



HIST 102: Western Civilization since 1600

Instructor: Prof. Joshua Arthurs

Lecture Location: B&E 458, MW 12:30-1:20

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Telephone: (304) 293-9303

Office Hours: Woodburn 302D, MW 2:00-3:00 or by appointment

Graduate Teaching Assistants:

Cole Volman (cv0010@mix.wvu.edu) - sec. 102 & 104; Woodburn G14, Thur. 3:00-4:00

Will Weber (wweber1@mix.wvu.edu) - sec. 100 & 103; Woodburn G14A, Mon. 3:00-4:00

Course Description:

This course traces the political, social, cultural and economic development of the West from the seventeenth century to the present. In particular, we will focus on the problem of modernity. What does it mean to be “modern”? What transformations occurred to create the society in which we live today? What new achievements and advances became possible in the modern era and, equally, what new crises and catastrophes? By analyzing and interrogating this history, we can come to a better understanding of the forces that continue to shape our world.

Learning Outcomes:

At the end of this History course, students will be able to:

- demonstrate general knowledge of the facts, concepts, and approaches of history;
- critically analyze and assess primary sources;
- critically analyze and assess secondary sources;
- produce historical essays that are coherent, grammatically correct, and use proper historical documentation.

Assignments:

Tests (60%): Over the course of the semester, there will be four tests to assess how well you have kept up with the lectures and readings. The first is worth 10%; the second and third are worth 15%; and the fourth is worth 20%. Since these are in-class and time-dependent, there are no make-ups without appropriate documentation. If you are aware that you will have a university-approved scheduling conflict, you may arrange to take the quiz in advance of your absence.

Online Responses and Reports (20%): At indicated on the syllabus, Friday discussion sections include brief assignments. Occasionally, these will be due in hard copy at the start of class; more often, they involve eCampus responses to the week’s readings, to be posted the day before the sections meet. Each post will be graded, with the results available online.

At the end of the semester, the lowest grade will be dropped. You can also earn additional points for that week's assignment by commenting on your peers' posts. However, while you are encouraged to engage with one other, please ensure that your first post contains your original thoughts regarding the prompts. As these assignments will be taken up by your TAs in the sections, no late work will be accepted.

Participation and Attendance (20%): Attendance counts towards your participation grade. You are expected to attend all class meetings and Friday recitation sections, with a notebook and the readings in hand. Be prepared to discuss the texts and ask questions. I do not distinguish between excused and unexcused absences; however, I understand that illness and problems can arise, so you will be allowed **three "free" misses** over the course of the semester. Be judicious about how you use these absences: if you use up your absences early in the semester, I will not be sympathetic when you need to miss class later in the term. Perfect attendance will improve your participation grade; multiple absences will lower it. **Failure to attend at least 2/3 of our classes will result in a zero for participation and severely jeopardize your ability to pass the course.**

Extra Credit: Students may earn up to 3% extra credit by writing an analysis of a film that is relevant to the themes of the course; see eCampus for a list of approved films. The paper should be approximately 3-4 pages double-spaced. Students are encouraged to consult with me for guidance ahead of time. You may only do one extra credit assignment per semester, and it is due by the last class meeting.

Readings:

The books listed below are required and available at the WVU bookstore. Other readings, indicated by an asterisk (*), are available on eCampus.

- Thomas Noble, Barry Strauss et al., *Western Civilization: Beyond Boundaries, Vol. II: Since 1560* (7th edition) ("Noble" on the schedule)
- Marvin Perry, ed., *Sources of the Western Tradition, Vol. II: From the Renaissance to the Present* (9th edition) (Unless otherwise indicated, the historical documents come from this book)
- Art Spiegelman, *The Complete Maus*
- Robert Louis Stevenson, *The Strange Case of Dr. Jekyll and Mr. Hyde*

eCampus:

The course website (which you can reach by logging on with your MIX user name and password at ecampus.wvu.edu) contains important materials including slides from past lectures, some readings, discussion questions for sections, assignments, this syllabus, and useful links.

Course Expectations:

Communication: I will often communicate with the class via your WVU email account (MIX). Please be sure to check it regularly. Email is also the best way to contact me. When emailing, please ensure that you are polite and professional; an unpunctuated message with no salutation and emojis will not be answered. I will work hard to get back to you in a timely manner.

Courtesy during Class: It is disruptive to others to arrive late to class or leave early. Please don't do it. If you know that you will have to leave class early, explain the situation to me beforehand and sit near the door so that you can exit as quietly as possible. Please turn off all cell phones, beepers, or any other wireless device that may make noise during class. You may use laptops in class for taking notes, but if you are using it for email, instant-messaging, or any other disruptive activity I will ask you to stop using your computer.

Academic Integrity: Plagiarism and other forms of academic dishonesty will be dealt with severely. At a minimum, **offenders will fail the course**. Plagiarism means “submitting, without appropriate acknowledgement, a report, notebook, speech, outline, theme, thesis, dissertation, or other written, visual, or oral material that has been copied in whole or in part from the work of others, whether such source is published or not, including (but not limited to) another individual’s academic composition, compilation, or other product, or commercially prepared paper” (WVU Undergraduate Catalog, 2003-2005, p. 47). Plagiarism includes not only lifting passages word for word without using quotation marks (even if you cite the author!), but also the substantial use of anyone else’s ideas without citing them.

Using material from the World Wide Web without citing it is plagiarism. Your work is made stronger, not weaker, by showing that you are able to refer to the work of others and comment upon it critically. Whenever you use material word for word, you must use quotation marks and cite the proper author.

Statement of Social Justice: WVU is committed to social justice. I concur with that commitment and expect to maintain a positive learning environment based upon open communication, mutual respect, and non-discrimination. Our University does not discriminate on the basis of race, sex, age, disability, veteran status, religion, sexual orientation, color, or national origin. Any suggestions as to how to further such a positive and open environment in this class will be appreciated and given serious consideration. If you are a person with a disability and anticipate needing any type of accommodation in order to participate in this class, please advise me and make appropriate arrangements with Disability Services (293-6700).

Schedule

Week I

8/17 Introduction: What is the West?

8/19 Sections – Introductory Meeting

Week II

8/22 The End of the Old Order

- Pico della Mirandola, *Oration on the Dignity of Man*
- Martin Luther, *Critique of Church Doctrines*

8/24 Early Modern Religious Conflict

- *St. Ignatius Loyola, *Spiritual Exercises*
- *Jacques Auguste de Thou, *The Massacre of Saint Bartholomew's Day*
- **Ordinances For The Regulation of the Churches Dependent Upon the Seigniorship of Geneva*
- Noble, 433-467

8/26 Sections – Discussion

ONLINE RESPONSES DUE 4 PM ON THURSDAY

Week III

8/29 Absolutism & Constitutionalism

- Jacques-Benigne Bossuet, *Politics Drawn from the Very Words of Scripture*
- Thomas Hobbes, *Leviathan*
- *The English Declaration of Rights*
- Noble, 468-499

8/31 The Scientific Revolution

- Galileo Galilei, *Letter to the Grand Duchess Christina and Dialogue Concerning the Two Chief World Systems – Ptolemaic and Copernican*
- *Galileo Condemned by the Inquisition*
- Francis Bacon, *Attack on Authority and Advocacy of Experimental Science*
- Isaac Newton, *Principia Mathematica*
- Noble, 500-528

9/2 Sections – Discussion

ONLINE RESPONSES DUE 4 PM ON THURSDAY

Week IV

9/5 NO CLASS – LABOR DAY

9/7 Enlightenment I: The Science of Man

- Immanuel Kant, “*What is Enlightenment?*”
- Thomas Paine, *The Age of Reason*
- John Locke, *Essay Concerning Human Understanding*
- Adam Smith, *The Wealth of Nations*
- Noble, 529-540

9/9 Sections – The *Encyclopédie*

ENCYCLOPÉDIE ASSIGNMENT DUE AT START OF CLASS

Week V

9/12 Enlightenment II: The Social Contract

- John Locke, *Second Treatise on Government*
- Thomas Jefferson, *Declaration of Independence*
- Jean-Jacques Rousseau, *The Social Contract*
- Noble, 540-561

9/14 French Revolution I: Liberal Phase

- *Cabier of the Third Estate of Dourdan*
- Abbé Sieyès, *What is the Third Estate?*
- *Declaration of the Rights of Man and Citizen*
- Society of the Friends of Blacks, *Address to the National Assembly in Favor of the Abolition of the Slave Trade*
- Noble, 562-576

9/16 **TEST #1**

Week VI

9/19 French Revolution II: Radical Phase

- Maximilien Robespierre, *Republic of Virtue*
- District of Saint-Quentin, *De-Christianization*
- Noble, 576-586

9/21 French Revolution III: Conclusion and Legacies

- Edmond Burke, *Reflections on the French Revolution*
- Klemens von Metternich, *The Odious Ideas of the Philosophes*
- John Stuart Mill, *On Liberty*
- Noble, 586-592, 617-631

9/23 Sections – Discussion

ONLINE RESPONSES DUE 4 PM ON THURSDAY

Week VII

9/26 Industrial Revolution I: Technological, Social and Economic Change

- Edward Baines, *Britain's Industrial Advantages and the Factory System*
- James Phillips Kay, *Moral and Physical Dissipation*
- *Friedrich Engels, *Industrial Manchester*
- Noble, 593-612, 675-688

9/28 Industrial Revolution II: The Middle Class

- Samuel Smiles, *Self-Help and Thrift*
- *Charlotte Brontë, *A Visit to the Crystal Palace, 1851*
- *S.F.A. Caulfeild, *Wives and Mothers*
- *William Wordsworth, *The World is Too Much With Us*

9/30 Sections – Discussion

ONLINE RESPONSES DUE 4 PM ON THURSDAY

Week VIII

10/3 Industrial Revolution III: Radical Responses

- Robert Owen, *A New View of Society*
- Karl Marx and Frederick Engels, *The Communist Manifesto*
- Noble, 612-616, 631-634

10/5 **TEST #2**

10/7 Sections – Marx Debate

MARX ASSIGNMENT DUE AT START OF CLASS

Week IX

10/10 Nations and Nationalism

- Ernst Moritz Arndt, *The War of Liberation*
- Giuseppe Mazzini, *Young Italy*
- Noble, 634-667

10/12 The Age of Empire

- Joseph Chamberlain, *The British Empire: Colonial Commerce and the “White Man’s Burden”*
- Karl Pearson, *Social Darwinism: Imperialism Justified by Nature*
- Sigmund Freud, *A Note on the Unconscious in Psychoanalysis and Civilization and its Discontents*
- Noble, 688-716

10/14 Sections – *Jekyll & Hyde* Discussion

ONLINE RESPONSES DUE 4 PM ON THURSDAY

Week X

10/17 Malaise and the Drumbeat for War

- *F.T. Marinetti, *The Futurist Manifesto*
- Pan-German League, *“There are Dominant Races and Subordinate Races”*
- Friedrich Von Bernhardi, *The Next War*
- Henri Massis and Alfred de Tarde, *The Young People of Today*
- Noble, 716-719

10/19 The Great War I: Roots and Causes

- Baron von Giesl, *Austrian Response to the Assassination*
- Stefan Zweig, *Vienna: “The Rushing Feeling of Fraternity”*
- Bertrand Russell, *London: “Average Men and Women Were Delighted at the Prospect of War”*
- Noble, 719-733

10/21 Sections - Discussion

ONLINE RESPONSES DUE 4 PM ON THURSDAY

Week XI

10/24 The Great War II: War and Trauma

- Erich Maria Remarque, *All Quiet on the Western Front*

- Siegfried Sassoon, “*Base Details*”
- Wilfred Owen, “*Disabled*”
- Naomi Loughnan, *Genteel Women in the Factories*
- Noble, 733-742, 747-751

10/26 A New World Order? The West after WWI

- Woodrow Wilson, *The Idealistic View*
- Georges Clemenceau, *French Demands for Security and Revenge*
- *John Maynard Keynes, *The Economic Consequences of the Peace*
- Noble, 751-768

10/28 Sections – Discussion

ONLINE RESPONSES DUE 4 PM ON THURSDAY

Week XII

10/31 Peace, Land, Bread: The Russian Revolution

- Army Intelligence Report, *The Breakdown of Military Discipline*
- *Lenin, *What is to Be Done?*
- *Alexandra Kollontai, *Communism and the Family*
- Noble, 742-747, 768-773

11/2 Crisis Years: Interwar Europe

- Ernst von Salomon, *Brutalization of the Individual*
- Sigmund Freud, *A Legacy of Embitterment*
- Benito Mussolini, *Fascist Doctrines*
- Noble, 773-792

11/4 **TEST #3**

Week XIII

11/7 The Rise of the Third Reich

- *Adolf Hitler, *Speech of April 10, 1923*
- Adolf Hitler, *Mein Kampf*
- Kurt G. W. Ludecke, *The Demagogic Orator*
- Jakob Graf, *Heredity and Racial Biology for Students*
- Noble, 803-812

11/9 The Winds of War

- Johan Huizinga, *In The Shadow of Tomorrow*
- William Shirer, *Berlin Diary*
- Neville Chamberlain, *In Defense of Appeasement*
- Noble, 793-803, 812-823

11/11 Sections – Discussion

ONLINE RESPONSES DUE 4 PM ON THURSDAY

Week XIV

11/14 The Second World War

- Adolf Hitler, “*Poland Will Be Depopulated and Settled with Germans*”
- Heinz Guderian, “*French Leadership... Could Not Grasp the Significance of the Tank in Mobile Warfare*”
- *The Indoctrination of the German Soldier*
- Noble, 824-834

11/16 The Holocaust: From Persecution to Genocide

- Art Spiegelman, *The Complete Maus*
- Noble, 834-839

11/18 NO CLASS - RESPONSES DUE 4 PM ON FRIDAY

THANKSGIVING BREAK

Week XV

11/28 From War to Cold War

- Winston Churchill, *The Iron Curtain*
- Nikita Khrushchev, *Report to the Twentieth Party Congress*
- Noble, 844-862

11/30 Reconstruction and Reform

- **The Beveridge Report* (read paragraphs 6 through 16)
- **The Universal Declaration of Human Rights*
- Noble, 862-885

12/2 Sections – Discussion

ONLINE RESPONSES DUE 4 PM ON THURSDAY

Week XV

12/5 1989: The End of History?

- Mikhail Gorbachev, *Perestroika*
- Vaclav Havel, *The Failure of Communism*
- *Francis Fukuyama, *The End of History?*
- *Benjamin Barber, *Jihad vs. McWorld*
- Noble, 885-928

EXTRA CREDIT ASSIGNMENTS DUE BY START OF CLASS

TEST #4 IS MONDAY, DECEMBER 12TH, 2-4 PM IN OUR USUAL CLASSROOM.