

WCV 102-03 (Online)	Western Civilization, 1500- 2000	Fall 2011 (Online)
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Instructor: John J. Kaiser

Office: MHRA 3103

Office Hours: By appointment only

Email: jjkaiser@uncg.edu

Availability: I check email daily and I always send a response. If you have not heard from me within 24 hours then assume that I did not get the message and resend the original email. I do not respond to emails sent on weekends, so for emails sent on Friday afternoon, please wait until Monday afternoon before resending.

Course Description

This course provides an overview of key trends and events in European history from the sixteenth century through the present. 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, the Atlantic Slave Trade, political revolutions, the rise of industrialization, both World Wars, and the Cold War. We will examine the lives of prominent (and politically influential) men and women as well as the experiences of common men and women (slaves, conquistadors, artisans, etc.) whose lived experience of the last five centuries aids us in understanding how history was created and experienced.

It is in your best interest to complete reading assignments in a timely manner. Staying on top of readings will help you effectively participate in our online discussions and will have a positive impact on your final grade.

Lastly, your textbook is meant to be used as a secondary source which will provide the context you need to interpret the primary source materials assigned on the syllabus. Your online discussions (mentioned in greater detail below) will focus upon primary source materials contained in *Sources of The Making of the West*.

Learning Outcomes

Online classes require time management and discipline which is different from that of traditional courses. Students who spend several hours a day completing all reading and writing assignments, who actively engage in the material, and are *thinking* about and *reflecting* on what they are reading and writing will be able to . . .

- Identify key themes and events in the history of Europe from the sixteenth through the twentieth century

- analyze primary source materials
- improve their writing and reasoning abilities
- communicate ideas, thoughts, and interpretations more clearly and concisely
- formulate and defend arguments about historical events using evidence from primary sources

Required Textbooks

The Making of the West: People and Cultures, A Concise History, Volume II: Since, 1340. Hunt, Lynn, et al., 3rd. Ed. (ISBN: 9780312554606)

Sources of Making of the West: People and Cultures, A Concise History, Volume II: Since, 1340. Lualdi, Katharine J., et al., 2nd Ed. (ISBN: 9780312416942)

At times we will also refer to primary sources available online. For those occasions, the website(s) is/are listed in the appropriate section of the class calendar on the last few pages of this syllabus.

Grading Policies and Grade Scale

Grade Breakdown for the Course

Discussion Board	36% (12 @ 3% each)
Quizzes	24% (12 @ 2% each)
Article Analysis	15%
Final Exam Essay Exam	<u>20%</u>
	Total: 100%

Grading Scale

The following grading scale will be used to evaluate student performance:

93 and above A	88-89 B+	78-79 C+	68-69 D+	59 and below F
90-92 A-	83-87 B	73-77 C	63-67 D	
	80-82 B-	70-72 C-	60-62 D-	

Rules & Procedures

Communication/Questions

Online classes require discipline and time management. Remember that without the normal interactions of a classroom setting, the only way I have to evaluate your participation in this class is through your performance on quizzes and Discussion Board posts. Therefore, you should take your readings and responses seriously.

Check the “Announcements” section of Blackboard DAILY, and make certain your UNCG email account works. These are the two primary modes of communication I use, and I want to keep you informed of what is going on throughout the course.

If you have questions about the course, i.e. syllabus, grading policies, or content, please go to the Discussion Board on UNCG Blackboard and click on the topic called, "Questions for the Professor." More than likely you are not the only student with the same question, and I will not have to answer the same question multiple times if you post your question here. This means of communication is for PUBLIC discourse only. If you have a private concern regarding coursework, your grade, tutoring, etc. please address those to email. You may also email me to schedule an appointment on campus.

If you have questions/complaints regarding how to use Blackboard or anything technological (web browser settings, downloading information, accessing web links, errors, etc.), please do **NOT** contact me. Instead, post your message under the "Technical Support" forum in Blackboard, or email onlinehelp@uncg.edu. UNCG's Tech Support staff are the appropriate people to help you with technology issues.

Academic Integrity & Late Work

No late work will be accepted, and there are no appeals. All the deadlines are listed on this syllabus. If you have special circumstances preventing you from turning in an assignment on time, then you must communicate them to me ASAP. Failure to turn in work on time will result in a grade of zero (0). It is unfair and disrespectful to the rest of class if I make exceptions for a small minority who are incapable of staying on track. Students requesting exceptions will be referred to this policy.

Academic Integrity

On all graded assignments, students are expected to submit their own original work. Copying and pasting text without giving credit to the source is obviously plagiarism, but so is stealing someone else's idea or interpretation without giving that person credit. Even if you are paraphrasing from memory something you have read in the past, you need to be able to state the source from which you are paraphrasing this material. Please visit the following link: Academic Integrity Policy:
<http://academicintegrity.uncg.edu/complete/>

Anyone caught cheating or plagiarizing may receive a grade of F for the assignment without the opportunity to make up the work. Violations will be reported to the University in accordance with the Academic Integrity Policy. Students also risk receiving a final grade of F for the course.

If you need to cite the textbook or a primary source in the Discussion Board or in an exam please use parenthetical documentation at the end of the direct quotation or paraphrase.

For example if citing from the textbook: (Hunt, 755) in which Hunt is the textbook author and you are citing something from page 755.

This course does not require you to use information from outside sources. In Discussion Board and the exams you SHOULD NOT quote from outside sources, but rather confine your comments to the materials from the class.

Course Format and Assessment

This course meets exclusively online. Since there are no set meeting times it is your responsibility to complete assignments by, or before, the appropriate due dates (see calendar below). While this can be a liberating experience, being unfettered to weekly lectures, you must make sure to set aside time each day to read the assigned text/documents and complete the online assignments. If you fall behind it can become difficult to catch up.

You will be assessed based on four types of assignments. **First**, there will be weekly reading responses. These will be posted to Blackboard each week and will focus on primary source documents assigned in *Sources Making of the West*. Each post will be worth 3 points of your final grade. **Second**, there will also be weekly reading quizzes. These quizzes will focus on the assigned text and make references to the charts, graphs, and quotes within the textbook (*Making of the West*). That is why it is very important that you buy the correct version of the textbook for this course, or the page numbers in the quiz will not line up correctly. Each of these quizzes will be worth 2 points of your final grade (I will drop the lowest grade). **Third**, you will write an article analysis of a scholarly article. I will post links to several articles on different historical subjects including, but not limited to, the Reformation, slavery, the American Revolution, WWI, WWII, Hiroshima, and the Cold War. In the second or third week I will post a handout to Blackboard describing the article analysis assignment in greater detail. **Fourth**, you will take a cumulative final exam. I will provide several study questions in advance a week before the exam to aid your study efforts.

Discussion Board

Discussion Board topics are designed to test your completion and understanding of the primary sources. Participating in these discussions is absolutely key to succeeding in this course. By practicing your writing abilities on a regular and rigorous basis, and sharing your writing with others, you will become better interpreters of the past. **Posts will be graded on quality, as well as quantity, of writing.**

All of the topics require reading primary sources (materials written during the time period in question). These readings are located in the *Sources of The Making of the West* required reader for the course. **You should reference these readings in your responses.**

Posts should be between 250 and 350 words. **Please type your posts in a word processor (such as Microsoft Word) before copying and pasting them to the appropriate discussion forum. This will help you avoid spelling errors, and it is always a good idea to have a backup file in case your work does not post correctly in Blackboard.**

Students can post their initial response by clicking on "Thread," copying and pasting their work into the message box, and then clicking "Submit." To reply to another person's post, students should select that student's post, and then click "Reply." You are encouraged but NOT required to respond to posts of others. It is a good way to check on your understanding of the material to read what others have written about the readings and compare it to your own point of view.

Feel free either to agree or disagree with someone else's argument, but be certain to provide convincing reasons explaining why you either agree or disagree. **Always be polite and civil on the Discussion Board!** Before you post anything, ask yourself if you would actually say these things to a person in a face-to-face environment. Do not allow the anonymity aspect of the Internet to strip you of your common sense and good manners. This same policy of courtesy should apply to all email communication to the instructor and to your classmates.

Quizzes & Exams

Quizzes

Quizzes will be untimed and open book. Quizzes will consist of multiple choice questions (and occasionally short answer as well) which will be drawn from the assigned pages of your text book and primary source reader. **All quizzes must be completed by 11:59 p.m.** on the date listed on the syllabus (see the calendar section below). I would advise you NOT to wait until 11 p.m. to begin your quiz, since if you have technical problems and cannot turn in your quiz the quiz will NOT be counted and you will take a zero on the assignment. Your best policy is to take the quiz on the day before it is due (or earlier).

*I will set Blackboard to allow you to retake the quiz up to two additional times if you receive an unsatisfactory grade on your first and/or second attempt.

Exams

You will need to complete a final exam to get credit for this course. The exam is completed online and will contain one or two essay questions. The question will be broad and thematic so that students should have no problems incorporating course material into their responses.

Student responses should be analytical rather than merely descriptive (i.e., students should explain why a particular historical topic is significant, rather than just saying what occurred), and they must be between 500 and 1,000 words. Essays must also have a thesis statement and supporting evidence. This evidence should **not** come from any sources other than those that I have assigned. More detailed instructions will be available at the time of the exam. The final exam is cumulative.

Exams should be submitted on Blackboard via the SafeAssign link listed under the "Exams" tab on our course homepage. Make sure to include your name, the date, an essay title, and citations for your essay. Also, please use the highlighter feature on Word, italicize, bold, and/or underline your thesis statement or argument for your essay

before you submit it. I will be happy to review outlines or to discuss any questions you have about the exams before they are due. However, I will not review rough drafts of essays beforehand since this is an exam.

Computers and Computer Problems

You CANNOT participate in this course without a working computer and reliable internet connection. Due to the nature of online classes, NO special concessions will be made for technological difficulties. Students are responsible for obtaining and maintaining reliable Internet access. Internet access is available at libraries, schools, hotels, and coffee shops worldwide. Therefore, no extensions will be granted due to lack of Internet access. If you have a technical problem, such as a crash or lockup, while taking a quiz, email me requesting a quiz reset. I will reset your quiz within 24 hours. **NOTE: If you wait until the day a quiz is due, you assume responsibility that a technical problem may preclude you from completing the quiz on time. Those who ask for an extension will be referred to this policy.**

Calendar (Note: All discussions, exams, and quizzes are to be completed on UNC-Greensboro Blackboard. All times are Eastern Standard time- for those who might be taking the course somewhere outside of N.C.).

**Unless otherwise noted, all page numbers refer to the primary source text *Sources of the Making of the West*; the main course textbook is assigned by chapters—not pages.

Week 1 (8/22-8/28)

Readings: “Introduction: Working with Historical Sources” (pp. vii-xiv)
“When Worlds Collide” ([Link](#)) from Diamond’s *Guns, Germs, and Steel*

Due: Introduction Post	8/25
Quiz	8/28
Discussion Post	8/28

Week 2 (8/29-9/4): Spiritual (and Temporal) Warfare

Readings: Chapter 12: Struggles over Beliefs, 1500-1648
The Preaching of Indulges, ([online](#))
Martin Luther, *Freedom of a Christian*. pp. 16-18
St. Ignatius Loyola, *A New Kind of Catholicism*, pp. 18-21
Grimmelshausen, *Adventures of a Simpleton*, pp. 21-24

Due: Quiz	9/4
Discussion Post	9/4

Week 3 (9/6-9/11): A New Order

Sept. 5- Labor Day- University Closed

Readings: Chapter 13: State Building and the Search for Order, 1648-1690
The British Bill of Rights, pp. 41-43
Ludwig Fabritius, *The Revolt of Stenka Razin*, pp. 43-46

A True and Exact Relation of the Raising of the Siege of Vienna,
pp. 46-49

Due: Quiz 9/11
Discussion Post 9/11

Week 4 (9/12-9/18): An Atlantic World

Readings: Chapter 14: The Atlantic System and its Consequences, 1690-1740
Equiano, *Interesting Narrative*, ([Online](#))
Video: The Middle Passage (from *Amistad*) ([Online](#))
Video: *An Inconvenient History* ([Part I](#), [Part II](#), [Part III](#))

Due: Quiz 9/18
Discussion Post 9/18

Week 5 (9/19-9/25): Advocating for Humanity?

Readings: Chapter 15: The Promise of Enlightenment, 1740-1789
D'Alembert, *The Salon of Madame Geoffrin*, pp. 70-73
Menera, *Journal of my Life*, pp. 73-75
Smith, *An inquiry into...the Wealth of Nations*, pp. 75-79
Jefferson, *Declaration of Independence*, p. 81-84

Due: Quiz 9/25
Discussion Post 9/25

Week 6 (9/26-10/2): A Monarchy Falls

Readings: Chapter 16: The French Revolution and Napoleon, 1789-1815
Read all the documents in Chapter 16 of the *Sources of the Making of the West*, pp. 85-102.

Due: Quiz 10/2
Discussion Post 10/2

Week 7 (10/3-10/7): Industrialization: Factories, Trains, and Workers

* Oct. 7 (6 p.m.) – 12 (8 a.m.) Fall Break

Readings: Chapter 17: Industrialization and Social Ferment, 1815-1850
Macaulay, *Speech on Parliamentary Reform*, pp. 103-107
Mazzini, *Life and Writings*, pp. 107-109
Factory Rules in Berlin, pp. 109-111
Engels, *Draft of a Communist Confession*, pp. 111-116
Petofi, "National Song" of Hungary, pp. 116-119

Due: No Assignment Due this Week (Enjoy your Break)

Week 8 (10/12-10/16): Industrialization: Factories, Trains, and Workers

*Oct. 14. Last day to drop without academic penalty

Readings: Chapter 17: Industrialization and Social Ferment, 1815-1850
(Cont.)
Macaulay, *Speech on Parliamentary Reform*, pp. 103-107
Mazzini, *Life and Writings*, pp. 107-109

Factory Rules in Berlin, pp. 109-111
Engels, *Draft of a Communist Confession*, pp. 111-116
Petofi, "National Song" of Hungary, pp. 116-119

Due: Quiz **10/16**
Discussion Post **10/16**

Week 9 (10/17-10/23): Rise of the Nation State

Readings: Chapter 18: Constructing the Nation State, c. 1850-1880
Von Ihering, *Two Letters*, pp. 119-122
Kropotkin, *Memoirs of a Revolutionist*, pp. 122-124
Degas, *Notebooks*, pp. 128-131
Darwin, *Descent of Man*, pp. 131-137

Due: Quiz **10/23**
Discussion Post **10/23**

Week 10 (10/24-10/30): The Path to the First World War

Readings: Chapter 19: Empire, Modernity, and the Road to War, c. 1880-1914
Ferry, *Speech before the French National Assembly*, pp. 137-141
Kipling, *White Man's Burden*, pp. 141-145
Williams, *Made in Germany*, pp. 145-149
Entente Cordiale Between England and France, ([Online](#))

Due: Quiz **10/30**
Discussion Post **10/30**

Week 11 (10/31-11/6): The War to End All Wars and its Aftermath

Readings: Chapter 20: War, Revolution, and Reconstruction, 1914-1929
Wilson's *Fourteen Points* ([Online](#))
Sassoon, *Two Soldiers' Views of the Horrors of War*, pp. 157-160
Doriat, *Women on the Home Front*, pp. 160-163
Mussolini, *The Doctrine of Fascism*, pp. 164-169
Hitler, *Mein Kampf*, pp. 169-173
*Extra Credit Opportunity: Watch *All Quiet on the Western Front*
(You can either check it out from the library or you can watch it
[online here](#))

Due: Quiz **11/6**
Discussion Post **11/6**

Week 12 (11/7-11/13): WWII

Readings: Chapter 21: An Age of Catastrophes, 1929-1945
Truman, *Truman Announces the Dropping of the Atomic Bomb*, pp. 188-192
Fussell, "Thank God for the Atomic Bomb," ([Online](#))
Blum, "Hiroshima: Needless Slaughter..." (available on Blackboard- Course Documents)

