Course Description

Western Civilization before 1660: A study of the antecedents of modern institutions, including the political history of the period.

- To develop your general education skills
- To provoke you to think historically
- To acquaint you with basic information about the historical period
- To be able to analyze historical causation and periodization from the pre-history through the Reformation
- To be able to analyze the relationship of historical themes across the period of study

Texts


Assorted Primary Documents provided at instructor discretion

Required Materials

1. 5 Subject, College Ruled Spiral Notebook, pocket dividers preferred.
2. Black or Dark Blue ink pens
3. Box of Tissue

Course Information

Types of Activities -

1. **History Notes** – Informal writing in class, this will not be graded.
   a. Take Cornell Style notes in Class
   b. Read your notes and write a 1-2 sentence summary at the bottom of each page.
   c. Underline or highlight the important facts.
   d. Choose one idea or event that is most important.
   e. Use your notes to prepare for short answer essays, which will be on Topic Tests.
f. Use your notes to prepare for possible long essays, which will be on Six Weeks and Semester Exams

2. **Map Assignments** – On test/exam days students will be given a mapping assignment to work on after completion of the test/exam. These are not graded, but test questions will be pulled from information on the maps.

3. **Socratic Seminars** – These are class activities where students will create questions while reading documents. There will then be a student led discussion over the assigned documents. **This will count as a daily quiz grade.**

4. **Daily Quizzes** – Short 5-minute quizzes that can be at the beginning of each class.
   a. Quizzes will be for the first five minutes only.
   b. Quiz questions will come from anything discussed or presented in the previous class.
   c. Quizzes cannot be made up. I will drop a certain number of them each six weeks. This number will vary depending on the number of quizzes. If you miss it will be a zero, but can be dropped. If you do not miss any quizzes then your lowest scores will be dropped. Be in class and on time and you will not miss any!

5. **Topic Tests** – These tests occur almost weekly. Tests are short enough to be completed in less than a single class period.
   a. Tests will contain short answer essays, multiple-choice questions and matching.
   b. Test questions will come from anything discussed or presented in class, as well as outside readings, artwork, and maps.

6. **Six weeks Exams** – At the end of each six weeks there will be a cumulative exam given over the material covered during that six weeks.
   a. These exams will be a two-day exam containing long essays, multiple-choice and matching questions. Essays will typically be questions asking your to compare and contrast themes within units, or cause and effect within units.
   b. Exams question will come from anything discussed or presented in class, as well as outside readings, artwork, and maps.
      i. First Six Week Exam – September 29-30th
      ii. Second Six Week Exam – November 3-4
      iii. Third Six Week Exam - December 8-9

7. **Semester Exam** – This exam is a cumulative exam given over any material presented.
   a. This will be a two-day exam.
   b. The first day of the exam will be a written exam.
c. The second day of the exam will be multiple-choice and matching.
d. These exams will be multiple-choice and matching.
e. Exams question will come from anything discussed or presented in class, as well as outside readings, artwork, and maps.
   i. Semester Exam will be the week of December 12 (exam schedule to be announced later)

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Grade Breakdown:</th>
<th>Grade Categories:</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>A – 90-100</td>
<td>Daily Work/Quizzes – 25 %</td>
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<tr>
<td>B – 80-89</td>
<td>Tests – 55%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>C – 70-79</td>
<td>Six Weeks Exam – 20%</td>
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<td>F - 0-69</td>
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**Units of Study**

**First Grading Period: January 2 – February 17**

**Unit One:** Exploration, Absolutism and Enlightenment. 1500 CE – 1800 CE  
**Topics**
1. The Age of Exploration  
2. Conflict and Absolutism in Europe  
3. The Enlightenment and Revolutions

**Unit Two:** The Enlightenment and Revolution  
**Topics**
4. The Enlightenment and Scientific Revolution  
5. The French Revolution and Napoleon  
6. Industrialism and Nationalism

**Second Grading Period: February 20– April 7**

**Unit Three:** The Rise of Mass Democracy, Imperialism and World War  
**Topics**
7. Mass Society and Democracy  
8. Imperialism  
9. World War I

**Unit Four:** Instability in Europe and the Rise of Fascism  
**Topics**
10. The West Between the Wars  
11. Nationalism around the World  
12. World War II and the Holocaust

**Third Grading Period: April 10 – May 24**
Unit Five: The Cold War

Topics
13. The Cold War Begins
14. Independence and Nationalism in the Developing World
15. Life During the Cold War

Unit Six: Post Cold War Europe

Topics
16. A New Era Begins
17. Contemporary Global Issues

Class Rules

1. Be on time. There will be quizzes or short activities at the beginning of every class. If you are late you will not be able to fully participate in these activities.

2. No food or drink in the classroom (other than water). This is a campus wide change.

3. No cell phones at desks, unless I allow them for instructive purposes (Kahoot or other class activities). There will be a ‘Cell Phone Parking Lot’ with power strips available. This is a campus wide change (first come first serve on the power strips see rule #1).

4. No computers during notes. Notes will be taken by hand. Recent research studies show that students who do not take notes by hand are struggling more in college than students who have learned to take notes by hand. As this is a college course, I feel it is necessary for me to prepare you for upper level college courses.

5. No packing up early. There will be an alarm towards the end of class most days (I am still working on Tiger Time). It is the ‘Mission Impossible’ theme song. When it begins you have one minute to put away your materials. When the song ends it is my turn to talk again as I will be closing out the class. Do not get up and move to the door until the bell rings.