CodeofStudentBehaviour.aspx>) and avoid any behaviour that could potentially result in suspicions of cheating, plagiarism, misrepresentation of facts and/or participation in an offence. Academic dishonesty is a serious offence and can result in suspension or expulsion from the University."

Learning and working environment

The Faculty of Arts is committed to ensuring that all students, faculty and staff are able to work and study in an environment that is safe and free from discrimination and harassment. It does not tolerate behaviour that undermines that environment. The department urges anyone who feels that this policy is being violated to:

- Discuss the matter with the person whose behaviour is causing concern; or
- If that discussion is unsatisfactory, or there is concern that direct discussion is inappropriate or threatening, discuss it with the Chair of the Department.

For additional advice or assistance regarding this policy you may contact the [Office of the Student Ombuds](#) . Information about the [University of Alberta Discrimination and Harassment Policy and Procedures](#) is described in [UAPPOL](#).

Academic Honesty:

All students should consult the information provided by the [Student Conduct & Accountability Office](#) regarding avoiding cheating and plagiarism in particular and academic dishonesty in general (see the [Academic Integrity Undergraduate Handbook](#) and [Information for Students](#)). If in doubt about what is permitted in this class, ask the instructor.

Students involved in language courses and translation courses should be aware that on-line "translation engines" produce very dubious and unreliable "translations." Students in language courses should be aware that, while seeking the advice of native or expert speakers is often helpful, excessive editorial and creative help in assignments is considered a form of "cheating" that violates the code of student conduct with dire consequences.

An instructor or coordinator who is convinced that a student has handed in work that he or she could not possibly reproduce without outside assistance is obliged, out of consideration of fairness to other

students, to report the case to the Associate Dean of the Faculty. See the [Academic Discipline Process](#).

Recording of Lectures:

Audio or video recording of lectures, labs, seminars or any other teaching environment by students is allowed only with the prior written consent of the content author(s) or as a part of an approved accommodation plan. Recorded material is to be used solely for personal study, and is not to be used or distributed for any other purpose without prior written consent from the instructor.

Attendance, Absences, and Missed Grade Components:

Regular attendance is essential for optimal performance in any course. In cases of potentially excusable absences due to illness or domestic affliction, notify your instructor by e-mail within two days. Regarding absences that may be excusable and procedures for addressing course components missed as a result, consult the Calendar regarding [Attendance](#) and [Examinations](#) sections of the University Calendar. Be aware that unexcused absences will result in partial or total loss of the grade for the "attendance and participation" component(s) of a course, as well as for any assignments that are not handed-in or completed as a result.

Absences from midterm exam:

A student who cannot write the midterm due to incapacitating illness, severe domestic affliction or other compelling reasons can apply for an excused absence. Please note from the perspective of the Faculty of Arts, **unacceptable justifications** for a Deferred Exam include: minor illness (headache, cold, anxiety, stress), multiple exams on the same day, vacations, weddings or other travel. Likewise total loss or problems with computer are **NOT** recognized by the University of Alberta as a legitimate reason for missing essay/exam/presentation. If the absence is excused, the **weight of the midterm exam will be transferred to the final exam weight. There will be NO makeup midterm exam.** If the absence is not excused, the student will receive a mark of zero (0) for the midterm exam. To apply, please fill out and sign an Exam Absence Form (page 6 of the syllabus). Excused absence is **a privilege** and not a right; **there is no guarantee** that an excused absence will be granted. Misrepresentation of Facts to gain a deferral is a serious violation of the Code of Student Behaviour.

For specific details see the University of Alberta Calendar, Section 23.3 (1).

In summary:

1. Notify your instructor by e-mail within **two days** following the missed exam/presentation.
2. Fill out and sign an Exam Absence Form (**located on page 6 of the syllabus**)

Absences from final exam/deferred final:

Date: Deferred final exam will be held within 2 weeks of the scheduled final. Precise date, location and time will be assigned once all the applications for the deferred final are approved.

See Section 23.5.6 of the University Calendar for details on deferring exams. Valid reasons for deferring an exam are: incapacitating illness; family emergencies; domestic affliction; religious convictions

If these factors apply, students can apply to defer final exam. The deferral process is as follows:
The decision to grant a deferred final exam is NOT the instructor's. There is only one date for deferred final exams (deferred exam: must be held within 2 weeks of the scheduled final).

1. Complete application form (available at **your Faculty office**). This application must be supported by a University of Alberta Medical Statement form if the cause of the deferral is illness or other documentation explaining the absence. The application must be presented to the Faculty within **two working days** following the missed examination, or as soon as you are able due to the circumstances underlying your absence.
2. Have the application approved by the Dean or Delegate of your Faculty. Please note that your Faculty **is not obligated** to grant you a deferral. All deferrals are granted at the discretion of the Faculty.
3. Your Faculty **must** inform the History and Classics Department. The Department will then notify me and you will be provided with the date for the deferred exam.

Always check with your Faculty for any faculty-specific requirements.

If you have any further questions, contact the Student Ombud Service for advice

<http://www.ombudservice.ualberta.ca/>

