

Boston University Pardee School of Global Studies
HI 332/IR 349: History of International Relations, 1900-1945 (Spring 2018)

Instructor: Michael McGuire, Ph.D.

STH B19, Tuesday and Thursday, 3:30-4:45 PM

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Introduction: Welcome! This course covers the development of international relations in the first half of the twentieth century. Over the next fourteen weeks, we will examine how polities and communities challenged and championed the Great Power-led international order crafted in the late nineteenth century. We will assess the First World War's causes, contours, and consequences. We will then pass on to postwar efforts to create regional and international stability in the 1920s, followed by an examination of national responses to the global Great Depression throughout the 1930s. We will finish with the growing globalization of the Second World War, and the pre-dawn of the Cold War.

Most importantly, in this term **you** will offer your unique interpretation of the issues, conflicts, and resolutions that have defined the 1900-1945 global order. You will do this through your weekly discussion meetings, through your in-class, closed note exam compositions, and through your analytic paper. I want to know what you think and why you think it. I know that my colleague in this class—your Teaching Fellow, Sean Case—is also eager to learn your thoughts and opinions regarding the material covered in the class, and to see how they inform and are informed by the information we will cover this spring semester.

Course books: All students in this course **must** have easy access to the following two books. Both are available at the Boston University bookstore:

William R. Keylor, *The Twentieth Century World and Beyond* 6th Edition (New York, 2011). [hereafter Keylor]

As It Actually Was: A History of International Relations through Documents, 1823-1945
Ed. Michael E. McGuire. 5th Ed. (New York, 2008). [hereafter McGuire]

Buy (and read) both tomes!!! You will have to use them over the course of the term, as they are vital to specific assignments that comprise your overall course grade.

Grade Breakdown: There are four basic elements that determine your grade. Here they are, along with how much of your grade they compose:

Midterm Exam (20%), Discussion Participation (25%), Analytic Paper (25%), Final Exam (30%)

Each grade in this course will be a number, not a letter grade. To determine the letter value of your number grade, I have included a grade breakdown at the end of this syllabus. Also, so there are no surprises, I have indicated below what I expect from you in each of these elements.

Midterm and Final Examinations: Both the midterm exam (March 15) and the final exam (TBA) will be in essay format. Both exams will be designed cooperatively by Sean and me. To prepare for these tests, you should repeatedly review the notes you take in lectures and on the readings. A week before the midterm, I will distribute a study sheet to help focus your preparations, consisting of the exam format and a list of study questions you should ask yourself after reviewing your notes for several hours; I will do the same before the final. I will also make the PowerPoint slides for exam related lectures available online a week before each exam. Both the midterm and the final exam must be taken on their assigned dates, although alternate dates will be made available if you have a legitimate and verifiable excuse.

The Analytic Paper: Firsthand, innovative analysis of foreign relations forms the foundation of scholarly inquiry in both history and international relations. It is a goal of this course to accustom all students to the regular scrutinizing of documents from the fin-de-siècle to the Cold War's predawn. In a paper due on April 10, you will analyze a primary source connected to the transformation of the 1900-1945 international order. Most of you will choose a document from the course reader or from the course's Blackboard website. You may depart from these offerings, but I strongly suggest that you run your selection by Sean, and possibly by me.

There are a few general items to keep in mind for the analytic paper. It should be five to seven pages in length, and should be double-spaced with one inch margins and twelve point font. It should present your opinion and analysis of this document, though you are encouraged to support your analysis with secondary sources (Keylor's textbook will be necessary; other sources are recommended). It should also discuss how the prior international order shaped the document, and how the document shaped the subsequent international order. I will be providing you with a handout describing this assignment in greater detail the third week of the course. **Note:** You will have to submit these papers to Turnitin.com, as well as submit them in hard copy in class.

Above all, barring BU-approved circumstances, you must submit the analytic paper on time. Late papers lose five points off their overall grade per day late—including weekend.

Discussion participation: One way to ensure you are prepared for the significant issues that can emerge on exam questions and form the basis of an analytic paper is to participate in your weekly discussion sections. Sean will be distributing his syllabus for the weekly meetings that you will have regarding the course. Attendance and participation are mandatory, as your involvement in these group-based or classroom-wide discussions will comprise one-fourth of your overall grade. Should you miss a meeting, you need to arrange with Sean to attend another one. Sean and I request that you come prepared to discuss the topics covered in these meetings, and that you show proper respect for all individuals and ideas present in the room.

Academic Honesty: Boston University is committed to the principles of intellectual honesty and integrity. All BU students are expected to maintain complete honesty in all academic venues, presenting only that which is their own work in tests and all other assignments. Cheating and plagiarism are serious offences, with serious consequences. BU's Academic Code explicitly states that either will result in a failing grade on the assignment, and notification of the offense to an Academic Advisor and to the Academic Dean. You will be held accountable to the academic regulations and infractions described in it. If I consider the offense serious enough, I will

automatically assign a failing grade for the course. If you have any questions about this, please contact me **prior** to submitting the work for evaluation.

For more on Boston University's Academic Code, please visit the following website:
<https://www.bu.edu/academics/policies/academic-conduct-code/> .

Electronic materials policy: I am happy to see electronic devices like iPads and laptops used in class to take notes; audio recordings are not allowed without proper documentation. However, I do require you to be using your electronic device for academic purposes. If I notice or Sean notices that you are not doing so, you will need to leave class.

Course Calendar: *Note: This schedule is subject to change due to weather and other issues (Nor'Easters, anyone?). I will post changes in advance if at all possible. If issues force class cancellation, I will modify the schedule, and distribute a new one.*

January 18: Introduction to IR 349 and the 'Euro-Centric' World of the Early Twentieth Century.

Readings: Keylor, 2-11, 16, 34-39. McGuire, 5-11, 14-15, 25-27, 41-44.

Online readings: Extracts from Queen Victoria's speech on international affairs, 1895.

January 23: Outlier #1: The Rise of America in the World, 1895-1914.

Readings: Keylor, 16-27, 32-34. McGuire, 11-14, 22-24, 28-35, 44-46.

Online readings: Extracts from Evangelina Cisneros' speech at Washington, D.C., 1897.

January 25: Outlier #2: The Rise of Imperial Japan and China's Twilight in Asia, 1853-1914.

Readings: Keylor, 11-16, 28-32. McGuire, 15-16, 19-21, 38-40.

Online readings: Extracts from Dowager Empress Cixi on the Boxer Rebellion, 1899.

January 30: A World at War? The First World War Begins and Expands, 1914-1916.

Readings: Keylor, 44-62, 67-69, 194-198, 220-221. McGuire, 35-37, 52-64, 66-70.

Online readings: Extracts from Christabel Pankhurst's January 1915 speech in the U.S.

February 1: A World at War: The First World War Intensifies and Halts, 1917-1918.

Readings: Keylor, 62-67, 69. McGuire, 64-65, 70-84.

Online readings: Extracts from Mohandas K. Gandhi, "Appeal for Enlistment," 1918.

February 6: The Paris Peace Conference: European Concerns.

Readings: Keylor, 73-83. McGuire, 90-93, 99-107.

Online readings: Photographs of American Committee for Devastated France pamphlet.

February 8: The Paris Peace Conference: Global Concerns.

Readings: Keylor, 83-95, 221-222. McGuire, 93-99, 101.

Online readings: Excerpts from Ho Chi Minh's self-determination appeal, 1919.

February 13: Stabilizing a Trans-Atlantic Europe, 1919-1929.

Readings: Keylor, 110-116, 118-129. McGuire, 108-111, 144-149, 157-159, 161-162.

Online readings: Extracts from an editorial by Rosa Luxemburg, January 1919.

February 15: A Japanese Order in Asia (1919-1929)?

Readings: Keylor, 222-226, 227-228. McGuire, 113-114, 116-119, 137-138.

Online readings: Extract from Marcus Garvey on the Washington Conference, 1921.

February 20: **NO CLASS SCHEDULED** (BU operates on a Monday schedule today).

February 22: Iconoclast of Versailles: The Soviet Union, 1917-1930.

Readings: Keylor, 116-118. McGuire, 16-19, 135-137.

Online readings: Extracts from Leon Trotsky's "The Permanent Revolution," (1930); and from Josef Stalin on Permanent Revolution (1924).

February 27: Anti-Imperialism in Asia, 1919-1930.

Readings: Keylor, 228-230. McGuire, 112-113, 115-116, 138-140.

Online readings: Extracts from Ho Chi Minh's foundation of the Indochinese Communist Party, 1930.

March 1: A Pan-American Western Hemisphere (1916-1929)?

Readings: Keylor, 198-205. McGuire, 128-132.

Online readings: Extracts from Jane Addams, "Toward Internationalism," 1916.

March 3-11: **NO CLASS SCHEDULED** (Spring Break)

March 13: The International Economic Order, 1919-1929.

Readings: Keylor, 97-110. McGuire, 150-156

Online readings: Financing documents from the American Committee for Devastated France.

March 15: **Midterm Exam** (IN Class)

March 20: The International Economic Order, 1929-1939.

Readings: Keylor, 131-139. McGuire, 205-208.

March 22: The Middle East Emerges: Palestine.

Readings: McGuire, 121-127, 200-205.

March 27: The Middle East Emerges: beyond Palestine.

Readings: McGuire, 120-121.

Online readings: Extracts from a letter from Ibn Saud to British Political Agent Major H. R. P. Dickson in Bahrein, April 12, 1920; and from a letter by Gertrude Bell, 1920.

March 29: Good Neighbors: The Western Hemisphere Changes, 1928-1939.

Readings: Keylor, 205-214. McGuire, 132-134, 141-143, 192-199.

April 3: Appeasement in Europe, 1933-1939.

Readings: Keylor, 139-155. McGuire, 173-177, 186-189, 209-214.

April 5: Comrade Stalin Meets the World, 1929-1939.

Readings: Keylor, 155-168. McGuire, 183-186.

Online readings: Extracts from Josef Stalin, "We Stand for Peace," 1939.

April 10: Aggression in Asia, 1929-1939

Readings: Keylor, 155, 226-227, 230-235. McGuire, 168-171, 177-182, 189-191.

Analytic Paper Due in Lecture!!!

April 12: A World at War (Again), 1939-1941.

Readings: Keylor, 170-178, 214-216, 235-242. McGuire, 220-227, 230-237.

April 17: A World at War (Again), 1941-1943.

Readings: Keylor, 178-181, 217-218, 242-245. McGuire, 227-229, 237-240.

April 19: *Coda Terribila*: The Second World War Ends, 1943-1945.

Readings: Keylor, 181-185, 246-248. McGuire, 241-248, 256-258.

April 24: Genocidal Actions in the Second World War.

Readings: Keylor, 190-192, 248-250. McGuire, 250-251, 252-254.

Online sources: Excerpts from the Wannsee Protocol (1942); from Nogi Harumichi on Greater East Asia; from a Korean Perspective on Hiroshima (1945); and from the historiography of the A-Bomb decision.

April 26: The International Order in 1945.

Readings: Keylor, 185-190, 255-258. McGuire, 248-250, 254-256.

May 1: **TBA**

Final Exam: **TBA**

Grade Scale:

A 93-100

A- 92-90

B+ 87-89

B 83-86

B- 82-80

C+ 77-79

C 73-76

C- 72-70

D 60-69

F 0-59