

*Universidad Nacional de Tucumán  
Facultad de Filosofía y Letras  
Departamento de Inglés*

*History of the English Speaking Peoples II  
Profesora: Mgr. Gilda M. Isaac  
Curso Anual: 90 hs  
2015*

The purpose of this course is to develop an understanding of the evolution of global processes and contacts, in interaction with different types of human societies. The course highlights the nature of changes in international frameworks and their causes and consequences, as well as comparisons among major English speaking societies.

The course builds on the understanding of cultural, institutional, and technological precedents that, along with geography, set the human stage. Periodization, explicitly discussed, forms an organizing principle for dealing with change and continuity throughout the course. Specific themes provide further organization to the course. Special importance is given to historical perspective in order to understand contemporary social, political, technological, and economic problems.

### **Objectives of the Course**

***Students should be able to:***

1. Understand the dynamics of change and continuity and the causes and processes involved in major changes of these dynamics.
2. Learn about patterns and effects of interaction among societies and regions; trade, war, diplomacy, and international organizations.
3. Understand the effects of technology, economics, and demography on people and their environment (population growth and decline, disease, labor systems, manufacturing, migrations, agriculture, and weaponry).
4. To compare systems of social structure and gender structure (comparing major features within and among societies, and assessing change and continuity).
5. To develop the ability to think critically and understand cultural, intellectual, and religious developments, including interactions among and within societies.
6. Broaden their understanding of changes in function and structures of states and in attitudes toward states and political identities (political culture), including the emergence of the nation-state (types of political organization)
7. Exercise the skills necessary for independent thinking and critical analysis.
8. Become aware of the rich tapestry of history behind the language they are using.

9. Participate actively in intellectually stimulating class discussion of controversial historical and contemporary issues.
10. Develop the necessary writing and organizational skills that will allow them to write an original essay.

### ***Course Requirements***

- Attendance and Active Participation in Class -75%
- Research paper -25%
- Final Written Comprehensive Examination

Active Participation in class is essential and required in this course. Successful students will do the assigned readings on time, come to lecture, participate in group and classroom discussions and be prepared to present in class. Participation means constructively engaging in class discussions. Participation includes being considerate of both your classmates and instructor. This means arriving on time and staying for the duration of the class. It requires you to be respectful when someone else is speaking. Please avoid interrupting or ignoring others who are speaking, and please treat people whose opinions differ from yours with the same respect that you would like them to accord you. We will be discussing sensitive and emotionally charged topics, such as race, class, gender, colonization, religion, and poverty. We aim to foster an atmosphere in which we all feel free to express our ideas without fear of being judged, we need to feel free to discuss all issues in an open arena. Therefore, personal attacks and offensive language will not be tolerated.

The final research paper, consisting exclusively of essays, will be written out of class, where you will have access to the required books. I am not so much interested in your ability to memorize historical details as in your ability to understand what they mean and how they fit together to form patterns necessary for understanding. You will be provided with detailed guidelines for the writing of the three page essay.

For those of you with the time to spare and the desire to penetrate more deeply into the issues we shall be studying, I am supplying a list of recommended books and films. The films, in particular, often bring the past to life in highly inventive ways. Though no substitute for written history, they supplement in invaluable ways what historians have discovered and described.

I am available for conferences with students, by appointment, immediately following the end of class on Mondays. You can also reach me by e-mail at: [gildawhite@hotmail.com](mailto:gildawhite@hotmail.com)