



O.P. Jindal Global University
A Private University Promoting Public Service

JSIA

Spring Semester 2026

COURSE MANUAL

Rise of the West: Creating the Modern World

B.A. & M.A.

Course Instructor

Mohsin Raza Khan

No. of Credits: 4

Course Duration: One Semester (Feb to May)

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This course manual is a general guide and may be revised during the course of the semester. Students will be duly notified of any changes, well in advance.

I. COURSE INFORMATION

Course title	Rise of the West: Creating the Modern World
Course Code	
Course Duration	One Semester
Credits	3
Level	BA & MA
Hours of Instruction	3 hours per week
Medium of Instruction	English
Pre-requisites	None
Pre-cursors	None
Equivalent courses	None
Exclusive courses	None

II. CURRICULUM

COURSE DESCRIPTION

We will look at how the present world came into existence. Since this is inextricable from socio-economic developments over the last millennium, the assumption being that political and social arrangements coevolve with underlying technological advancements, to understand this one has to study long duree history as well as political economy.

Thus starting with Ian Morris' account of the rise of the West and moving on to we will arrive at the incomplete development trajectories of South Asia. The course aims to introduce students to how the long duree development of the West and the under development of the Rest created the modern world.

Thus the focus in the course is constantly on how technology, geography and power structures our lives and society, how change happens over time and what lies at the roots of our present reality.

INTENDED LEARNING OUTCOMES

After completing this course, students can be expected to:

- a. Understand how growth and development has historically taken place
- b. Understand the power of geography and Technology in creating socio economic development
- c. Understand how socio economic change creates political development

- d. How fundamentalist revival and liberalism both depend on geography and trade
- e. The nature of power geography in structuring, enabling and constraining human actions, including their own.
- f. Understand the basic causes of underdevelopment in general and in specific those constituting Indian reality.
- g. Ability to argue out a case for their position based on nuance, empathy and a general level of sophistication
- h. Ability to read and absorb a large amount of complex historical, political and economic text.
- i. Learn to apply their theoretical learning to the empirical world around them.
- j. Write a dispassionate analyses of contemporary politics.

III. ASSESSMENT AND CLASS POLICIES

ACADEMIC REQUIREMENTS

To pass this course, students must obtain passing marks in *each* of the coursework and the final course assessment.

CLASS FORMAT

Each class will be 3 hours held once a week. Each class will begin with an introduction to the topic and analysis by the course instructor followed by student led presentation and questioning/discussion on the readings assigned for the previous week.

ASSESSMENT

The total assessment for the course is worth 100 marks.

30 Marks will be for the end term exam

70 marks will be the continuous assessment which will consist of:

Viva/Presentation: 35 Marks

Midterm: 35 Marks

GRADING SCALES

Student assignments and examinations will be graded in accordance with the following scales:

Percentage of Marks	Grade	Grade Value	Grade Description
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Percentage of Marks	Grade	Grade Value	Grade Description
80 and above	O	8	Outstanding – Exceptional knowledge of the subject matter, thorough understanding of issues; ability to synthesize ideas, rules and principles and extraordinary critical and analytical ability
75 – 79	A+	7.5	Excellent - Sound knowledge of the subject matter, thorough understanding of issues; ability to synthesize ideas, rules and principles and critical and analytical ability
70 – 74	A	7	Very Good - Sound knowledge of the subject matter, excellent organizational capacity, ability to synthesize ideas, rules and principles, critically analyse existing materials and originality in thinking and presentation
65 – 69	A-	6	Good - Good understanding of the subject matter, ability to identify issues and provide balanced solutions to problems and good critical and analytical skills
60 – 64	B+	5	Fair – Average understanding of the subject matter, limited ability to identify issues and provide solutions to problems and reasonable critical and analytical skills
55 – 59	B	4	Acceptable - Adequate knowledge of the subject matter to go to the next level of study and reasonable critical and analytical skills.
50 – 54	B-	3	Marginal - Limited knowledge of the subject matter and irrelevant use of materials and, poor critical and analytical skills
Below 50	F	0	Fail - Poor comprehension of the subject matter; poor critical and analytical skills and marginal use of the relevant materials. Will require repeating the course

ACADEMIC INTEGRITY and PLAGIARISM

JIA has a zero tolerance policy towards plagiarism. Plagiarism is an ethical matter, not a procedural one. No percentage is ‘allowed’.

Students are encouraged to approach their course instructor for help with understanding course materials and completing assignments. A purported lack of time, or difficulty in understanding of readings or assignments will, under no circumstances, excuse plagiarism.

The course instructor will discuss plagiarism in detail in class and provide further resources to aid students in understanding what plagiarism is and how it is to be avoided.

DISABILITY SUPPORT

JGU is committed to making all courses accessible to students. All students with a known disability needing academic accommodations are required to register with the Disability Support Committee dsc@jgu.edu.in. The Committee has so far identified the following conditions that could possibly hinder student's overall well-being. These include: physical and mobility related difficulties; visual impairment; hearing impairment; medical conditions; specific learning difficulties e.g. dyslexia; mental health.

The Disability Support Committee maintains strict confidentiality in its discussions. The students should preferably register with the Committee in the month of June/January as disability accommodation requires early planning. DSC will approve and coordinate all the disability related services such as appointment of academic mentors, specialized interventions and course related requirements such as accessible classrooms for lectures, tutorials and examinations. All faculty members are required to refer students with any of the above-mentioned conditions to the Disability Support Committee for addressing disability-related accommodation requirements.

IV. SYLLABUS AND READINGS

Main Readings:

Why The West Rules – For Now by Ian Morris (2010) Picador (Farar, Straus and Giroux)

The Future of Freedom by Fareed Zakaria (2007) WW Norton & Company

The Indian Ideology by Perry Anderson, (2015) Three Essays Collective (2nd ed)

In The Making by Kamaljit Bhasin Malik (2007) Three Essays Collective

Lost Enlightenment by S. Frederick Starr (2014) Harper Collins

Supplementary Readings

Sapiens by Yuval Noah Hariri (2015) Vintage books

WEEKLY TOPIC OUTLINE

Lecture Programme, Weekly Schedule and Readings

The lecture schedule might be subject to changes.

Topic No.	Week	Theme	Readings
1	1 &2	Introduction	Introduction of <i>Why the West Rules – For Now</i> Ch. on Marx, <i>Western Political Thought</i> by Shefali Jha, pp 216-231
2	3&4	When the East Ruled	Ch.7, The Eastern Age, in WWR Extracts from Lost Enlightenment
3	5&6	The Beginning of catch up	Ch.8, Going Global, in WWR
4	7&8	Catch Up & Lead	Ch.9, The West Catches Up, in WWR
5	8&9	The Case of Holland and England	Capitalism, Holland and England Extracts from <i>The Future of Freedom</i> by Fareed Zakaria
5	9&10	Supremacy of the West	Ch.10, The Western Age, in WWR
6	11&12	How and Why it happened	Ch.11, Why the West Rules, in WWR

NOTES ON WRITING AND REFERENCING

At the beginning in the introductory para you must explain two things. Firstly what is the central thesis of your paper that is, what exactly is your main point. Secondly what is the structure of your paper. That is what will you talk about first, what will you talk of next and so on. Remember your introduction should have the outline/structure of your paper as well as the main claims you are going to prove. If you don't have any footnotes you will be marked poorly. the conclusion could mention the questions unanswered and which lead from your paper.

Harvard System of Referencing is a popular and established form of academic referencing. It comprises of: (1) In-Text Referencing (2) Detailed Referencing

1. In-Text Referencing:

Each time you refer to the work that has already been published you need to include the author's name and the year of publication. If you have included a direct quote then you must mention the page number as well.

In general, when writing for a professional publication, it is good practice to make reference to other relevant published work. This view has been supported in the work of Cormack (1994).

Where you are mentioning a particular part of the work, and making direct reference to this, a page reference should be included:

Cormack (1994, pp.32-33) states that 'when writing for a professional readership, writers invariably make reference to already published works'.

Where several publications from a number of authors are referred to, then the references should be cited in chronological order (i.e. earliest first):

Further research in the late forties (Smith, 1946; Jones, 1948) led to major developments.....

Recent research (Collins, 1998; Brown, 2001; Davies, 2008) shows that

Two, three or four authors have worked on the same book or article

Later research demonstrated that this theory was incorrect (Smith, Davis, Singh and Green, 2000)

More than four authors have worked on a book or article:

Where there are several authors (more than four), only the first author should be used, followed by et al. meaning and others:

Green, et al. (1995) found that the majority ...

Several publications by an author in different years

as suggested by Patel (1992; 1994) who found that...

Several publications by an author in the same year

Earlier research by Dunn (1993a) found that...but later research suggested again by Dunn (1993b) that

Chapters from Edited Books

References to the work of an author that appears as a chapter, or part of a larger work, that is edited by someone else, should be cited within your text using the name of the contributory author not the editor of the whole work.

In his work on health information, Smith (1975) states ...

In the reference list at the end of your document, you should include details of both the chapter author and the editor of the entire work

(See Section on Chapters of edited books for further details).

No Author

If the author cannot be identified use 'Anonymous' or 'Anon' and the title of the work and date of publication. The title should be written in italics. Every effort should be made to establish the authorship if you intend to use this work as supporting evidence in an academic submission:

Marketing strategy (Anon., 1999)

General Guidelines for Referencing List:

Use the title page, not the book cover, for the reference details. Only include the edition where it is not the first. A book with no edition statement is most commonly a first edition.

The required elements for a book reference are:

Author, Initials., Year. Title of book. Edition. (only include this if not the first edition) Place of publication (this must be a town or city, not a country): Publisher.

Reference

where 1st edition

Baron, D. P., 2008. Business and the organisation. Chester: Pearson.

where 3rd edition

Redman, P., 2006. Good essay writing: a social sciences guide. 3rd ed. London: Open University in assoc. with Sage.

An intext reference for the above examples would read:

Organisations have been found to differ (Baron, 2008) when there is ...

Leading social scientists such as Redman (2006) have noted ...

For books with two, three or four authors of equal status the names should all be included in the order they appear in the document. Use an and to link the last two multiple authors.

The required elements for a reference are:

Author, Initials., Year. Title of book. Edition (only include this if not the first edition). Place: Publisher.

Reference

Weiss, T.D. and Coatie, J.J., 2010. The World Health Organisation, its history and impact. London: Perseus.

Barker, R., Kirk, J. and Munday, R.J., 1988. Narrative analysis. 3rd ed. Bloomington: Indiana University Press.

An intext reference for the above examples would read:

Leading organisations concerned with health (Weiss and Coatie, 2010) have proved that.....

A new theory (Barker, Kirk and Munday, 1988) has challenged traditional thinking ...

or chapters of edited books the required elements for a reference are:

Chapter author(s) surname(s) and initials. Year of chapter. Title of chapter followed by In: Book editor(s) initials first followed by surnames with ed. or eds. after the last name. Year of book. Title of book. Place of publication: Publisher. Chapter number or first and last page numbers followed by full-stop.

References

Samson, C., 1970. Problems of information studies in history. In: S. Stone, ed. 1980. Humanities information research. Sheffield: CRUS, pp.44-68.

Smith, J., 1975. A source of information. In: W. Jones, ed. 2000. One hundred and one ways to find information about health. Oxford: Oxford University Press. Ch.2.

An intext reference for the above example would read:

(Samson, 1970)

Remember that this must also be consistent with the citations in the text

For multiple works the required elements for a reference are:

Author, Initials., Year followed by letter. Title of book. Place: Publisher.

Soros, G., 1966a. The road to serfdom. Chicago: University of Chicago Press.

Soros, G., 1966b. Beyond the road to serfdom. Chicago: University of Chicago Press.

Works by the same author should be displayed in the order referenced in your assignment, earliest first (as above).

An intext reference for the above example would read:

(Soros, 1966a)

(Soros, 1966b)

This also applies if there are several authors with the same surname. As an alternative their initials can be included in the citation.

So for example, if you have sources written by George Soros and also by Manuel Soros, you would list them in alphabetic order:

(Soros, G. 1966a)

(Soros, G. 1966b)

(Soros, M. 1966)

For newspaper articles the required elements for a reference are:

Author, Initials., Year. Title of article. Full Title of Newspaper, Day and month before page numbers and column line.

Slapper, G., 2005. Corporate manslaughter: new issues for lawyers.

The Times, 3 Sep. p.4b.

For newspaper articles found in online newspapers, the required elements for a reference are:

Author or corporate author, Year. Title of document or page. Name of newspaper, [type of medium]
Additional date information. Available at: url [Accessed date].

Chittenden, M., Rogers, L. and Smith, D., 2003. Focus: 'Targetitis ails NHS. Times Online, [online]1 June. Available at: <<http://www.timesonline.co.uk/tol/news/uk/scotland/article1138006.ece>>

[Accessed 17 March 2005].

Coney, J., 2009. Is this the start of a new home loan war? HSBC vows to lend £1billion to homebuyers with 10% deposits. Daily Mail, [online] (Last updated 9.47 AM on 09th April 2009) Available at:

<<http://www.dailymail.co.uk/news/article-1168461/Is-start-new-home-loan-war-HSBC-vows-lend-1billion-homebuyers-10-deposits.html>>

[Accessed on 20 April 2009]

An intext reference for the above examples would read:

(Chittenden, et al. 2003)

(Coney, 2009)