

SYLLABUS  
WCV102-02 Western Civilization II

Meeting Time/Location: W 6:00 to 8:50 MHRA 2209

Instructor: Mark Moser Office: MHRA 2104

Office Hours: MW 12:00 to 1:00 --- W 4:00 to 5:00 --- F 9:00 to 9:45 --- (and by appointment)

Email: [mamoser@uncg.edu](mailto:mamoser@uncg.edu)

Required Texts:

Beatty, John L., et al., *Heritage of Western Civilization, Volume II* Ninth Edition. (Upper Saddle River, NJ: Pearson Education, 2004).

Berlinski, David. *Newton's Gift: How Sir Isaac Newton Unlocked the System of the World* (New York: Simon & Schuster, 2000).

Frankforter, A. Daniel and William M. Spellman, *The West: Culture and Ideas, Volume II, 1400 to the Present*, (Upper Saddle River, NJ: Pearson Education, 2004).

Dickens, Charles. *Oliver Twist* (New York: Random House, 2001).

Wiesel, Elie. *Night* (New York: Hill and Wang, 2006).

Course Objectives:

Students will be expected to:

- Understand and retain the basic facts and framework of Western Civilization from the Renaissance era through the end of the Cold War.
- Analyze and synthesize relevant information; i.e., interpret historical facts
- Develop a personal and historical sense of time relevant to Western Civilization
- Think critically and make informed judgments!

Procedures/Assignments:

This course will require you to do a significant amount of reading, however it is very manageable provided that you follow my recommendations and don't allow yourselves to fall behind. Discussion of your readings will, at times, take up a significant portion of certain class sessions, but because this is a survey course the majority of each class period will be devoted to lecture. It will be necessary for you to have completed your assigned readings prior to coming to class for two reasons. One, class discussions will be difficult to conduct if you haven't read, and two, the lectures will be more understandable if you have read the assigned material ahead of time. This course will not be difficult provided that you remain current with all your reading. However, students who fall behind typically find it extremely difficult to catch up.

Note: Please turn off cell phones or set them to vibrate mode *BEFORE* class begins.

Attendance:

Punctuality and regular attendance are necessary in order for you to do your best in any college class because you are still responsible for all material covered in class whether or not you are there. Each student will be allowed two (2) absences during the semester with no academic penalty. I make no distinction between excused and unexcused absences—you are either here or you are not.\* An additional absence will result in 10 points being deducted from your final grade average. A fourth absence will result in your being dropped from the class. Any student who wishes to receive a grade of “W” must drop the class on or before Wednesday, October 17. Habitual tardiness, either alone or in combination with absences, will also adversely affect your final grade. It is your responsibility to keep up with your absences. It is also your responsibility to see me after class if you come in after attendance has been taken, as failure to do so will result in your being marked absent for that class session.

One good thing about this class is that it only meets once a week—one bad thing about this class is that it only meets once a week. I expect you to come to class on time and to remain in class for the entire session unless you have a genuine emergency during class, (illness, etc.) or unless you speak to me prior to class and advise me that you need to leave early. I consider this to be common courtesy to both the class and myself.

All requests to take a missed exam will be considered on an individual basis. Any student who misses an exam **must contact me** to inquire about the possibility of taking a makeup. (Makeup exams will have to be taken at a time when I am available and often prove to be more difficult)

I also reserve the right to drop any student at any time during the semester because of excessive absences.

Note: Laptops are required for incoming freshmen beginning this semester. You do not need one for this class, but if you wish to use it for taking notes that will be fine. While you are in my class please do not use them for ANYTHING else. I will warn a student once for such an infraction—a second offence will result in your being dropped from the class.

Grading:

Mid-Term Exam (Essay)	10%
Response Papers (3)	50%
Class Participation*	20%
Final Exam (Essay)	20%
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Course Total	100%

(This course follows a 10 point scale and I do assign +/- to final grades when warranted.)

Course Outline:

Week One—(August 22) Course introduction  
Begin reading *Newton's Gift*

Week Two—(August 29) Overview of chapters 12 and 13 in *The West*—"Renaissance and Reformation"  
Continue reading *Newton's Gift*

Week Three—(September 5) *The West* Ch. 14 "The Early Modern State" *Heritage* pp. 43-78  
Continue reading *Newton's Gift*

Week Four—(September 12) *The West* Ch. 15 "New World Views: Europe's Scientific Revolution" *Heritage* pp. 14-42  
**\*Response Papers on *Newton's Gift* due at the beginning of class!**

Week Five—(September 19) *The West* Ch. 16 "The Age of Enlightenment: Rationalism and Its Uses" *Heritage* pp. 79-89, 103-124  
Begin reading *Oliver Twist*

Week Six—(September 26) *The West* Chapter 17 "Rebellion and Revolution: America Independence and the French Revolution" *Heritage* pp. 125-151  
Continue reading *Oliver Twist*

Week Seven—(October 3) **MID-TERM EXAM** (You will need a blue book)  
Continue reading *Oliver Twist*

Week Eight—(October 10) *The West* Ch. 18 "The Age of Ideology in Western Europe"  
*Heritage* pp. 221-236  
Continue reading *Oliver Twist*

Week Nine—(October 17) *The West* Ch. 19 "Industry, Society, and Environment"  
*Heritage* pp. 196-213  
**\*Response Papers on *Oliver Twist* due at the beginning of class!**

Week Ten—(October 24) *The West* Ch. 20 "The Consolidation of Nation States"  
*Heritage* pp. 214-220

Week Eleven—(October 31) *The West* Ch. 21 "Global empire and European Culture"  
*Heritage* pp. 243-256

Week Twelve—(November 7) *The West* Ch. 22 "World War I: The End of Enlightenment"  
*Heritage* pp. 276-290  
Begin reading *Night*

Week Thirteen—(November 14) *The West* Ch. 23 “The Troubled Interwar Years”  
*Heritage* pp. 313-322  
Continue reading *Night*

No class Wednesday, November 21---Thanksgiving Holiday

Week Fourteen—(November 28) *The West* Ch. 24 “World War II: Europe in Eclipse”  
*Heritage* pp. 322-347

**\*Response Papers on Night due at the beginning of class!**

Week Fifteen—(December 5) *The West* Ch. 25 “The Cold War Era”  
*Heritage* pp. 349-360

\*FINAL EXAM (Based only on material covered after MID-TERM EXAM)  
Wednesday, December 12 from 6:00 to 8:50pm ----- You will need a blue book.