

Western Civilization, Part II

(WCV 102-04, CRN 84604)

Angela P. Robbins

TR 12:30- 1:45, Curry 225

Office Hours, TR 2:00-3:00 and by appointment, MHRA 3102; aprobbin@uncg.edu

Class meets Aug 26 to Dec 4; midterm Th, Oct 2; final exam Th, Dec 11, noon

Course Description

This interdisciplinary study of Western Civilization examines critical developments, beliefs, and ideas in the period from 1492, with the voyages of Columbus and the discovery and conquest of the New World, to 1945, and the momentous end of World War II. 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, such as slavery, gender, racism, oppression, war, and imperialism, to move beyond the narrative of progress and better understand the complexity at work in our modern world.

Textbook and other Course Materials

Western Civilizations, Brief Edition (Volume 2)

Authors: Judith G. Coffin, Robert C. Stacey, Robert E. Lerner

The required textbook is available in the university bookstore and online at a discount through several retailers [Additional textbook information: Release: 2005 Edition: Brief Publisher: W. W. Norton & Company Format: Paperback ISBN: 0393925579 ISBN 13: 9780393925579]

You will access other required reading through Blackboard and the textbook website.

http://www.wwnorton.com/college/history/wciv_15e/brief/index.htm

Locate the registration code inside the front cover of your textbook and follow the instructions provided on the website.

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.

Assignments and Grading

This class follows a traditional lecture format and 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 throughout the class. If you miss a class, make arrangements to get notes from a fellow student.

A detailed course schedule, outlining all readings and assignments each week, is found on Blackboard under Assignments. Minor changes may be made to weekly reading assignments; any changes will be posted to Assignments and the syllabus on Blackboard.

Assignments include weekly chapter readings from the textbook as well as online documents, quizzes, and Digital History Features (DHF), which are accessible through the textbook website. Note that our class will not meet on the three dates when DHFs are assigned; the written assignment for the DHF is due the following class meeting.

Western Civilization, Part II

The exam format is identification and short answer; the midterm will cover the lectures, readings, and other assignments through September 30, and the final exam will cover all material from October 7 forward. Quizzes consist of 15 multiple-choice questions and are administered through the textbook website; complete and submit the quiz by midnight on the date assigned for full credit.

Grades will be calculated as follows:

Midterm 25%

Final Exam 25%

Quizzes 25%

Digital History Features 25%

A 10-point grading scale is used in this course and numerical scores are assigned the following plus/minus letter grades: A+ = 98-100, A = 94-97, A- = 90-93; B+ = 88-89, B = 84-87, B- = 80-83; C+ = 78-79, C = 74-77, C- = 70-73; D+ = 68-69, D = 64-67, D- = 60-63; any score below 60 = F.

If you need to turn an assignment in late, contact me via email prior to the class meeting when the assignment is due. In cases of emergency, you will not be penalized, although you will need to provide verification that you did have an actual emergency. I will subtract 15% from all other late assignments. I will not accept make-up work after the class that follows the original due date except in cases of documented emergency, in which case it is due when you return to class.

Attendance

Regular attendance is an important part of your success in a college course. Be sure to sign or initial the roster every class meeting.

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. If you miss additional classes and wish them to be excused, send an email notification to me within 24 hours of the missed class meeting 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, the penalty is two (2) points off your final grade for each.

You should avoid arriving late or leaving early, as it causes a distraction. If 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.

Communication

Please 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. It is especially important that you email me in advance if you expect to miss a class beyond the three allowed absences or are unable to complete an assignment on time. Any information you communicate to me via email is not valid unless confirmed by me. I will confirm receipt of your email within 48 hours. If you have not received a response from me within 48 hours, you should assume that I did not receive your email and resend.

Western Civilization, Part II

Electronic Devices

You may use a laptop computer in this class for the purpose of taking notes only. Turn off all other electronic devices before class begins. You may be asked to leave class, resulting in an unexcused absence, if you violate this policy.

Miscellaneous

Please make every effort to be courteous to others and avoid interrupting class. This would include not leaving during class to take phone calls, go to the bathroom, etc. Please do not bring food to class.

Course Schedule

A course calendar and more detailed schedule of assignments are available on Blackboard. Note that the textbook reading includes the primary documents found in each chapter, such as those on pp. 381 and 387 in chapter 13, unless stated otherwise. These primary documents will be referenced in class and on the tests.

Tuesday, August 26 Course Introduction, Syllabus

Thursday, Aug 28 The Atlantic World: Europeans, Americans, and Africans

T, Sept 2 Ch 13 Reformation

Th, Sept 4 Quiz Ch 13

T, Sept 9 Ch 14 Religious Wars and State Building

Th, Sept 11 Quiz Ch 14

T, Sept 16 Ch 15 Absolutism and Empire

Th, Sept 18 NO CLASS Digital History Feature: Astrology, Astronomy, and Galileo

T, Sept 23 DHF due Ch 16 Scientific Revolution

Th, Sept 25 Quiz Ch 16

T, Sept 30 Ch 17 Enlightenment

Th, Oct 2 Midterm

T, Oct 7 Ch 18 The French Revolution Quiz Ch 18

Th, Oct 9 NO CLASS Digital History Feature: Revolutionary Paris

Western Civilization, Part II

T, Oct 14 DHF due

Th, Oct 16 Ch 19 The Industrial Revolution Quiz Ch 19

T, Oct 21 – Fall Break – NO CLASS

Th, Oct 23 Ch 21 Nationalism

T, Oct 28 Ch 22 Imperialism and Colonialism

Th, Oct 30 Quiz Ch 22

T, Nov 4 Ch 23 The Challenge of the Modern West

Th, Nov 6 Quiz Ch 23

T, Nov 11 NO CLASS Digital History Feature: War and Technology

Th, Nov 13 DHF due Ch 24 World War I

T, Nov 18 Ch 25 Turmoil Between the Wars

Th, Nov 20 Quiz Ch 25

T, Nov 25 and Th, Nov 27 Thanksgiving Holiday – NO CLASS

T, Dec 2 Ch 26 World War II

Th, Dec 4 Conclusion, Course Evaluations, Final Exam Preparation

Final Exam – Thursday, December 11, 12 Noon–3:00 P.M.