Western civilization to 1500:

This course is a study of the antecedents of modern institutions, including the political history of the period, and the human condition across cultures.

Essential

- Students will gain a basic understanding of the Western world (especially Europe), including factual knowledge, methods, principles, generalizations, and theories.
- Students will be expected to pay attention in class, take good notes in class and while reading, and retain this information.
- Students will develop knowledge and understanding of diverse perspectives, global awareness, and other Western cultures
- Students will be expected to begin to analyze historical events and processes.
- Students will gain a broader understanding and appreciation of Western (especially European) intellectual and cultural activity, including (but not limited to) music, science, art, and literature.
- Students will develop skills in expressing themselves orally or in writing.
- Students will be expected to achieve a high degree of written fluency during the course of the semester.

Required Reading

I may recommend further reading (as indicated on your class schedule) but this will be your starting point for all class preparation. All assigned readings must be completed before each corresponding class. Any additional readings will be posted online through Canvas.

Books to be purchased:

2. *Sources for Western Society, Volumes 1 and 2, 3rd ed.*, McKay, John editor., Bedford, Freeman, and Worth Publishing

Grades and Definitions

A (90%-100%) Excellent Exceptional work, excellent analysis and fluent writing skills, excellent knowledge of facts

B (80%-89%) Good analysis but less fluid writing skills etc., solid grasp of facts
C (70%-79%) Average analysis and standard writing skills, solid knowledge of facts

F (0%-69%) Unsatisfactory

**Types of Assignments**

**Major Grades** – 75% of total grade

Major grades will be primarily made up of essays and objective Exams. You will have six exams this semester, three essay and three objective. You will also have a research project to complete. You will receive more information about the project in class.

**Minor Grades** -

Minor grades will be made up of reading quizzes of which there is one a week, and document analysis activities.

**Academic Integrity**

Plagiarism is a form of academic misconduct that is defined as the theft of ideas or information from a source without giving proper credit. Plagiarism is a serious offense that could result in failure of the course, among other penalties. Submit only original work, complete with proper citations. There is no excuse for plagiarism. It is your responsibility to plan your semester and time effectively to avoid putting yourself in a situation where you might turn to plagiarism. A digital plagiarism detection program (such as Turnitin) will be used to check your work. In addition, academic misconduct is not limited to plagiarism. It also includes forgery, cheating, and disruptive or disrespectful behavior. Although discussing your work with classmates may be helpful, you must also be aware of “unauthorized collaboration” as a form of academic misconduct. Academic integrity is essential to the discipline of history. Historians are in a constant conversation with each other, building upon the work of others, while contributing their own original research. Precise and rigorous citation of documents and secondary sources is a necessity to provide a road-map for future historians. Citing sources will be discussed in class. If you are unsure about a citation, contact me with your question. Plagiarism cases will result in a failing grade for the entire class.

The ASU Student Handbook has additional information relating to the Honor Code. You can find a copy of the handbook online at the ASU website (under “Current Students” and “University Publications”) or at the Student Life Office (located in the University Center). You may view the university’s honor code at the following website: [http://www.angelo.edu/forms/pdf/Honor_Code.pdf](http://www.angelo.edu/forms/pdf/Honor_Code.pdf)

**Special Accommodations**

Students with disabilities which may warrant academic accommodations must contact the Student Life Office (Room 112 University Center; 325-942-2191 or Student.Life@angelo.edu) in order to request such
accommodations prior to any accommodations being implemented. You are encouraged to make this request within the first week of the semester so that appropriate arrangements can be made. Unless you arrange these accommodations, I cannot make any special accommodations, including extensions of due dates, make-up assignments, or extended exam periods.

**Religious Holy Days**

Students who intend to be absent from class to observe a religious holy day (as defined in ASU OP 10.19) must tell me 48 hours prior to the absence and make up any scheduled assignments within an appropriate timeframe that I determine. While the absence will not be penalized, failure to complete the make-up assignment satisfactorily and within the required timeframe will result in penalties consistent with other absences and assignments. Page 7 of 12 University Policies For additional general university policies, consult the university student handbook. Here is a handbook link for you: http://www.angelo.edu/student-handbook/ Severe Weather or Other Emergencies If class is cancelled because of severe weather or other emergencies, any test, quiz, or assignment due that day will move to the next day of class. However, always double-check Blackboard and email me or check online to ensure that you do not miss any due dates or quizzes.

**I reserve the right to make changes to the syllabus, course requirements, or policies at any point during this semester.**