

WCV 102-02 – Western Civilization Part 2
UNC-Greensboro
Fall 2010

Instructor Info

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Office Hours: By Appointment – email me if you'd like to set up a time to meet in either in person or on the UNCG email chat.

Course Description

This course provides an overview of key trends and events in European history from the sixteenth century through the end of the twentieth century. We will address events including, but not limited to, the Protestant Reformation, exploration and colonization in the Americas, the Scientific Revolution, the Age of Enlightenment, political revolutions, the rise of industrialization, both World Wars, the Cold War, and the emergence of globalization. Although we will spend considerable time examining the prominent figures that helped shape these events and periods, we will also explore at the experiences of regular people who lived in these centuries to gain a fuller sense of how history was created and experienced.

Required Texts

Frankforter, A. Daniel and William M. Spellman. *The West: A Narrative History, Volume 2: 1400 to the Present*. Second Edition. Upper Saddle, NJ: Pearson Education, 2009.
ISBN: 9780136058229

Golden, Richard M. *The Social Dimensions of Western Civilization, Volume 2, Readings from The Sixteenth Century to the Present*. New York: Bedford/St. Martin's, 2003.
ISBN: 9780312397371

Course Objectives

At the end of the semester, students will be able to:

- 1) Analyze primary source materials.
- 2) Analyze historical arguments.
- 3) Collect primary and secondary sources relating to a relevant topic of interest and create an annotated bibliography of those sources.
- 4) Categorize key themes and events present in the history of Europe from the sixteenth through twentieth centuries.
- 5) Formulate and defend arguments about historical events.

Course Format

This course meets exclusively online. There are no set meeting times. However, each week you will be required to submit assignments and complete quizzes by deadlines listed below in the course calendar. An internet connection is required to participate in the course.

Assessment

Fifteen Weekly Blackboard Postings – 2% each for a total of 30%

Fifteen Weekly Reading Quizzes – 2% each for a total of 30%

Annotated Bibliography – 20%

Final Exam – 20%

Blackboard Postings

Each week you will read a chapter from *The West*, along with an accompanying essay that will explore in greater depth an issue presented in the chapter. While the majority of these essays will come from *The Social Dimension of Western Civilization*, a few will be located on Blackboard. Some weeks you will also read relevant primary sources, located either on Blackboard or on the internet. After completing the readings, you will answer a question posted on the discussion board located on Blackboard. Discussion board questions will focus more heavily on the supplemental essays and primary sources than the readings from *The West*.

Discussion board responses should be at least 250 words. There is no word limit on these postings, but you do not need to write a full essay each week. While discussion board postings are somewhat less formal than traditional papers, you should make sure that your responses are free from spelling errors and adhere to the basic mechanics of grammar. Each week you will be asked to form and support your own opinion about a particular issue. Strong responses will demonstrate familiarity with the week's assigned readings and will incorporate **specific examples** from the readings to back up your stance. Responses must be posted by 11:59 pm on the day they're due to be counted as on time.

I strongly suggest you write your responses in a word processing program before posting them to Blackboard. This not only helps you check spelling and grammar, but allows you to save your work so that if you run into a problem with Blackboard you will still have a copy of your work.

In addition to posting your own response, I encourage you to read and respond to each others' posts. As we are meeting exclusively online, this is the only way we have to discuss the material with one another. Make sure that all comments are written in a respectful manner. It's ok to disagree with someone, but personal attacks will not be tolerated.

Reading Quizzes

Each week you will also complete a quiz on the chapter from *The West*. These quizzes will be 10 questions long and will be available on Blackboard. You will have 20 minutes from the time you start the quiz to complete it. Quizzes must also be taken by 11:59 pm on the date they're due. After the due date, quizzes will be taken down and **no make-up opportunities will be provided.**

Annotated Bibliography

Because of the nature of this course, we will cover a significant amount of material in a relatively short period of time. The annotated bibliography provides you with an opportunity to explore a topic of

interest to you in a bit more detail than the pace of our class allows. An annotated bibliography is similar to a research paper in that you will select a topic and locate relevant sources. It differs, however, in that rather than writing a detailed report about your topic, you will instead provide an overview of your sources.

To complete the annotated bibliography, you must first select a topic. This topic must be relevant to our course. You have a lot of leeway in this area as you can explore anything relating to European history from 1500 onward. **Topics must be submitted to the instructor, via a thread on the Blackboard discussion board, for approval before you proceed in locating your sources.** This ensures that you will not spend your time researching a topic that doesn't fit with the assignment. **Topics are due September 5th** so you will want to begin thinking about this as soon as possible. After you submit your topic, I will respond to you on Blackboard, letting you know if your topic is approved or if you need to refine it.

If you are unsure of what you might want to research, try skimming through your textbooks to get some ideas. I can also help you narrow down a topic. Keep in mind that there are many potential topics that you can explore for this assignment. You have 500 years from which to choose. You can look at a specific war, a style of art or music, technological advancements, social changes, or other areas that interest you.

After your topic is approved, you must locate **five secondary** and **two primary** sources pertaining to your topic. Refer to "Using Sources to Study the Past" or email me if you have questions about whether or not you have a primary or secondary source. You may not use any of the assigned readings in your bibliography. You also cannot use any of the unassigned readings from *The Social Dimension of Western Civilization*. If there is a chapter in that book that interests you, try looking for more works by that author or tracking down the original book/journal article from which the chapter was excerpted. (In other words, if you were intrigued by Christopher Browning's chapter on the Holocaust, you couldn't use the reading "German Killers in the Holocaust." You could, however, use the book that the reading came from, *Ordinary Men*. Citation information is available at the beginning of each reading in the *Social Dimension* book.)

When locating secondary sources, make sure that you are using scholarly sources. This means that you are essentially seeking out books written by people who are professionals within their discipline and presumably for an academic audience. Some signs to look for when evaluating whether or not you have an appropriate source are:

1. The author – Does the author hold a degree in the field they're researching (are they a historian/anthropologist/sociologist/etc.)? Is this person actively involved in their discipline as a researcher, professor, etc.? You might find this information on the back cover, or in the introduction or acknowledgments sections of a book.
2. Sources – Does the author show where he or she found his or her sources for writing the book or journal article? Scholarly sources will usually have some form of citations, typically footnotes or endnotes, identifying evidence used. At the very least, your source should have a bibliography.
3. Publisher – Many (although not all) scholarly books are published by university presses. Academic journals are usually published by a university or a historical/anthropological/sociological/etc. society.

Encyclopedias, dictionaries, and the "For Dummies" series are NOT examples of scholarly sources. You should also make sure that you are not using books aimed at juvenile readers. (I know

this sounds obvious, but it is a common mistake.) If you are unsure, one way to check is to look at the copyright page in the front of your book. The Library of Congress subject headings listed on that page will denote if the book is meant for a younger audience.

You will find that there are many useful primary sources available in the library. You might also look at the Internet History Sourcebook Project located at <http://www.fordham.edu/halsall/>.

If you have followed the directions above and are still unsure about a source, you can email me a citation, provided that you do so well in advance of the due date.

After locating your sources, you need to provide an annotation, or overview, of each source in 100-300 words. Basically, in a short paragraph, describe the content of the source and its usefulness to your topic. For secondary sources, you will want to highlight the main point that the author is trying to make about his/her book (this is usually located in the introduction), as well as how the author backs up this point throughout the book or article. For primary sources, provide an overview of the content of the source and explain who the author is, what audience he/she is addressing, when the source was produced and what the author hoped to achieve with it.

In terms of formatting, annotated bibliographies differ from other papers you may have written. At the top of the first page, provide a title that encompasses the topic you explored. (If you prefer, you can just list the topic as your title – “The Protestant Reformation”, for example.)

In the body of the paper, list the citation for the source you are discussing first and then provide your description. In terms of formatting the citations for your books, use Chicago citation style. You can find a good overview of citing sources in Chicago style at the following website: <http://owl.english.purdue.edu/owl/resource/717/1/>

A sample annotated bibliography is also available under “Course Documents” to give you an idea of how to structure your paper.

Annotated bibliographies must be submitted via the “Assignments” tab on Blackboard.

Final Exam

You will complete a cumulative final exam in the form of an essay. You will be given a prompt on December 1st, so that you have over a week to complete it. In order to answer the question, you must incorporate the readings from the course into your response. There is no need to conduct outside research and **YOU WILL BE PENALIZED** if you bring in sources other than the assigned readings. (This saves you time as you don’t have to track down and evaluate other sources.) Do not panic about the cumulative nature of this exam. Remember that you can use all the readings, your Blackboard postings, and your notes as study aids. If you keep up with the readings, you will not have trouble on the final. Responses should be 800-1500 words.

The final exam must be submitted by 11:59 pm on December 11. **NO LATE EXAMS WILL BE ACCEPTED.** Plan accordingly.

When writing your response bear in mind that the prompt will ask you to form your own argument about a particular issue and support it with specific examples from the readings. Make sure that you organize your written response into paragraphs. Your paper will be stronger if you include a thesis

statement in your introduction outlining what you intend to argue in the body of the paper. Each supporting paragraph should also have its own topic sentence. This helps with the flow of your paper and also keeps you organized and on track.

Although you are using sources assigned in the class, you must make sure that you appropriately cite all materials that you use. For the purposes of these exams, you must use footnotes and not parenthetical citations. You are not required to give full citations, but you do need to provide the author's last name and the page number where you located the material (where applicable – for web sources, you may just give the title of the source). For sources out of *The Social Dimensions of Western Civilization*, do not list Golden as the author. Instead, use the name of the person who actually wrote the source, such as Christopher Browning, Merry Wiesner, etc. No works cited page is required.

All exams must be submitted through Blackboard under the Assignments tab. **To avoid technical difficulties, make sure your paper is saved in either a .rtf or .doc format.** Your exams will be evaluated in terms of overall clarity, the strength of your argument, your use of available sources and your compliance with the requirements for the exam (word count, citations, etc.).

Extra Credit

You can earn up to five points of extra credit on your final exam. Read one extra essay from *The Social Dimension of Western Civilization* that was NOT an assigned reading. In a 550-600 word essay identify the author's main point, how he/she backs up his/her argument, and discuss how this essay furthered your understanding of the material we've covered in class. Make sure to cite both direct quotes and paraphrasing from the text with footnotes. Simply completing a paper does not guarantee you the full five points (or any points, for that matter). Points are awarded based on the quality of your response.

Extra credit must be submitted via the "Assignments" tab on Blackboard and will not be accepted after 11:59 pm on December 6.

Proofreading

Make sure you proofread all of your work, including Blackboard postings, before submitting it. Substantial grammatical/spelling/typographical errors will result in a deduction of points from all work.

Grading Scale

A+ (97-100), A (93-96), A- (90-92), B+ (87-89), B (83-86), B- (80-82), C+ (77-79), C (73-76), C- (70-72), D+ (67-69), D (63-66), D- (60-62), F (0-59)

Due Dates and Late Work

All due dates are listed at the end of the syllabus in the course calendar. You have until 11:59 pm on the due date to submit your assignments. **Late assignments will be penalized 10 points for each day that they are late, including weekend days. Unless you have a documented emergency, there are NO EXCEPTIONS to this policy. Remember that there are no make-up opportunities for missed reading quizzes.**

After December 11, no late work will be accepted. Plan accordingly.

Plagiarism and Academic Integrity

For this and all of your other classes, make sure you are familiar with UNCG's Academic Integrity Policy, located at <http://academicintegrity.uncg.edu>.

Plagiarism on all written assignments will result in a grade of zero for the assignment. There will be no opportunities to make up plagiarized assignments and I will notify UNCG's Office of Academic Integrity of all infractions. **Plagiarism includes not only cutting and pasting text without giving credit to the original source of the information, but also presenting someone else's ideas as your own, even if you don't use their exact words.** Cite often.

A useful citation guide can be found at <http://owl.english.purdue.edu/owl/resource/717/01/>.

Multiple instances of cheating and plagiarism will result in a failing grade for the course.

Email

Because of the nature of our course, email is the best and fastest method by which to contact me. I check email regularly, although please be aware that I do not respond to emails over weekends. During the week, I will respond to all messages within 24 hours. I will reply to all messages sent during weekends by midnight on the following Monday. If you have not heard from me within these time frames, send your message again.

Throughout the semester, I will contact you via your UNCG email account. It is imperative that you check these accounts regularly so that you do not miss out on important information from this class, as well as from your other classes and university announcements. This is also how all graded work will be returned to you. Because of how Blackboard is set up, I cannot use any other email address except the one issued to you by the university.

If you need to contact me by email, either go through Blackboard or use the address listed at the top of the first page (enthomps@uncg.edu). Bear in mind that if you search for me in the UNCG directory, the Natasha Thompson you may find is not me and she will not return your emails. (It's a very long, very complex story.)

If you have any questions about the course email me. I'm more than happy to help you.

Finally...

If you encounter any problems or special circumstances during the semester, contact me as soon as possible. It will be much easier for us to work on solutions the earlier I know about your situation.

I will try my best to adhere to the policies and schedule listed in the semester. However, I reserve the right to make changes in the event that circumstances warrant them.

Course Calendar

Unit 1 – Early Modern Europe

Week 1 – 8/23-8/29 – Introduction to the Course and the West

Readings: “Introduction” (Located under Other Readings on Blackboard)
“Using Sources to Study the Past” (Located under Other Readings on Blackboard)
“Hemispheres Colliding” in *Social Dimension*

Due: Introduction Post – 8/27

Week 1 Blackboard Posting – 8/29

Week 1 Reading Quiz – 8/29

Week 2 – 8/30-9/5 – The Reformation

Readings: Chapter 13 in *The West*
“Nuns, Wives, and Mothers” in *Social Dimension*
“Ninety-Five Theses” at

<http://www.projectwittenberg.org/pub/resources/text/wittenberg/luther/web/ninetyfive.html>

Due: Annotated Bibliography Topic – 9/5

Week 2 Blackboard Posting – 9/5

Week 2 Reading Quiz – 9/5

Week 3 – 9/6-9/12 – The Changing Nature of Government

Readings: Chapter 14 in *The West*
“Material Conditions of Family Life” in *Social Dimension*

Due: Week 3 Blackboard Posting – 9/12

Week 3 Reading Quiz – 9/12

Week 4 – 9/13-9/19 – The Scientific Revolution

Readings: Chapter 15 in *The West*
“The Witch-Figure and the Sabbat” in *Social Dimension*
“Witchcraft Documents” at <http://www.fordham.edu/halsall/source/witches1.html>

Due: Week 4 Blackboard Posting – 9/19

Week 4 Reading Quiz – 9/19

Week 5 – 9/20-9/26 – The Age of Enlightenment

Readings: Chapter 16 in *The West*
“Death’s Arbitrary Empire” in *Social Dimension*

Due: Week 5 Blackboard Posting – 9/26

Week 5 Reading Quiz – 9/26

Week 6 – 9/27-10/3 – Revolutions in the Americas and France

Readings: Chapter 17 in *The West*
“Political Culture and Female Sociability” in *Social Dimension*
“Declaration of Independence” at http://avalon.law.yale.edu/18th_century/declare.asp
“Declaration of the Rights of Man” at

http://avalon.law.yale.edu/18th_century/rightsof.asp

Due: Week 6 Blackboard Posting – 10/3

Week 6 Reading Quiz – 10/13

Unit 2 – The Nineteenth Century

Week 7 – 10/4-10/10 – The Industrial Revolution

Readings: Chapter 18 in *The West*

“Factory Discipline in the Industrial Revolution” in *Social Dimension*

Due: Annotated Bibliography - 10/8

Week 7 Blackboard Posting – 10/10

Week 7 Reading Quiz – 10/10

Week 8 – 10/11-10/17 – The Age of Ideology

Fall Break – 10/11-10/12

Last Day to Withdraw without Academic Penalty - 10/15

Readings: Chapter 19 in *The West*

“The End of the Atlantic Slave Trade” in *Social Dimension*

“The Communist Manifesto” at

http://www.wsu.edu:8080/~wldciv/world_civ_reader/world_civ_reader_2/marx.html

Due: Week 8 Blackboard Posting – 10/17

Week 8 Reading Quiz – 10/17

Week 9 – 10/18-10/24 – Consolidation, Unification, and the Growth of Nationalism

Readings: Chapter 20 in *The West*

“Italian Women in the Nineteenth Century” in *Social Dimension*

Due: Week 9 Blackboard Posting – 10/24

Week 9 Reading Quiz – 10/24

Week 10 – 10/25-10/31 – Nineteenth Century Imperialism

Readings: Chapter 21 in *The West*

“The East European Gypsies in the Imperial Age” in *Social Dimension*

Herbert Spencer excerpt at

<http://www.fordham.edu/halsall/mod/spencer-darwin.html>

Due: Week 10 Blackboard Posting – 10/31

Week 10 Reading Quiz – 10/31

Unit 3 – Contemporary Europe

Week 11 – 11/1-11/7 – World War I

Readings: Chapter 22 in *The West*

“The Price of Glory” in *Social Dimension*

Dulce et Decorum Est at <http://www.english.emory.edu/LostPoets/Dulce.html>

Due: Week 11 Blackboard Posting – 11/7

Week 11 Reading Quiz – 11/7

Week 12 – 11/8-11/14 – The Interwar Years

Readings: Chapter 23 in *The West*

“Inflation in Weimar Germany” in *Social Dimension*

“What is Fascism?” at <http://www.fordham.edu/halsall/mod/mussolini-fascism.html>

Due: Week 12 Blackboard Posting – 11/14

Week 12 Reading Quiz – 11/14

Week 13 – 11/15-11/21 – World War II

Readings: Chapter 24 in *The West*

“German Killers in the Holocaust” in *Social Dimension*

“Ordinary Germans and the Holocaust” at
<http://www.historyplace.com/pointsofview/goldhagen.htm>

Due: Week 13 Blackboard Posting – 11/21
Week 13 Reading Quiz – 11/21

Week 14 – 11/22-11/29 – Decolonization and the Cold War

University closed for Thanksgiving – 11/24-11/26

Readings: Chapter 25 in *The West*

“The Enemy Within” under Other Readings on Blackboard.

Due: Week 14 Blackboard Posting – 11/29
Week 14 Reading Quiz – 11/29

Week 15 – 11/30-12/6 – The West at the End of the Twentieth Century

Final exam prompt available 12/1.

Readings: Chapter 26 in *The West*

“Hijab/Headscarf” located under E-Reserves on Blackboard.

“Charter of Fundamental Rights of the European Union” located under Other Readings on Blackboard.

“French MPs Vote to Ban Islamic Full Veil in Public” at

<http://www.bbc.co.uk/news/10611398>

“Have Your Say” at

http://www.bbc.co.uk/blogs/haveyoursay/2010/07/should_france_ban_the_veil.html

Due: Week 15 Blackboard Posting – 12/6
Week 15 Reading Quiz – 12/6

Final Exam: Due 12/11 by 11:59 pm