
POLS/HIST 230: REVOLUTIONS IN THE MODERN WORLD

Winter 2013: MW 1:30 to 3:20 pm, D103

Instructor: Dr. Tim Jones (Please call me “Tim”)

Office: A200B

Office Hours: M/T/W/TH: 11 am to 12 pm, or by appointment.

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Course website: <https://bc.instructure.com/courses/793439>

“If there is no struggle, there is no progress. Power concedes nothing without a demand. It never did and it never will.”

~Frederick Douglass

“If a nation expects to be ignorant and free, in a state of civilization, it expects what never was and what never will be”

~Thomas Jefferson

COURSE DESCRIPTION

In this class we will analyze the development of several historically significant revolutions in an effort to understand the causes and consequences of these major social upheavals. Some of the specific questions we will explore together include: *What brings revolutions about? Why do some succeed, and others fail? In what ways, and under what conditions, are revolutionary movements a positive means of social change. In what ways, and under what conditions, are they a negative means of social change?* We will address these questions by surveying the American Revolution, the French Revolution, the Russian Revolution, the Cuban Revolution, the Vietnamese Revolution, the Algerian Revolution, the Nicaraguan Revolution, the Iranian Revolution, and the Indian Revolution. The goal of our investigation is not only to learn more about these specific historical events, but also to deepen understanding of political and social change more generally.

COURSE OBJECTIVES

1. To develop an awareness of how past events influence contemporary problems, particularly in the realm of U.S. foreign policy.
2. To develop an informed understanding of the causes and consequences of historically significant revolutions.
3. To become more critical consumers of historical information.
4. To foster self-reflection about social justice and social change.

COURSE POLICIES

This is a college-level course, which means *you are responsible for your own learning*. I will do my best to teach the class in a fun and interesting way, and to assess your learning fairly. I expect you to do your best to complete assignments in a timely and appropriate fashion, to come to class prepared for the day's work, and to actively participate in classroom discussions and activities. Ultimately, *you are responsible for any material missed due to absence or lateness* so I encourage you to get acquainted with those around you, trade e-mail addresses and/or phone numbers, and make one or more study buddies. Finally, *if you do not understand something you need to take the initiative to find out the answer*—raise your hand, talk to me after class, come to my office, etc. I cannot read minds, so it is up to you to try to seek clarity when it is lacking.

RULES OF ENGAGEMENT FOR CLASS DISCUSSIONS

This course involves the discussion of controversial political issues. Remember that reasonable people often disagree. Your challenge and responsibility is to maintain civil discourse. We will achieve this by being respectful of each other and avoiding inflammatory, derogatory and insulting words, phrases and labels. Please note that *all electronic devices are prohibited in the classroom during class time*. This includes cell phones, blackberries, laptops, i-pods/mp3 players, computers, etc. If you need a laptop to take notes, I will need verification. *Students caught using electronic devices will be marked absent and asked to leave class that day*. This may seem like a harsh penalty, but such behavior is not only disrespectful and distracting to me, it is also disrespectful and distracting to the people around you. Please use your common sense to avoid any other conduct that might distract or offend me or your classmates. Thank you!

MISSED EXAMS AND LATE ASSIGNMENTS

All major due dates are indicated in the attached course schedule. Because I believe that one of the major lessons that students learn in college is the importance of meeting deadlines, late work will be penalized one full grade point per day for four days. On the fifth day you will receive a zero on the assignment. Please note that all *missed exams will receive a grade of 0.0* and make-up exams will not be administered unless you receive prior permission from me or you can document a true catastrophe (such as being medically unable to take the exam).

GRADE COMPLAINTS

If you wish to formally request a grade change, you must wait at least 24 hours, and then turn in a written statement explaining why you feel your assigned grade did not reflect your work based on the grading criteria used. We will then make an appointment to discuss your grade in my office. I will only discuss your grade in my office, and not in class. The statute of limitations for a grade complaint is one week.

DISABILITY RESOURCES

The Disability Resource Center serves students with a wide array of learning challenges and disabilities. Please visit the DRC if you have any questions about classroom accommodations. If you are a student who has a disability or a learning challenge for which you have documentation or have seen someone for treatment and if you feel you

may need accommodations in order to be successful in college, please contact the DRC staff as soon as possible. The DRC office is located in B132 or you can call the reception desk at 425-564-2498. Deaf students can reach the DRC by video phone at 425-440-2025 or by TTY at 425-564-4110. Please visit the DRC website for application information into the program and other helpful links at www.bellevuecollege.edu/drc. If you are someone who has either an apparent or non-apparent disability and requires assistance in case of an emergency situation, such as a fire, earthquake, etc, please meet with me to develop a safety plan within the first week of the quarter.

ACADEMIC INTEGRITY

Cheating and plagiarism (using the ideas or words of another as one's own without crediting the source) are violations of the Student Code of Conduct at Bellevue College (http://bellevuecollege.edu/policies/2/2050P_Student_Code_%28Procedures%29.asp). Such behavior will result in a grade of 0.0 for the assignment/exam in question. Please note that these are serious offences, which can result in possible probation or suspension from Bellevue College and go on your permanent record. If you have questions about academic integrity, please familiarize yourself with BC's Student Code of Conduct and/or come talk to me during my office hours.

ASSIGNED READINGS

The core text for the course is the fourth edition of James DeFronzo's *Revolutions and Revolutionary Movements* (2011). It is available in the campus bookstore, and it can also be purchased on Amazon. Supplemental materials will be made available on our Canvas website (<https://bc.instructure.com/courses/793439>) or in-class. You are responsible for downloading and engaging with all supplemental materials. ***Each assigned reading is to be completed before the class session for which it is scheduled***, so that you can participate in any discussion or other classroom activity we do that day. Any material covered by an assigned reading may be included in examination questions, regardless of whether it is specifically discussed in the classroom. A tentative course schedule is attached to this syllabus. If and when adjustments are made to the course schedule, you will be informed in class and on our class website. Please note that the assigned reading is an important part of this class—if you don't do it you are going to find it hard to succeed.

KEEPING UP WITH THE NEWS

Please keep up with current political events. Our discussions in class will sometimes touch on current events and it would be helpful if you kept up-to-date on the major political goings-on. Please find a few news sources that work for you (representing different mediums and viewpoints) and make a habit of reading, listening, and/or watching them throughout the quarter. If you have questions about the appropriateness of a particular news source for this class, please ask me sooner rather than later. I suggest that at least one of your sources be a national newspaper such as: the *New York Times* (www.nytimes.com), the *Washington Post* (www.washingtonpost.com), or the *Wall Street Journal* (www.wsj.com). I also encourage international sources such as the *BBC* (www.bbc.co.uk) and *Al Jazeera* (<http://english.aljazeera.net>). If you speak another

language I encourage you to follow the news in that language and bring that perspective to class.

GRADED WORK	PTS	%
Office Visit	(5 pts)	1%
Syllabus Quiz	(5 pts)	1%
Profile Picture Assignment	(5 pts)	1%
Evaluation Assignment	(5 pts)	1%
Reading Prompts	(20 pts)	4%
Film Analysis	(40 pts)	8%
Attendance	(40 pts)	8%
Action Assignment	(40 pts)	8%
Participation	(50 pts)	10%
Reflective Journal	(50 pts)	10%
Final Paper	(80 pts)	16%
Midterm Exam	(80 pts)	16%
Final Exam	(80 pts)	16%
Total	(500 pts)	100%

GRADEPOINT CONVERSION CHART

Grade	Points	Percentage	Grade	Points	Percentage
A	465-500	93-100%	C	365-389	73-77%
A-	450-464	90-92%	C-	350-364	70-72%
B+	440-449	88-89%	D+	340-349	68-69%
B	415-439	83-87%	D	300-339	60-67%
B-	400-414	80-82%	F	0-299	59% & Below
C+	390-399	78-79%			

OFFICE VISIT (5 PTS ~ 1%) (DUE FEBRUARY 6TH)

To fulfill the requirements for this assignment, you need to visit me during my office hours once prior to the midterm (February 6th, 2013. Research shows that making connections with faculty increases students' academic performance and satisfaction with their college experience. If you are unable to make my office hours because of a time conflict, in order to receive full credit you need to send me an email during the first two weeks of the quarter to arrange an alternative appointment time. The purpose of the first office visit is threefold: (1) to break the ice so that you feel comfortable visiting my office, (2) for me to get to know you a bit better, and (3) to check-in to see how the course is going. See you soon!

SYLLABUS QUIZ (5 PTS ~ 1%) (DUE JANUARY 7TH)

For this assignment you need to read the syllabus and answer ten logistical questions about the class. The quiz will be made available on our course website. To access the quiz just click on the "Assignment" button and you should see it. *To get credit for this assignment, you need to take the quiz before class begins on Monday, January 7th, 2013.* The purpose of this quiz is to make sure you (a) read the syllabus, (b) are familiar

with the course schedule and my expectations, and (c) can navigate your way around our course website. I would recommend printing the syllabus so that you can easily refer to it during the quiz.

PROFILE PICTURE ASSIGNMENT (5 PTS ~ 1%) (DUE JANUARY 7TH)

For this assignment, you need to upload a profile picture of yourself to our course website. If you prefer not to share a picture of yourself, please upload an (appropriate) image with which you would like to be associated. Thank you!

COURSE EVALUATION (5 PTS) (DUE DATE TBA)

This assignment involves filling out an online course evaluation before the end of the quarter. You will not be graded on how you evaluate the course, but rather on whether you evaluate it. In other words, this is a credit/no-credit assignment. Its purpose is for me to get feedback on the course and my role in it. Your feedback will be anonymous and I won't see it until after grades have been posted. More details will be made available toward the end of the quarter. Please let me know if you have questions before then.

READING PROMPTS (20 pts ~ 4%) (DUE EVERY CLASS PERIOD)

To help you get the most out of the course materials, you will be provided with a prompt for every assigned reading in the course. These prompts are available on our course website and they include a handful of reflection questions as well as a comprehensive list of key concepts. You are expected to engage with these prompts before, during, and after doing the reading. My primary purpose in creating these prompts is to help you focus on what is important in the reading, to help you get ready for our in-class discussions, and to help you prepare for assignments and exams. *I will be collecting your prompts at the beginning of every class—each prompt is worth one point.* If you don't give me a prompt with your name on it by the end of class you will not receive credit that day. You are encouraged to write answers to the reflection questions that I have provided on the prompts themselves as well as to define the key concepts that I have listed. To give you extra incentive to do so, I will return your prompts to you when you take the midterm and final exams—if you've written a lot on your prompts they are likely to help you with the exams; if you haven't they won't.

FILM ANALYSIS (40 PTS ~ 8%) (DUE FEBRUARY 27TH)

For this assignment you will need to watch two films (preferably documentaries) related to a topic covered in the course and write a two-page, single-spaced summary and comparative analysis of the films that incorporates course content. There are a lot of good documentaries about revolutions and revolutionary movements. I am happy to offer suggestions if you aren't sure what to watch, but you need to tell me what you are interested in first. Whatever you decide to watch, make sure you clear it with me before competing this assignment—if you do not, you will be docked 10 pts. Your write-up should be two-pages, single-spaced, typed with Times New Roman, 12 pt font, and 1-inch margins. It should also include a clear and descriptive title as well as proper spelling, syntax and grammar. *This assignment is due on Canvas by 1:30 pm on Wednesday, February 27TH, 2013.*

ATTENDANCE (40 PTS ~ 8%)

I intend to start class on time every day and I expect you to be there when I do. Occasionally, you may find it necessary to be late, in which case I would certainly prefer that you come rather than miss the entire class. We are scheduled to meet 20 times this quarter and attendance is worth 40 points. For each class that you come to on time you will receive two points. For each class that you come to late you will receive one point. You will not receive any points when you miss class unless I excuse your absence. Excused absences include documented doctor's visits, family emergencies, and sometimes school or work-related issues. If you miss class, you are expected to connect with one or more of your classmates to find out what you missed. I am happy to clarify what you miss during my office hours, but I will only do so after you have checked with at least one of your classmates first.

ACTION ASSIGNMENT (40 PTS) (FEBRUARY 20TH, 2013)

This assignment requires you to choose a political issue that you care about, research it, take political action, and reflect on your action. Start by thinking about what political issues you care about and why you care about them. Choose an issue and do some research into what, if anything, is being done locally, nationally, or internationally in regards to this issue. Once you've decided on an issue, carefully decide on one or more actions that you would be willing to take that would help resolve this issue. For example, you might start a petition, contact an elected official, attend a political protest or rally, volunteer for a cause you believe in, etc. Please clear your action with me before doing it. After you've acted, you need to write a one-page, single-spaced reflection on the issue that you chose, what you did, why you did it, and what you learned. I would also like you to share an abbreviated version of this write-up with your classmates so they have a chance to engage with you about your action—these write-ups should be posted on the discussion board called "Action Assignment." The write-up for me should be at least one-page, single-spaced, typed with Times New Roman, 12 pt font, and 1-inch margins. It should also include a clear and descriptive title as well as proper spelling, syntax and grammar. Please let me know if you have any questions. ***This assignment is due on Canvas by 1:30 pm on Wednesday, February 20th, 2013.***

***Success Tip:** Pick a political topic that you care about and clear your action with me early in the quarter so that you are not rushing to do something lame at the last minute.

PARTICIPATION (50 pts ~ 10%)

This class would be extremely dull if I did all the talking so please do your part to participate. It is impossible for you to participate if you are not in class, but participation is about more than just attendance. You are expected to come to every class having done ALL the assigned reading, and you are expected to regularly contribute to our in-class discussions—even if you are shy. Please come to every class with a pen or pencil, some paper, a copy of the assigned reading, and a copy of that day's reading prompt. It is worth pointing out that ***the BC guideline for homework is two hours outside of class for each credit hour!***

***Success Tip:** Don't be shy. Try to participate every day. If you are confused, ask me questions in class, during my office hours, or via email.

REFLECTIVE JOURNAL (50 pts ~ 10%) (DUE MONDAYS BY 8:00 AM)

As a supplement to in-class discussion, I would like you to keep a reflective journal this quarter. The purpose of this journal is to stimulate your thinking about the material being covered in lecture and in the reading and to serve as a starting point for in-class discussions. You are responsible for writing one outside-of-class journal entry per week for a total of 10 entries. Each journal entry should be at least 300 words in length. Each week's journal prompts will be posted on our course website by 11:59 pm on Wednesday. You must complete your journal entry and submit it on Canvas by 8:00 am the following Monday. Each journal entry is worth five points. Please let me know if you have any questions.

***Success Tip:** Take the journal prompts seriously and keep up with the assigned entries. Make sure you follow the instructions regarding the number of words.

FINAL PAPER (80 pts ~ 16%) (DUE MARCH 13TH)

For your final paper you will need to write 3 to 4 single-spaced pages analyzing a revolutionary movement, a revolutionary figure, a revolutionary ideology, or a revolutionary tactic that you are interested in exploring in greater detail than we can do together in class. Your final papers will be due in class on Wednesday, March 13th.

***Success Tip:** Plan ahead and pick a paper topic that you are interested in. Do not wait until the last minute to write your paper. Come talk to me if you have any questions or need guidance, and be sure to proofread for spelling and grammatical errors well in advance of turning in your paper.

MIDTERM EXAM (80 pts ~ 16%) (IN CLASS ON FEBRUARY 6TH)

Your midterm will be held in class on Wednesday, February 6th. This exam will cover assigned readings, movies, lectures, guest presentations, and major current events discussed in class. The exam will consist of a mix of question types, including: true-false, multiple-choice, identifications, short answer, and essay. A study-guide will be made available to you a week before the exam.

***Success Tip:** Keep up with the assigned material and do not leave your exam preparation until the night before the exam. Take advantage of the review sheet. Form a study group with your classmates. Come to my office hours if you have questions.

FINAL EXAM (100 pts ~ 16%) (IN CLASS ON MARCH 18TH)

Your final exam will be held in class on Monday, March 18th. This exam will not be cumulative; rather, it will cover the assigned readings, movies, lectures, guest presentations, and major current events discussed in class since the midterm exam. Like the midterm, the final exam will consist of a mix of question types, including: true-false, multiple-choice, identifications, short answer, and essay.

***Success Tip:** Keep up with the assigned material and do not leave your exam preparation until the night before the exam. Take advantage of the review sheet. Form a study group with your classmates. Come to my office hours if you have questions.

TENTATIVE COURSE SCHEDULE

WEEK 1: INTRODUCING THE COURSE (34 pgs)

Wednesday, January 2nd, 2013—Introduction to the Course (33 pgs)

- Syllabus (10 pgs)
- Zinn: “The Use and Abuse of History” (pp. 48-66) (19 pgs)
- Stearns: “Why Study History?” (pp. 1-4) (4 pgs)

WEEK 2: THE AMERICAN REVOLUTION (80 pgs)

Monday, January 7th, 2013—Putting Revolutions in Context (30 pgs)

- Defronzo: “Preface” (pp. xiii-xiv) (2 pgs)
- Defronzo: “Introduction” (pp. 1-5) (5 pgs)
- Defronzo: “Social Movements and Revolutions” (pp. 9-31) (23 pgs)
- Journal 1 Due on Canvas by 8:00 am!
- Syllabus Quiz Due on Canvas by 8:00 am!
- Profile Picture Assignment Due on Canvas by 8:00 am!

Wednesday, January 9th, 2013—The American Revolution (50 pgs)

- Gilje: “American Revolution” (pp. 46-53) (8 pgs)
- Wood: “Introduction” (pp. 3-8) (6 pgs)
- Jefferson: “The Declaration of Independence” (63-66) (4 pgs)
- Zinn: “Tyranny Is Tyranny” (71-75) (5 pgs)
- Zinn: “A Kind of Revolution” (77-101) (26 pgs)

WEEK 3: THE AFRICAN AMERICAN FREEDOM STRUGGLE (43 PGS/56 MINS)

Monday, January 14th, 2013—The African American Freedom Struggle (47 pgs)

- Zinn: “Slavery without Submission; Emancipation without Freedom” (pp. 171-210) (40 pgs)
- Walker: “Walker’s Appeal” (pp. 168-170) (3 pgs)
- Douglass: “The Meaning of July Fourth for the Negro” (183-186) (4 pgs)
- Journal 2 Due on Canvas by 8:00 am!

Wednesday, January 16th, 2013—The African American Freedom Struggle (44 pgs)

- Carson: “African American Freedom Struggle” (pp. 16-28) (13 pgs)
- Zinn: “Or Does It Explode?” (pp. 443-467) (25 pgs)
- Malcolm X: “Message to the Grass Roots” (400-401) (2 pgs)
- MLK: “Where Do We Go From Here?” (417-420) (4 pgs)

WEEK 4: THE FRENCH REVOLUTION (14 PGS/89 MINS)

Monday, January 21st, 2013—Martin Luther King Day (No School) (5 pgs/56 mins)

- Solomon: “The Martin Luther King You Don’t See on TV” (2 pgs)
- West: “Dr. King Weeps from His Grave” (3 pgs)
- Smiley: *A Call to Conscience* (56 mins)
- Journal 3 Due on Canvas by 8:00 am!

Wednesday, January 23rd, 2013—French Revolution/Communism (89 mins/9 pgs)

- History Channel: *The French Revolution* (89 mins)
- Marx & Engels: “Manifesto of the Communist Party” (pp. 21-29) (9 pgs)

WEEK 5: THE RUSSIAN REVOLUTION (95 PGS)

Monday, January 28th, 2013—The Russian Revolution (41 pgs)

- Defronzo: “The Russian Revolutions and Eastern Europe” (pp. 39-76, 83-85) (41 pgs)
- Journal 4 Due on Canvas by 8:00 am!

Wednesday, January 30th, 2013—Allegory of the Russian Revolution (54 pgs)

- Orwell: *Animal Farm* (pp. 1-54) (54 pgs)

WEEK 6: THE CUBAN REVOLUTION/MIDTERM (40 pgs)

Monday, February 4th, 2013—The Cuban Revolution (40 pgs)

- Defronzo: “The Cuban Revolution” (pp. 203-242) (40 pgs)
- Journal 5 Due on Canvas by 8:00 am!

Wednesday, February 6th, 2013—Midterm Exam

- Office Visit Due!
- In-Class Midterm Exam Today!

WEEK 7: THE VIETNAMESE REVOLUTION (49 PGS/94 MINS)

Monday, February 11th, 2013—The Vietnamese Revolution (50 pgs)

- Defronzo: “The Vietnamese Revolution” (pp. 149-196) (48 pgs)
- Minh: Vietnamese Declaration of Independence” (2 pgs)
- Journal 6 Due on Canvas by 8:00 am!

Wednesday, February 13th, 2013—The Vietnam War (35 pgs)

- Zinn: “The Impossible Victory: Vietnam” (pp. 469-501) (33 pgs)
- Ali: “Speaking Out Against the Vietnam War” (pp. 430-431) (2 pgs)

WEEK 8: NATIONALISM AND REVOLUTION (21 PGS/121 MINS)

Monday, February 18th, 2013—President’s Day—No school (94 mins)

- PBS: *The Most Dangerous Man in America* (94 mins)
- Journal 7 Due on Canvas by 8:00 am!

Wednesday, February 20th, 2013—Nationalism and Revolution (18 pgs/121 mins)

- Adleman: “Nationalism and Revolution” (589-594) (6 pgs)
- Cavatorta: “Algerian Revolution” (pp. 36-42) (7 pgs)
- Kaufman: “What does the Pentagon see in the *Battle of Algiers*?” (1-3) (3 pgs)
- Criterion Collection: *The Battle of Algiers* (121 mins)
- Action Assignment Due on Canvas by 1:30 pm Today!

WEEK 9: THE U.S. IN LATIN AMERICA (85 PGS/86 MINS)

Monday, February 25th, 2013—The Nicaraguan Revolution (59 pgs)

- Defronzo: “The Nicaraguan Revolution” (pp. 249-285) (37 pgs)
- Zinn: “Resurgence of Empire” (pp. 209-230) (22 pgs)
- Journal 8 Due on Canvas by 8:00 am!

Wednesday, February 27th, 2013—U.S. Involvement in Guatemala and Chile (44 pgs)

- Kinzer: “Get Rid of This Stinker” (pp. 129-147) (19 pgs)
- Kinzer: “We’re Going to Smash Him” (pp. 170-194) (25 pgs)
- Final Analysis Due on Canvas by 1:30 pm Today!

WEEK 10: THE IRANIAN REVOLUTION (51 PGS/152 MINS)

Monday, March 4th, 2013—The Iranian Revolution (41 pgs)

- Defronzo: “The Iranian Revolution and Islamic Fundamentalism” (pp. 291-331) (41 pgs)
- Journal 9 Due on Canvas by 8:00 am!

Wednesday, March 6th, 2013—The 1953 U.S. Coup in Iran (56 mins/16 pgs)

- Kinzer: “Iran: The 1953 American Coup” (56 mins)
- Kinzer: “1953 Iran Coup” (pp. 117-128, 200-203) (16 pgs)

WEEK 11: NONVIOLENT DIRECT ACTION (71 PGS)

Monday, March 11th, 2013—Nonviolent Direct Action (33 pgs)

- Joshi: “Indian Independence Movement” (pp. 383-391) (9 pgs)
- Gandhi: “My Faith in Nonviolence” (pp. 45-46) (2 pgs)
- Gandhi: “The Doctrine of the Sword” (2 pgs)
- Sharp: “The Technique of Nonviolent Action” (pp. 1-3) (3 pgs)
- Sharp: “The Methods of Nonviolent Protest and Persuasion” (pp. 9-10) (2 pgs)
- King: “Loving Your Enemies” (2 pgs)
- King: “Pilgrimage to Nonviolence” (pp. 9-14) (6 pgs)

- Einstein: “On Pacifism” (pp. 11-15) (5 pgs)
- Lenin: “On Violence) (pp. 495-496) (2 pgs)
- Journal 10 Due on Canvas by 8:00 am!

Wednesday, March 13th, 2013—Freedom Intended As a Challenge (38 pgs)

- Wolf: “Introduction” (pp. 3-12) (10 pgs)
- Wolf: “Freedom Intended As A Challenge” (pp. 13-21) (9 pgs)
- Wolf: “We Have A Duty to Rebel Against Injustice And Oppression” (pp. 105-123) (19 pgs)
- Final Paper Due on Canvas by 1:30 pm Today!

WEEK 12: FINAL EXAM

Monday, March 18th, 2013—Final Exam

- In-Class Final Exam