

**History 596 Colloquium in World History:
“Ten Years that Shook the World – or Not”
Tuesday 4:20-6:50 pm SH 184
Professor Jeffrey Auerbach**

This graduate reading colloquium will explore recent works in modern world history that may collectively constitute a new genre of historical writing by focusing on a single year, presumably of some significance. These include Roger Crowley, *1453* (the fall of Constantinople); Charles Mann, *1491* (the Americas before Columbus); Ray Huang, *1587* (the decline of the Ming dynasty); John Willis, *1688* (early modern globalization); Frank McLynn, *1759* (the making of the British Empire); David Traxel, *1898* (the birth of the American century); Mark Kurlansky, *1968* (global rebellions); David Lesch, *1979* (the creation of the modern Middle East). This class will grapple with such questions as: Are certain years more significant than others? What do we mean by significant? How can we understand change within the context of a single year? What are the relationships between the local, the national, the imperial, and the global? Students will write several short analytical book reviews, as well as a longer exploration of a single year in modern world history of their own choosing. Please email jeffrey.auerbach@csun.edu for a permission number.

