Instructor: Charles Haddad, (0) 631-632-1094; E-mail: haddad210@gmail.com.

Students may e-mail me at anytime; or they may call me between 10 a.m. and 6 p.m. during weekdays.

Purpose

Why is the job market so terrible for new college graduates; why has the value of a college education plateaued and why does China present such a formidable challenge to the U.S.? These represent a few of the most pressing questions of our time that this class will explain and make relevant and interesting. The goal of this class is to give students a deep understanding of some of the key people, places and events that will loom large in their lifetime. In short, this is the social studies class that you can not only stay awake in. You'll look forward to attending.

Course Goals

• Improve critical thinking by developing evaluative, problem-solving, and expressive skills.
• Enhance group communication skills through discussions, small-group work, presentations or debates.
• Develop intellectual curiosity and better understand the role of a student in an academic community.

Course Requirements

1. UGC Programming Requirements
2. **Spring Commons Day** - All students in a Freshman 102 Seminar are required to attend a Spring Commons Day Event on Wednesday, March 26, 2014. For more information about this day visit:

**Assignments**

**Presentation**

Students will prepare a 10 minute presentation as a group on an important event or trend in world affairs and lead a discussion on it. The presentation must be done in powerpoint, keynote or google docs. It must be turned in electronically to the professor by class time on the day it is due. No late assignments will be accepted with prior approval from the professor. Students must attend class on the day the presentation is due to receive credit for it. Students will be graded independently for their role in the presentation. But working together well as a group will be raise the grade of all those in the group.

**Attendance**

Students are required to attend every class and attend on time. There will be a five minute grace period but after that students will be marked as tardy. Students will also be allowed two unexcused absences during the semester. Ten points will be deducted for every other unexcused absence thereafter. Ten points will also be deducted for every late attendance.

**LDS Program Attendance Requirement:**

During the Spring semester, all LDS students are required to attend at least one LDS-sponsored event, at least one UGC-sponsored event and the LDS
Commencement on Wednesday, April 24th, from 1pm - 2pm in the LDS Center, Benedict Residence Hall, H Quad. Attendance will be recorded and tracked. For more information about Spring 2013 LDS event listing, visit: http://www.stonybrook.edu/ucolleges/lds/. Students should put the one hour commencement program in the calendars now.

Participation
Students are expected to actively engage in class discussions. That means asking questions, offering additional information and debating points of interest. In this class, there is no such thing as either a dumb or silly question. However, a student’s participant must be centered on the topic and designed to move the class forward.

Grading
Presentations 75%
Attendance 10%
Participation 15%

Blackboard
There is a Blackboard account for this course. Check daily for announcements at http://blackboard.sunysb.edu. Students who have used Stony Brook's Blackboard system will find their login information (username and password) unchanged. Students who have not used the system should be aware that usernames for
Blackboard are identical to Sparky usernames. Initial password is your SOLAR ID number. For help, call 631-632-9602, or see: http://www.sinc.sunysb.edu/helpdesk/docs/blackboard/bbstudent.php.

Special considerations

If you have a physical, psychological, medical or learning disability that may affect your coursework, please contact Disability Support Services in room 128 of the Educational Communications Building, 2-6748. The staff will work with you in confidence to determine necessary accommodations. Students requiring emergency evacuation should discuss this need with their professors and DSS. For procedures and information, please visit http://www.ehs.sunysb.edu/fire/disabilities/asp.

Plagiarism and cheating:

Any form of plagiarism or cheating will result in a failing grade. Here is the University’s statement on academic dishonesty: “Plagiarism is the use of others’ words and/or ideas without clearly acknowledging their source. As students, you are learning about other people’s ideas in your course texts, your instructors’ lectures, in-class discussions, and when doing your own research. When you incorporate those words and ideas into your own work, it is of the utmost importance that you give credit where it is due. Plagiarism, intentional or unintentional, is considered academic dishonesty and all instances will be reported to the Academic Judiciary. To avoid plagiarism, you must give the original author credit whenever you use another person’s ideas, opinions, drawings, or theories as well as any facts or
any other pieces of information that are not common knowledge. Additionally quotations of another person’s actual spoken or written words; or a close paraphrasing of another person’s spoken or written words must also be referenced. Accurately citing all sources and putting direct quotations – of even a few key words – in quotation marks are required.”

For further information on academic integrity and the policies regarding academic dishonesty, go to the Academic Judiciary Web site http://naples.cc.sunysb.edu/CAS/ajc.nsf.

Disruptive behavior:
“The University at Stony Brook expects students to maintain standards of personal integrity that are in harmony with the educational goals of the institution; to observe national, state, and local laws and University regulations; and to respect the rights, privileges, and property of other people. Faculty is required to report disruptive behavior that interrupts faculty’s ability to teach, the safety of the learning environment, and/or students’ ability to learn to Judicial Affairs.”