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**From:** The Modern World Global History since 1760 Course Team [REDACTED] >  
**Sent:** Saturday, March 16, 2013 7:05 PM  
**To:** jeepproject@yahoo.com  
**Subject:** Starting Week 9

Dear Jeffrey Epstein,

The presentations for Week 9 are now posted. Responding to some suggestion=, we are making the presentations available a little earlier.

With Week 9, we tackle three main historical problems. First, why did World War I turn out the way it did? Why did the Western allies win? I do not=treat this outcome as a foregone conclusion. My argument, following other=historians like David Stevenson, is that the war's outcome was still uncertain even in early 1918. The Allied Powers had certain fundamentals on the=r side, but their tactical position was not so promising and the Russian collapse was a major boost to the Central Powers.

Second, what were the most important changes in ideas about governance ♦=80♦ political and economic — produced by the war? There is the =ise of communism, of course. But with it also came the rise of other mass=movements — anti-communism ... and that curious hybrid, fascism. Empires disintegrated and mutated, the surviving ones adopted a stronger veneer of liberal purpose. But even more interesting are the new anti=perialisms, militant national states of which Atatürk's Turkey was t=the outstanding and much noticed model, with kindred approaches adopted by leaders in places like Iran and the new Chinese republic.

Third, what about the effects of this "broken world" on global society and =ulture? During the 1920s, this is the realm where American influence was =aramount, not in world politics. And this cultural realm is also where American influence drew more fretful and critical commentary than any other. =This is therefore also the week in our course where it is the right time t= take a more sustained look at changing ideas about the status of women across the world. This includes the origins of modern feminism on both sides=of the Atlantic, especially in the United States. As you will see, this topic is about much more than a battle over political rights. Indeed, the global phenomenon of "modern women" — much discussed during the 1920= — is about social roles and lifestyle.

Best wishes,

Philip Zelikow

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