

WCV 102-01
MW 3:30-4:45
MHRA 1214

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Office and Hours: MHRA 2114 MW 12-1 and by appointment

Class meets January 9 through April 23; midterm W, February 29; final exam M, April 23

COURSE DESCRIPTION AND OBJECTIVES

This interdisciplinary study of Western Civilization examines critical developments and ideas in the period from 1492, with the voyages of Columbus and the exploration and settlement of the New World, to the social movements of the 1960s. We will use primary and secondary source materials to explore the social, cultural, and political history that shaped the West. We will engage in study and discussion of relationships of power, including slavery, gender, racism, war, and imperialism, to move beyond the narrative of progress and better understand the complexity at work in the modern world. Generous time will be spent learning to analyze and appreciate various historical documents, including works of art, and then using those sources as evidence in our discussions and assignments.

Through active participation in this course, students will

- Discuss major events in the Western world and identify their causes, outcomes, and participants
- Trace connections among people and events over time
- Use historical documents to draw conclusions about factors that led to political, economic, and social developments in the West
- Develop arguments based in historical inquiry for classroom discussions and written assignments

TEXTBOOK AND OTHER COURSE MATERIALS

Judith G. Coffin and Robert C. Stacey, *Western Civilizations*, Second Brief Edition (Volume 2)
The required textbook is available new and used in the university bookstore and online at a discount through several retailers [Additional textbook information: Release: 2008 Edition: Brief Publisher: W. W. Norton & Company Format: Paperback ISBN 13: 9780393932362]

You will access all other required course materials through Blackboard and the textbook website. Use the link below to access the website. Select the current chapter for study materials and the chapter quiz each week one is assigned.

http://wwnorton.com/college/history/wciv_16e/brief/

Familiarize yourself with Blackboard and the textbook website right away and be prepared to use them routinely to find documents and other materials, check your grades, and read announcements pertaining to the course.

COURSE EXPECTATIONS

Students can expect to spend, on average, 10 to 14 hours per week in and out of class per course. Your textbook reading and documents combined will average about 50 pages most weeks. You should plan to read the chapter all the way through once, taking notes as you read, and then look over the chapter and your notes at least once more. You will benefit from reading most of the primary documents assigned for this course at least twice, especially since the language used in many of the documents was often quite different from our own. You will also need to schedule time each week to take your chapter quiz and review your notes. Those weeks when you have an exam you will not have a chapter quiz, but may find that you still need to spend extra time on this course.

We will divide our class time each week between lecture and discussion. I will use PowerPoint to guide you through the lectures and provide focus. The PowerPoint slides are designed to highlight key terms, events, and ideas rather than a complete set of notes, so you should expect to take notes beyond the information provided on the slides. If you miss a class, make arrangements to get notes from a fellow student.

If you need to turn an assignment in late, it will be penalized 20% and is due no later than the class meeting following the original due date, after which it will not be accepted. In cases of emergency, your work will not be penalized, although you will need to provide verification that you had an actual emergency, and the assignment is due when you return to class.

A Note on Plagiarism: Plagiarism is the act of representing the work of someone else as your own. It is an extremely serious offense that can result in expulsion from school. You may effectively avoid this offense by paraphrasing rather than copying from sources and using proper citations in your written work. Review and understand the UNCG [Academic Integrity Policy](#) in the student handbook as all written work is covered by its provisions.

ASSIGNMENTS

Your assignments consist of chapter readings from the textbook, primary and secondary source documents found on the textbook website and Blackboard, short in-class responses to the reading, and online quizzes. The textbook reading assignment includes the primary documents found in each chapter, such as those on pp. 437, 440-441, and 445 in chapter 16, unless stated otherwise. We will routinely discuss the assigned primary documents in class, and they will be included on your exams.

Chapter quizzes are administered through the textbook website and consist of 15 multiple-choice questions. You take these at your convenience during the weeks assigned, and submit your results electronically by midnight Friday. You may skip one quiz without penalty and if you complete all of them you will receive extra credit.

We will frequently engage in discussions in class, and your **participation** grade is based on your contributions to those discussions, occasional short writing assignments, pop quizzes, and your attendance. Students will not be able to make up class writing assignments or pop quizzes they have missed due to absences.

The **exam** format is identification, multiple choice, and short answer. The midterm is scheduled for February 29 and will cover the lectures, readings, and other assignments through February 27. The final exam is scheduled on April 23, the last regular class meeting, and will cover all material from March 12 (following spring break) forward. Make-up exams will not be scheduled except in cases of documented emergency.

Grades will be calculated as follows:

Midterm 25%

Final Exam 25%

Quizzes 25%

Participation and Attendance 25%

ATTENDANCE

Regular attendance is an important part of your success in a college course. You are allowed three (3) absences without penalty. You are not required to contact me or explain your absences if you miss three or fewer classes, but you should use these absences judiciously. If you have additional absences due to a medical emergency or some unforeseen event, send an email notification in advance, or within 24 hours of the missed class meeting in cases of emergency, AND provide a doctor's note or other official notification (jury duty, e.g.) on the date you return to class. If you miss additional classes without a verifiable excuse, you will incur a penalty of one letter grade (10 points) off your participation grade for each additional unexcused absence up to five (5), after which you will receive a zero for your participation grade.

You should avoid arriving late or leaving early, as you miss important material and it causes a distraction for everyone else. If you have an occasion when it cannot be avoided, please let me know the reason. Students will incur penalties as for absences in cases of excessive tardiness or instances of leaving class early.

Be sure to sign or initial the roster every class meeting.

COMMUNICATION

Feel free to talk to me before or after class, schedule a meeting during my office hours, or send me an email if you have any course-related questions or concerns.

Email is the best way to contact me outside of class. Please enter WCV102 in the subject line. I will usually confirm receipt of your email within 24 hours Monday through Friday. If you have not received a response from me within 48 hours, you should assume that I did not receive your email and resend. This is especially important if you are emailing me regarding a missed class or assignment.

ELECTRONIC DEVICES

In order for you to be fully engaged and get the most out of the classroom experience, please turn off – not merely silence – all electronic devices before class begins. You may be asked to leave class, resulting in an unexcused absence, if you violate this policy.

Note: You may bring drinks to class, but please refrain from eating in class.

COURSE SCHEDULE

Note that reading assignments include the primary documents in the textbook chapter (such as those on pp. 437, 440-441, and 445 in chapter 16, unless stated otherwise and additional primary and secondary sources as assigned on Blackboard each week. You should also pay close attention to the images in the chapters as you read. A detailed course schedule, outlining all readings and assignments each week, is on Blackboard under the tab Assignments. Any changes to the schedule will be posted under Assignments and as Announcements on Blackboard.

UNIT ONE: Economic and Political Revolutions

Week One (Jan 9/Jan 11)

Course Introduction, *The Atlantic World*

See Assignments on Blackboard (BB): view painting, *The Ambassadors*; read excerpts from Christopher Columbus's journal; read "Trade Relations among European and African Nations" online; supplemental textbook reading pp. 310, 312, 358, 359-360.

Week Two (Jan 16 MLK Holiday, no class meeting/Jan 18)

Read Ch 16 *The Scientific Revolution* and sources on Blackboard

Complete chapter 16 quiz online through the textbook website and submit results electronically to my email address by midnight Friday, January 20. Subsequent quizzes are also submitted electronically by midnight Friday each week one is assigned.

Week Three (Jan 23/Jan 25)

Read Ch 17 *The Enlightenment* and BB sources

Quiz Ch 17

Week Four (Jan 30/Feb 1)

Read Ch 18 *The French Revolution* and BB sources

Quiz Ch 18

Week Five (Feb 6/Feb 8)

Read Ch 19 *The Industrial Revolution* and BB sources

Quiz Ch 19

Week Six (Feb 13/Feb 15)

Read Ch 20 *From Restoration to Revolution*, pp. 531 – 534, 536 – 543, 546 – 552, and BB sources

Quiz Ch 20

Week Seven (Feb 20/Feb 22)
Read Ch 21 *Nationalism*, pp. 556 – 572, and BB sources
Quiz Ch 21

Week Eight (Feb 27/Feb 29 MIDTERM EXAM)
The International Antislavery Movement
Ch 21, pp. 573 – 574

Week Nine SPRING BREAK

UNIT TWO: The Modern West

Week Ten (Mar 12/Mar 14)
Read Ch 22 *Imperialism and Colonialism* and BB sources
Read Ch 23 *Modern Industry and Mass Politics*, pp. 615 – 619, 626 – 628, and BB sources
Quiz Ch 22

Week Eleven (Mar 19/Mar 21)
Read Ch 24 *World War I* and BB sources
Quiz Ch 24

Week Twelve (Mar 26/Mar 28)
Read Ch 25 *Turmoil between the Wars* and BB sources
Quiz Ch 25

Week Thirteen (Apr 2/Apr 4)
Read Ch 26 *World War II* and BB sources
Quiz Ch 26

Week Fourteen (Apr 9/Apr 11)
Read Ch 27 *The Cold War*, pp. 715 – 731, and BB sources
Quiz Ch 27

Week Fifteen (Apr 16/Apr 18)
Read Ch 28 *Social Movements and Decolonization*, pp. 745 – 751

Week Sixteen (Apr 23 FINAL EXAM)
Course Evaluations, Final Exam