

Ivy Tech Community College  
HIST 112: World Civilization II  
Dr. Aaron Miller  
Fall 2022

## **HIST 112 Multilateralism Paper Assignment**

During the course of this class, we have discussed diplomatic successes as well as international catastrophes that led to even larger disasters. The goal of this paper is to find an example from history when a nation acted unilaterally and compare and contrast that example with an historical moment when nations cooperated to address a problem. Using primary and secondary sources, evaluate the outcomes of unilateral action with that of multilateral cooperation. The paper needs to be five complete pages. This is a paper, not a report or a narrative. It needs to have a thesis supported by evidence. The examples of multilateralism and unilateralism need to have occurred during the scope of this class (world history from 1500 to the present).

You must complete each step, in order, by the due date listed. I would encourage you to work on the final paper as soon as you select a topic. Do not wait until you have finished Step 5 before starting on the paper.

For each step, including the final paper, your step submission must be typed, using 12 point Times New Roman font. Your submissions must be double-spaced and use standard margins. If your step must be stapled, staple it before you arrive to class. Be prepared to submit your step at the start of class. I will not accept late submissions. You must include your name, the Title Step #, and the name of the step on your submission. But a title page is not necessary. You must always use correct grammar, spelling and punctuation. Remember, plagiarism will not be accepted under any circumstances. Borrowing text without correct use of citations will result in failing this assignment at minimum and possibly worse consequences.

Each of these steps are not binding. If you need to make small changes after I have returned a graded step to you, that is fine. I would avoid, however, making large sweeping changes without discussing them with me first.

### Paper Requirements

Length: Minimum 5 complete pages to maximum 7 pages

Format: 12 Point Times New Roman Font, Standard Margins

Citations: MLA, APA, or Chicago Manual of Style

### Important Questions to Consider in Your Paper

1. What is multilateralism?

2. Briefly describe the events you selected to compare and contrast (one example of multilateral action with one example of unilateralism).
3. Evaluate the successes and failures of both sequences of events.
4. What are the benefits to international cooperation and multilateralism?
5. What are some critiques of multilateralism?
6. How does multilateralism prevent conflict and promote cooperation?

#### Potential Topics to Examine

|                            |                                 |
|----------------------------|---------------------------------|
| Trade                      | Refugees                        |
| The Environment            | Agriculture                     |
| Terrorism                  | Energy                          |
| The Rise of Fascism        | Security/Peacekeeping           |
| Wars                       | Pandemics                       |
| Human Trafficking          | Economic Inequality             |
| Consumer Protections       | Diversity                       |
| Immigration                | Nuclear Weapons/Weapons of Mass |
| Famine/Humanitarian Crises | Destruction                     |

#### Background Information/Resources

Dervis, Kamel. “Multilateralism: What policy options to strengthen international cooperation?”  
<https://www.brookings.edu/research/multilateralism-what-policy-options-to-strengthen-international-cooperation/>

Webpage on Multilateral Relations by the European Union External Action Service  
[https://www.eeas.europa.eu/eeas/multilateral-relations\\_en](https://www.eeas.europa.eu/eeas/multilateral-relations_en)

Gaddis, John Lewis. *Surprise, Security, and the American Experience*.  
[https://books.google.com/books/about/Surprise\\_Security\\_and\\_the\\_American\\_Exper.html?id=OSQvEAAAQBAJ&source=kp\\_book\\_description](https://books.google.com/books/about/Surprise_Security_and_the_American_Exper.html?id=OSQvEAAAQBAJ&source=kp_book_description)

Hamilton, Lee. “What Foreign Policy Can Look Like”  
<https://corg.iu.edu/programs/hamilton-views/comments-on-congress/What%20Foreign%20Policy%20Can%20Look%20Like.html>

European Parliament Briefing, “The European Union and the Multilateral System: Lessons from Past Experience and Future Challenges”  
[https://www.europarl.europa.eu/RegData/etudes/BRIE/2021/689365/EPRS\\_BRI\(2021\)689365\\_EN.pdf](https://www.europarl.europa.eu/RegData/etudes/BRIE/2021/689365/EPRS_BRI(2021)689365_EN.pdf)

### Step 1: Select a Topic

Select a general topic in the context of this course world history from 1500 to the present that you want to research. Once you have selected a topic, I will help you identify an example of multilateral action as well as an example of unilateral action. I suggest selecting a topic and events that interest you or that you are passionate about.

### Step 2: Annotated Bibliography

Find at least five sources for your paper. In addition to your primary sources, search for recent books and journal and academic articles. Your textbook can provide background information, but should not be counted as a source.

I will not accept Wikipedia entries, SparkNotes or other academically weak online sources. If you wish to use an online source, it must be from a reputable organization such as a library, university, historical association or government website. Using either Chicago Manual of Style, APA style, or MLA style guidelines, cite your sources. Then write a brief paragraph under each entry evaluating the source.

### Step 3: Write a Thesis Statement

Your thesis statement should be an argument. Be bold. Test your thesis statement. If you could construct a statement that argues the exact opposite, it is likely you have a strong statement.

### Step 4: Outline

Complete an outline of your entire paper. Make sure that you include a title for your paper that reflects your thesis. Include your thesis and topic sentences for each subsequent paragraph. There is not a required number of paragraphs.

### Step 5: Write the First Paragraph

Write the introductory paragraph to your paper. Include your thesis statement in this paragraph.

### Step 6: Submit the Final Paper

Make sure that your paper is polished. Make sure that you have carefully proofread your paper. The paper must be at least five full pages long. Title pages and sources do not count towards this total.

### Timetable

| Step                              | Due Date | Point Value |
|-----------------------------------|----------|-------------|
| Step 1: Select a Topic            | Week 2   | 10 points   |
| Step 2: Annotated                 | Week 3   | 10 points   |
| Step 3: Write a Thesis            | Week 4   | 10 points   |
| Step 4: Outline                   | Week 5   | 10 points   |
| Step 5: Write the First Paragraph | Week 6   | 10 points   |
| Step 6: Submit Final Paper        | Week 8   | 100 points  |
| Total                             |          | 150 points  |

### Grading Criteria for Final Paper

#### Criteria for an A

- Presents a clear and significant argument supported by evidence.
- Well written and clearly argued with few errors.
- Uses contextual information presented in lectures and readings.

#### Criteria for a B

- Presents a clear argument supported by evidence.
- Uses contextual information presented in lectures and readings.
- Employs some evidence to support claims.
- Writing is clear and concise with few errors.

#### Criteria for a C

- Lacks a central argument.
- Lacks evidence to support argument.
- Argument is unclear and not well supported.
- Flaws in logic and argumentation.
- Writing is sometimes confusing and may contain errors.
- May contain some minor historical or factual errors.

#### Criteria for a D

- No argument or organizing idea.
- Does not use lecture information or readings.
- Simplistic and random.
- Contains generalized and unsupported opinion.
- Based almost completely on personal opinion.
- Contains substantial historical or factual errors.
- Writing is consistently confusing and contains many errors.

**Criteria for an F**

- Incoherent.
- Makes no reference to lecture info or reading.
- Does not fulfill the basic requirements of the assignment.

This document was created and maintained with the financial support of the European Union. Its contents are the sole responsibility of the Center for European Studies at UNC-CH, the European Studies Center at the University of Pittsburgh, and the Miami-Florida Jean Monnet European Center of Excellence at Florida International University and do not necessarily reflect the views of the European Union



EUROPEAN UNION