History 5313: W01/ World War One

Summer One: 2017/Dr. Mark Saad Saka

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Course Objectives

The objective of this course is to examine the history of the First World War; a War that the United States entered into one hundred years ago this year (1917), even though it had of course been waging since the Summer of 1914. We will examine the origins of the war, the course, and just as important but oftentimes neglected; its' aftermath which unfolded through the early 1920s. In addition, we will examine the First World War outside of traditional Europe and examine its impact on the Ottoman Empire and the making of the modern Middle East. As you are aware, the United is today militarily involved in Afghanistan, Iraq, and Syria and the origins of these conflicts are rooted in the First World War and its aftermath.

Course Required Readings

There are three required books for this course:

Cataclysm: The First World War as Political Tragedy by David Stevenson, 2005, Basic Books, ISBN-13: 978-0465081851

The Vanquished: Why the First World War Failed to End by Robert Gerwarth, Farrar, Straus and Giroux, 2016, ISBN # 13: 978-0374282455

A Peace to End All Peace: The Fall of the Ottoman Empire and the Creation of the Modern Middle East by David Fromkin, 2009, Holt Paperbacks, ISBN #13: 978-0805088090

Course Requirements

There are three requirements for this course:

1. You must obtain the books, read them, and write regular reviews of the chapters and themes; discussed in the outline section below. Each chapter review should be one to two pages, double-spaced, 12 font. Since these are book reviews, a bibliography page is not required, but just note the page reference.

2. You must write a ten-page research paper on a topic that covers something, someone, or an event during the First World War. The topic must be approved by me. I want you to pick a topic that you like and feel passionate about. I have found that if you enjoy your topic, you write much better and learn more. I prefer one either MLA or Chicago Style for notes and bibliography.

3. You must maintain regular email contact with me. I have found that the problem with online classes is lack of student communication with their professor. I check and reply to email quite regularly, but if I do not hear from you for ten days??? What am I supposed to think???

Course Outline

May 31-course beginning/read syllabus and email me that you have read and understand the syllabus. (5%) of your grade.

June 1—Stevenson-pages 3-80

June 2-Stevenson-pages 81-160

June 5—Stevenson-pages 161-241

June 6-Stevenson-pages 243-302

June 7-Stevenson-pages 303-378

June 8-Stevenson-pages 379-430

June 9-Stevensone-pages 431-488

June 12-Gerwarth-pages 1-68

June 13-Gerwarth pages 69-117

June 14-Gerwarth-pages 118-170

June 15—Gerwarth-pages 171- 219

June 16-Gerwarth pages 220-267

June 17-Fromkin pages 23-78

June 19—Fromkin pages 79-118

June 20-Fromkin pages 119-149

June 21-Fromkin pages 150-206//Paper Topic must be approved by this date

June 22—Fromkin pages 207-252//last day to drop the course with a W.

June 23-Fromkin pages 253-350

June 26-Fromkin pages 351-414

June 27-Fromkin pages 415-464

June 28-Fromkin pages 465-568

July 5-last class day/Paper due by 10 am.

DIS TANCE EDUCATION STATEMENT

Students enrolled in distance education courses have equal access to the university's academic support services, library resources, and instructional technology support. For more information about accessing these resources, visit the SRSU website. Students should submit online assignments through Blackboard or SRSU email, which require secure login information to verify students' identities and to protect students' information. The procedures for filing a student complaint are included in the student handbook. Students enrolled in distance education courses at Sul Ross are expected to adhere to all policies pertaining to academic honesty and appropriate student conduct, as described in the student handbook. Students in web-based courses must maintain appropriate equipment and software, according to the needs and requirements of the course, as outlined on the SRSU website.