

Brief Course Outline

Course Title: **The British Empire in the Age of Revolutions**

Course Number and Section

HISTORY

4418F 550

Instructor Name(s): Tim Compeau

Instructor Email(s): tcompea@uwo.ca

Disclaimer: Information in the brief course outline is subject to change. The syllabus posted on OWL Brightspace is the official and authoritative source of information for the course.

Course Description:

This course explores major events and themes in the history of the British Empire from the Seven Years' War to 1857. Seminars will explore the development of revolutionary and counter-revolutionary ideologies, the imposition and reform of imperial law and governance, colonial violence and resistance, trade and commerce, slavery and abolition, print media and culture, as well as the role of gender, race, and religion in shaping imperial relationships.

Learning Outcomes: one outcome per entry

- understand the conflict between imperialist, conservative, liberal, reformist, and revolutionary ideologies within the British Empire and around the world.
- understand the global scale of the British Empire and its rivals and appreciate the impact of revolutionary warfare on diverse cultures and societies.
- understand the cultural, economic, and political forces that shaped British imperialism, how these forces changed or persisted.
- research complex historical topics by constructing a research plan, locating and analyzing sources, determining the components of historical arguments, and drawing conclusions.
- refine their ability to analyze a variety of primary sources including texts, images, songs, and artifacts and utilize them in writing a research essay.
- analyze secondary sources, including their sources, methods, argument, strengths, limitations, potential implications and significance for the field; and use secondary sources to consider why questions asked and topics studied by historians have changed over time.
- write and properly format an essay that uses primary and secondary evidence to support a thesis statement.

Textbooks and Course Materials:

Julia Gaffield, *I Have Avenged America: Jean-Jacques Dessalines and Haiti's Fight for Freedom*

(Yale University Press, 2025). Available in the Bookstore. Paperback. \$33.65.

Methods of Evaluation: one assignment per entry

Assignment	Due Date mm/dd/yy	Weight - %
Participation	Ongoing	30
Book Review	10/07/26	15
Research Proposal	10/23/26	5
Research Presentation	Multiple Dates	10
Final Paper	12/07/26	40

Thursday, August 6, 2026

Huron Brief Course Outline 2026/27

In-course Costs \$033.65

For Textbooks and Course Materials (below), you are required to include the cost of each textbook or other learning material.

Note whether there are any restrictions that would prevent a student from using a second-hand copy. Here is some suggested text:

- Required textbook: [author, title, edition, publisher, date]. Cost: [insert amount].
 - Or include the weblink of the textbook’s publisher site that includes the cost information.
- Students need to purchase this edition. Second-hand or older editions will not be sufficient.
- OR Students are welcome to purchase second-hand or earlier editions of this textbook.
- This course has an optional field trip that costs [insert amount].
- This course has a required field component that costs [insert amount].

In solidarity with the Anishinaabe, Haudenosaunee, Lūnaapéewak, and Chonnonton peoples on whose traditional treaty and unceded territories this course is shared.