



HISTORY 1812G (670)
Revolutions in World History
Summer 2026

Instructor: Dr. Dorotea Gucciardo
Email: dguccia@uwo.ca

Course Information

Calendar Description:

This course examines major revolutions and 'turning points' that changed history. Topics include the Renaissance and Reformation, the Scientific Revolution, the Industrial Revolution, and the 'Sexual Revolution' of the 1960's. Political revolutions to be studied include the American and French Revolutions, and 20th century revolutions in China, Russia and Iran.

Prerequisite(s):

Antirequisite(s):

Extra Information: 3 hours.

Course Weight: 0.50

Breadth: Category A

Subject Code: History

Notice: Unless you have either the requisites for this course (fulfilment of pre-requisites, no anti-requisite conflicts), or special permission from your Dean to enrol in it, you may be removed from this course and it will be deleted from your record. This decision may not be appealed. You will receive no adjustment to your fees in the event that you are dropped from a course for failing to have the necessary prerequisites.

History 1812G (570) Revolutions in World History

Course Description

This course examines major revolutions that changed history. The course is structured into three units that examine: the origins of revolutions and their consequences, the global dimensions of revolutionary ideas and movements, and revolutions in science, medicine and technology. Specific topics will include revolutions in France and the Americas in the 1700s-1800s, the Industrial Revolution, the Sexual Revolution of the 1960s, and the civil and human rights movements of the 20th century.

Learning Outcomes:

By the end of this course students will be able to:

- define “revolution” and place it within various historical contexts
- identify and explain the historical significance of key ideas, events, people and movements
- appreciate general trends over time in the study of revolutions and their outcomes
- demonstrate skills in critical analysis, research and writing for future study and employment

Instructor: Dr. Dorotea Gucciardo

Email: dguccia@uwo.ca

Office hours: By appointment only

Asynchronous Online Instruction: 15 June to 24 July

Prerequisite: None

Antirequisite: None

Required Texts and Readings:

There are no required purchases for this course. All readings will be available online via Brightspace.

Method of Evaluation:

Mid-term	30%	Assigned: 6 July Due: 7 July
Document Analysis	30%	Assigned: 15 June Due: 24 July
Final Exam	40%	TBA

Detailed Descriptions of Requirements

Mid-term Test (30%): The mid-term test is take-home and will be available to download from Brightspace at 09:00am on 6 July. It will be short-answer format. You will be tested on material covered in lectures, readings, and any other supplemental information up to that date. It is designed to be completed within 2 hours and you will have 24 hours to submit; therefore, accommodation has been built in. There are no make-up tests; if you are unable to complete this test, its value will be re-weighted to the final exam, making the final worth 60% of your total grade. It is due by 09:00am on 7 July via the Assessments tab.

Document Analysis (30%) 1500-2000 words. Detailed instructions are available on Brightspace. Briefly, for this assignment you will read a primary source and answer a series of questions that demonstrate your comprehension of the document. It is due by 11:55pm on 24 July.

Final Exam (40%): See Brightspace.

Week of:	Lesson:
15 June	<p>Introduction to Revolutions in World History</p> <p>Anatomy of Revolution: Causes, leaders, ideas, results Jack A. Goldstone, “The Comparative and Historical Study of Revolutions,” in Annual Review of Sociology, 01/1982, Volume 8, Issue 1, pp. 187-207</p>
22 June	<p>UNIT 1: POLITICAL REVOLUTIONS</p> <p>The American Revolution Woody Holton, “Rebel against Rebel,” <i>Virginia Magazine of History and Biography</i>, pp. 157 to 192.</p> <p>The Haitian Revolution Excerpts from C.L.R. James, <i>The Black Jacobins</i></p>
29 June	<p>The French Revolution Denise Z. Davidson, “Feminism and Abolitionism: Transatlantic Trajectories,” in Suzanne Desan and Lynn Hunt, <i>The French Revolution in Global Perspectives</i>, pp. 101-114.</p> <p>UNIT 2: REVOLUTIONS IN SCIENCE, TECHNOLOGY, AND MEDICINE</p> <p>The Scientific Revolution Ali, “The Myth of Dark Ages and the Impact of Islam,” <i>Islamic Studies</i> (2012)</p>
6 July	<p>Midterm</p> <p>The Physiological Revolution Shulz, “Harvey and the Circulation of Blood”</p>
13 July	<p>The Industrial Revolution Reading: Peter N. Stearns, <i>The Industrial Revolution in World History</i>, Chapter 4, pp. 69-88. **To be searched on Omni, Western’s library search engine**</p> <p>UNIT: 3 SOCIO-POLITICAL REVOLUTIONS</p> <p>Arab Spring Ghanem, “Spring, but no Flowers,” in <i>The Arab Spring: Five Years Later</i></p>
20 July	<p>Civil and Queer Rights Hall, “The American Gay Rights Movement and Political Protest,” <i>Journal of the History of Sexuality</i> (2010): 536–532.</p> <p>Intifada Revolution “Stolen Freedom” documentary</p>
Final Exam TBA	

King's University College General Course Policies 2025-2026

1. Academic Accommodations, Consideration for Absences

Academic Accommodation (Accessibility)

Accessibility Services works to ensure that academic programs are accessible to all students, and supports students who may have a condition related to, but not limited to, vision, hearing, mobility, different ways of learning, mental health, chronic illnesses, chronic pain, autism spectrum disorder, ADD/ADHD, and temporary conditions (beyond short-term academic consideration). Accessibility Services provides recommendations for accommodation based on medical documentation or psychological and cognitive assessment. The accommodation policy can be found here [Academic Accommodation for Students with Disabilities](#). Information on Accessibility Services at King's can be found [here](#).

Academic Consideration for Student Absence

If a student is unable to meet a course requirement due to substantial but temporary extenuating circumstances (medical or compassionate), they should follow the procedures below.

In some cases, where instructors have built flexibility into their assessments, this flexibility will already address consideration needs.

Requests for academic consideration should be directed to the Academic Advising Office of your faculty/college of registration. Requests must be made as soon as possible and no later than 48 hours after the missed assessment.

As a rule, documentation is required for academic consideration. For academic consideration requests on medical grounds, the Student Medical Certificate is available at [here](#).

Students are permitted one academic consideration request without supporting documentation per term per course. Instructors may designate one assessment per half-course weight as requiring formal supporting documentation. Please refer to the course outline for each course. For further information, please see:

<https://mykings.ca/intranet/app/#/academics/academic-advising/academic-consideration-requests-and-student-absence-portal>

Absences from Final Examinations

If you miss the Final Exam, contact the Academic Advising Office of your faculty/college of registration as soon as you are able to do so. They will assess your eligibility to write the Special Examination (the name given by the University to a makeup Final Exam).

You may also be eligible to write the Special Exam if you are in a "Multiple Exam Situation" (e.g., more than 2 exams in 23-hour period, or more than 3 exams in a 47-hour period).

If a student fails to write a scheduled Special Examination, the date of the next Special Examination (if granted) normally will be the scheduled date for the final exam the next time this course is offered. The maximum course load for that term will be reduced by the credit of the course(s) for which the final examination has been deferred. See the Academic Calendar for details

https://academicsupport.uwo.ca/accessible_education/exams/index.html.

Please note, Friday Make-Up Exams may only be written with the instructor's consent.

Religious Accommodation

Students should consult the University's list of recognized religious holidays, and should give notice in writing to the instructor and Academic Advising Office if a course requirement will be affected by a religious holiday/observance. Notice must be given as early as possible, and no later than two weeks prior to an examination, and one week prior to a midterm test date. It is the responsibility of such students to inform themselves concerning the work done in classes from which they are absent and to take appropriate action.

2. Support Services

Accessibility, Counselling and Student Development at King's University College:

<https://mykings.ca/intranet/app/#/student-supports-and-services>

Students experiencing emotional or mental health distress can access services at King's University

College: <https://mykings.ca/intranet/app/#/student-supports-and-services/personal-counselling>

Good2talk is a good online and phone 24/7 resource for students and is available in English, Mandarin, and French: <https://good2talk.ca>, 1-866-925-5454

MentalHealth@Western provides a complete list of options about how to obtain help:

<https://www.uwo.ca/health/psych/index.html>

Academic Support Services at King's University College:

<https://mykings.ca/intranet/app/#/academics/academic-advising>

GBSV Support:

King's is committed to reducing incidents of gender-based and sexual violence and providing compassionate support to anyone who has gone through these traumatic events. If you have experienced sexual or gender-based violence (either recently or in the past), you will find information about support services for survivors, including emergency contacts at:

<https://mykings.ca/intranet/app/#/student-supports-and-services/campus-safety-and-reporting/gender-and-sexual-violence>

You can reach someone supports at Kings by emailing Care@kings.uwo.ca or calling 519-930-4640 to reach a social worker who can offer help.

You can also reach Western's Gender-Based Violence & Survivor Support Case Manager by [email](#) or by calling 519-661-3568.

See also https://www.uwo.ca/health/student_support/survivor_support/get-help.html

University Students' Council offers many valuable support services for students, including the health insurance plan: <http://westernusc.ca/services/>

3. Statement on Use of Electronic Devices

Use of Electronic Devices: Unless explicitly stated otherwise, you are not allowed to have a cell phone, or any other electronic device, with you during tests or examinations. Unauthorized possession of such a device during a test or examination constitutes an academic offence.

Use of Laptops, Tablets, and Smartphones in the Classroom: King's University College at Western University acknowledges the integration of new technologies and learning methods into the curriculum. The use of electronic devices such as laptop computers, tablets, or smartphones can contribute to student engagement and effective learning. At the same time, King's recognizes that instructors and students share jointly the responsibility to establish and maintain a respectful classroom environment conducive to learning.

The use of electronic devices by students during lectures, seminars, labs, etc., shall be for matters related to the course at hand only. Students found to be using electronic devices for purposes not directly related to the class may be subject to sanctions under the Student Code of Conduct; see

<https://mykings.ca/intranet/app/#/student-supports-and-services/campus-safety-and-reporting/student-code-of-conduct>

Inappropriate use of electronics (e.g., laptops, tablets, smartphones) during lectures, seminars, labs, etc., creates a significant disruption. As a consequence, instructors may choose to limit the use of electronic devices in these settings. In addition, in order to provide a safe classroom environment, students attending in-person class sessions are strongly advised to operate laptops with batteries rather than power cords.

4. Statement on Academic Offences

King's is committed to academic integrity. Scholastic offences are taken seriously and students are directed to read the appropriate policy, specifically, the definition of what constitutes a Scholastic Offence, is posted at [here](#).

It is expected that students will submit work that is truly their own, completed without external assistance (human or artificial) except as explicitly permitted by the course instructor. Check with you instructor on what tools, including generative AI (ChatGPT, translation tools, grammar- checking tools) are permitted in the course. Because a tool is permitted in one course, that does not mean it is permitted in other courses.

All required papers may be subject to submission for textual similarity review to the commercial plagiarism detection software under license to the University for the detection of plagiarism. All papers submitted for such checking will be included as source documents in the reference database for the purpose of detecting plagiarism of papers subsequently submitted to the system; see <https://elearningtoolkit.uwo.ca/tools/Originality Reports - TurnItIn.html>.

Computer-marked multiple-choice tests and/or exams may be subject to submission for similarity review by software that will check for unusual coincidences in answer patterns that may indicate cheating.

5. Copyright of Course Material

Lectures and course materials, including PowerPoint presentations, tests, outlines, and similar materials are protected by copyright. Faculty members are the exclusive owner of copyright in those materials they create. Students may take notes and make copies for their own use. Students may not allow others to reproduce or distribute lecture notes and course materials publicly (whether or not a fee is charged) without the express written consent of a faculty member.

Unauthorized sharing of class content is subject to academic discipline.

Similarly, students own copyright in their own original papers and exam essays. If a faculty member wishes to post a student's answers or papers on the course website, they should ask for the student's written permission.

6. Use of Recordings

Participants in this course are not permitted to record the sessions, except where recording is an approved accommodation and/or the participant has the prior written permission of the instructor. Unauthorized recording and/or sharing of class content is subject to academic discipline.

7. Policy on Attendance

Any student who, in the opinion of the instructor, is absent too frequently from class or laboratory periods in any course, will be reported to the Dean of the Faculty offering the course, after due warning has been given. On the recommendation of the department concerned, and with the permission of the Dean of that Faculty, the student will be debarred from taking the regular examination in the course.