

Syllabus

WCV102-03W

Western Civilization II

Day & Time: TU & TH 12:30 to 1:45pm Location: MCVR 229

Instructor: Mark Moser (Office—MCVR 223)

email: mamoser@uncg.edu

Office Hours Fall 2005: Tuesday and Thursday 3:15 to 4:30pm and by appointment

Required Text:

Lynn Hunt, et al.—*The Making of the West: Peoples and Cultures, Volume II: Since 1340*.
(New York: Bedford/St. Martin's, 2003).

Additional Required Readings:

David Berlinski—*Newton's Gift: How Sir Isaac Newton Unlocked the System of the World*

Charles Dickens—*Oliver Twist* (Modern Library Edition)*

Stanley Weintraub—*Silent Night: The Story of the World War I Christmas Truce*

Christopher Browning—*Ordinary Men: Police Battalion 101 and the Final Solution in Poland*

Overview/Objectives:

This survey course is designed to help students gain a better understanding of western civilization from the seventeenth century through the end of the "Cold War" in the early 1990s. Because this is a very broad course we will examine many topics which directly shaped western history during this period. Some of the major events we will cover include: the Scientific Revolution, the development and evolution of a "transatlantic economy," the American and French Revolutions, the creation of "modern" European nation-states during the mid-to-late-nineteenth century, World Wars I and II, and the "Cold War." Upon successful completion of this course students should be able to identify leading individuals, understand key events in their proper historical context, as well as interpret the significant political, socioeconomic, and cultural developments associated with western civilization since the end of the sixteenth century.

Attendance:

Punctuality and regular attendance are necessary in order for students to do their best in any college level class because you are still responsible for all material covered in class whether or not you are there. You will be allowed four (4) absences during the semester with no academic penalty. A fifth absence will result in the lowering of your final grade by one whole letter grade. I reserve the right to drop any student once they have missed six (6) or more classes. Any student who wishes to receive a grade of "W" must drop the class on or before the last day to drop without academic penalty. Habitual tardiness may also affect your final grade as well because two (2) tardies will count as one absence. Occasionally I will notify a student

whenever his/her absences or tardies place them in danger of failing, but PLEASE DO NOT RELY ON ME TO KEEP YOU INFORMED!!! It is also your responsibility to see me immediately after class if you come in after attendance has been taken. *Also please note that I do not make any distinction between “excused” and “unexcused” absences. You are either here.....or you aren’t.

Tests and Writing Assignments:

About once per week (usually at the beginning of the class) I will ask you to write an informal paragraph or two in response to a question concerning a key aspect of that particular week’s reading from the text book. I will give you fifteen minutes to complete these writing exercises which will serve both as a quiz of sorts to be sure everyone is keeping up with the reading assignments and as a tool that hopefully will help everyone become more proficient in their writing and thinking skills. These informal writing exercises/quizzes will be graded using the following guidelines: “√ +” = a generally correct and thoughtful response containing relevant facts which addresses the main point of the question in a clear manner..... “√” = a response which would generally be considered correct but may be lacking one or more key facts and may not be written clearly enough to receive the highest grade..... “√ -“ = a response which does not correctly address the specifics of the question and/or may also contain numerous deficiencies in mechanics, grammar, etc..... “0“ will be recorded any time a student misses one of these assignments or turns in a blank response. I will drop your two lowest scores prior to calculating your final grade. Therefore, no makeups for these informal in-class writing assignments will be given.

In addition to the informal in-class writing assignments mentioned above you will also submit a 500-600 word response paper on each of the four additional assigned readings for the course. These papers must be double-spaced using size 11 or 12 font with one inch top, side, and bottom margins. I will discuss the specific requirements of these assignments during future classes.

Because this is a writing intensive course you will also be required to produce a 10 page research paper which you will have the opportunity to revise—based on my suggestions and your own proofreading—and resubmit as a final draft. Next week you will be provided with a handout which will explain in detail the requirements, formatting, minimum number and type of acceptable reference sources, etc. that will be required for this research paper. Please note: any written work submitted late—regardless of the reason—will be penalized. No assignments will be accepted more than one week after their original due date!

Grading:

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|----------------------------------|------|
| In-class writing assignments | 10% |
| (4) 500-600 word response papers | 30% |
| Midterm exam | 10% |
| 10 page research paper | 30% |
| Final exam | 20% |
| Total | 100% |

Course Outline:

Week One (August 16 & 18)

Reading: Begin reading *Newton's Gift*

Lecture overview of *MTW* Chapter 12 “Struggles Over Beliefs”

Week Two (August 23 & 25)

Reading: Hunt, et al. *MTW* Chapter 13 “State Building and the Search for Order”

Continue reading *Newton's Gift*

*One-page research paper proposal due Thursday, August 25

Week Three (August 30 & September 1)

Reading: Hunt, et al. *MTW* Chapter 14 “The Atlantic System and Its Consequences”

Continue reading *Newton's Gift*

Week Four (September 6 & 8)

Reading: Hunt, et al. *MTW* Chapter 15 “The Promise of Enlightenment”

*Response paper on *Newton's Gift* due at the beginning of class Tuesday, September 6

Begin reading *Oliver Twist*

Week Five (September 13 & 15)

Reading: Hunt, et al. *MTW* Chapter 16 “The French Revolution and Napoleon” pp. 653-677.

Week Six (September 20 & 22)

Reading: Hunt, et al. *MTW* Chapter 16 “The French Revolution and Napoleon” pp. 677-701.

Continue reading *Oliver Twist*

*Research topic questions and preliminary bibliography due Thursday, September 22

Week Seven (September 27 & 29)

Reading: Hunt, et al. *MTW* Chapter 17 “Industrialization and Social Ferment”

*Annotated bibliography due Thursday, September 29

Week Eight (October 4 & 6)

Reading: Hunt, et al. *MTW* Chapter 18 “Constructing the Nation-State”

*Response paper on *Oliver Twist* due at the beginning of class Tuesday, October 4.

Begin reading *Silent Night*

*Mid-term Exam Thursday, October 6 (you will need a Blue Book for this)

Week Nine (October 13) No Class Tuesday, October 11—Fall Break

Reading: Hunt, et al. *MTW* Chapter 18 “Constructing the Nation-State” (continued)

Continue reading *Silent Night*

Week Ten (October 18 & 20)

Reading: Hunt, et al. *MTW* Chapter 19 "Empire, Modernity, and the Road to War"

*Completed rough draft with bibliography due Thursday, October 20

Week Eleven (October 25 & 27)

Reading: Hunt, et al. *MTW* Chapter 20 "War, Revolution, and Reconstruction"

*Response paper on *Silent Night* due at the beginning of class on Tuesday, October 25.

Begin reading *Ordinary Men*

Week Twelve (November 1 & 3)

Reading: Hunt, et al. *MTW* Chapter 21 "An Age of Catastrophes"

Week Thirteen (November 8 & 10)

Reading: Hunt, et al. *MTW* Chapter 22 "The Atomic Age"

*Response paper on *Ordinary Men* due at the beginning class Thursday, November 10.

Week Fourteen (November 15 & 17)

Reading: Hunt, et al. *MTW* Chapter 23 "Challenges to the Postindustrial West"

*Final draft of research paper due Thursday, November 17

Week Fifteen (November 22) No Class Thursday, November 24—Thanksgiving

Reading: Hunt, et al. *MTW* Chapter 24 "The New Globalism"

Week Sixteen (November 29 & December 1)

Reading: Hunt, et al. *MTW* Chapter 24 "The New Globalism" (continued)

Thursday, December 1—Review session for final exam!

***Final Exam: Thursday, December 8 12:00 to 3:00pm (you will need a Blue Book for this)

Important Dates:

August 25—One-page research paper proposal due at the beginning of class

September 6—Response paper on *Newton's Gift* due at the beginning of class

September 22—Topic questions and preliminary bibliography due at the beginning of class

September 29—Annotated bibliography due at the beginning of class

October 4—Response paper on *Oliver Twist* due at the beginning of class

October 6—Mid-term Exam

October 20—Completed rough drafts and bibliographies due at the beginning of class

October 25—Response paper on *Silent Night* due at the beginning of class

November 10—Response paper on *Ordinary Men* due at the beginning of class

November 17—Final draft of research paper due at the beginning of class

December 8—Final Exam 12:00 to 3:00pm (you will need to bring a Bluebook)