

**Syllabus**  
WCV102-01 Western Civilization II

Meeting Time/Location: W 6:00 to 8:50 MHRA 1215  
Instructor: Mark Moser Office: MHRA 2104  
Office Hours: MWF 9:00 to 9:45 --- W 3:00 to 5:30 --- (and by appointment)  
Email: [mamoser@uncg.edu](mailto:mamoser@uncg.edu)

Required Texts:

Christopher Browning. *Ordinary Men: Reserve Police Battalion 101 and the Final Solution in Poland* (HarperCollins, 1992)

Charles Dickens. *Oliver Twist* (Random House)

Perry M. Rogers. *Aspects of Western Civilization, Vol. II* 6<sup>th</sup> Edition (Pearson, 2008)

Dava Sobel. *Galileo's Daughter: A Historical Memoir of Science, Faith, and Love* (Penguin Books, 2000)

Course Objectives:

Students will be expected to:

- Understand and retain the basic facts and framework of Western Civilization from the Renaissance/Reformation 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. Any student who wishes to receive a grade of “W” must drop the class on or before Friday, October 16. 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.

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 everyone in attendance.

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)

You are not required to have a laptop 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.

Grading:

Quizzes	20%
Response Paper	20%
Mid-term Exam	20%
Final Exam	20%
Class Participation	20%
- - - - -	- - - - -
Course Total	100%

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

Course Outline:

Week One—(August 26) Course introduction Historical background of Renaissance and Reformation periods, plus an overview of Ch. 1 of AWC “The Age of Renaissance and Reformation” Continue reading *Galileo’s Daughter*

Week Two—(September 2) Ch. 2 of AWC “The Development of Absolutism in England and France” Continue reading *Galileo’s Daughter*

Week Three—(September 9) Ch. 3 of AWC “The Scientific Revolution”  
\*Response Papers on *Galileo’s Daughter* due at the beginning of class tonight

Week Four—(September 16) Ch. 4 of AWC “The Enlightenment and the Revolution of the Mind”

Week Five—(September 23) Ch. 5 of AWC “The French Revolution”  
Begin reading *Oliver Twist*

Week Six—(September 30) Ch. 6 of AWC “Nationalism and Romanticism: The Spirit of the People” Continue reading *Oliver Twist* (Review for midterm exam)

Week Seven—(October 7)  
**\*Midterm Exam\*** (You will need a blue book)  
Continue reading *Oliver Twist*

Week Eight—(October 14) Ch. 7 of AWC “The Industrial Revolution”  
\*Response Papers on *Oliver Twist* due at the beginning of class tonight

Week Nine—(October 21) Ch. 8 of AWC “The Scramble for Global Empire” (you should also read pp. 246-255 of Ch. 9 as well)

Week Ten—(October 28) Ch. 10 of AWC “The Great War 1914-1918”  
Begin reading *Ordinary Men*

Week Eleven—(November 4) Ch. 11 of AWC “The Russian Revolution and the Development of the Soviet State 1917-1939” Continue reading *Ordinary Men*

Week Twelve—(November 11) Ch. 12 of AWC “Europe Between the Wars: Fascism and the Nazi Rise to Power 1919-1939” Continue reading *Ordinary Men*

Week Thirteen—(November 18) Ch. 13 of AWC “War and Holocaust” 1939-1945”

\*Response Papers on *Ordinary Men* due at the beginning of class tonight

\*No class Wednesday, November 25---Thanksgiving Holiday

Week Fourteen—(December 2) Ch. 14 of AWC “Cold War Confrontation and the Dynamics of Change 1945-2006” Last night of class (Review for Final Exam)

**\*FINAL EXAM\* Wednesday, December 9** from 6:00 to 9:00pm (You will need a Blue book)

The Final Exam will be based only on material covered after Mid-term Exam.

.

Explanation of “Response Paper” writing assignment:

Each of you will be required to read three books in addition to the primary text, *Aspects of Western Civilization*. For any one of these (*Galileo’s Daughter*, *Oliver Twist*, or *Ordinary Men*) that you select, you will need to write a 5-7 pp. response paper on a series of questions I will provide for that particular book. These papers must be typed, double-spaced, with one inch side, top, and bottom margins. These papers will be graded primarily on content, but grammar, writing mechanics, organization, and clarity of thought will be factors as well. I strongly encourage all of you to visit the Writing Center which is located on the 3<sup>rd</sup> floor of MHRA. Whether you are an accomplished writer or someone who struggles with this discipline, the competent staff of the Writing Center will be glad to assist you in whatever way they can.