

**History of Western Civilization**  
**21:501:202:07, MW 10:00-11:20 (Bradley Hall 410)**  
**21:501:202:08, M2:30-3:50/W1:00-2:20 (Bradley Hall 313)**

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*Reporter: What do you think of western civilization?*  
*Mahatma Gandhi: I think it would be a good idea.*

### **Course Description**

This course surveys European history from the seventeenth century to the present. It sweeps across hundreds of years of history while honing in on individuals, objects, and lived experiences. We will focus on a number of themes and questions, including the very notion of Europe. Is it a geographical place or an idea? Is there one Europe or more? How have geographical, cultural, economic, political, and social relationships between different parts of Europe changed over time? Another key theme is the Enlightenment notion of Progress. Can we say Europe has improved over time? Is life always getting better? Relatedly, we will examine different ideas of what the more ideal world looked like and the means for achieving those visions. To what extent were governments and their constituencies willing to go to realize ideas of a better tomorrow? Was violence ever justified in attempts to realize a vision of a better world? Last but not least, we will consider the global context of European history. To what extent has the development of Europe—including its current economic, political and social power—depended on Europe's relationship with the rest of the globe?

### **Learning Goals**

In terms of content, this course aims to familiarize you with the big narrative of European history since 1700 and to impart detailed knowledge of isolated moments in that history. It also introduces skills key to the practice of history, including source identification and reading comprehension skills; the ability to identify and interpret others' arguments and to convey your own in a compelling and concise manner; and above all, the skill of asking questions.

### **Requirements**

You are responsible for all readings on the syllabus. Your performance on all assignments will depend on how well you do the readings. Your grade will be based on two take-home primary source analyses, two in-class midterms, one take-home essay, the final exam, and participation/attendance. Each primary source analysis will constitute 12.5% of your final grade (x2 = 25%), each in-class midterms will be 12.5% (x2 = 25%), the take-home essay will be 15%, the final exam will be 20%, and participation in class discussion will be 15%. The instructor reserves the right to give pop quizzes on the reading. Grades on pop quizzes will be factored into your participation grade.

- **Attendance:** More than two unexcused absences will result in a deduction of one-third of a letter grade per class missed from your FINAL grade. Leaving class early counts as an unexcused absence. Three late arrivals also count as an unexcused absence. Per history department policy, any student who misses 8 or more sessions through any combination of excused and unexcused absences will not earn credit in this class. Such students should withdraw to avoid getting an F.
- **Pop-quizzes:** Pop quizzes will not be announced, but you can still prepare for them as you do the reading with this simple check list. 1) Complete all assigned readings. 2) Answer questions in the textbook associated with the readings (at the end of each chapter or source). 3) Memorize the author, title, kind of source, and date of all assigned primary sources. Potential quizzes will have 5-8 questions and will test your knowledge of the reading for that day only. Pop quizzes cannot be made up. At the end of the semester, I'll drop the lowest pop quiz grade.

### **E-mail**

I expect you to access the email account attached your Blackboard account on a regular basis during the semester. We will be relying on Blackboard and e-mails sent out from the class website to communicate details about reading assignments, discussion questions, and scheduling.

## Plagiarism and Honor Code

Plagiarism is unacceptable. Cases of plagiarism will immediately be sent to the appropriate college dean for review. You are responsible for familiarizing yourself with Rutgers policy on plagiarism at <http://history.rutgers.edu/undergrad/plagiarism.htm> for more information.

All students are required to sign the Rutgers Honor Code Pledge. **To receive credit, every assignment must have your signature under the following phrase: “On my honor, I have neither received nor given any unauthorized assistance on this assignment.”**

## Participation Grades

Participation grades are a great way to boost your final score in the class—to bump your grade up from a “B” to a “B+,” a “C+” to a “B,” and so on. Your grade for participation (15% of your final grade) is based on attendance, participation in class, and seeking help as needed outside of class, both from the instructor as well as the writing center.

- An “A” participation grade denotes perfect attendance (excluding excused absences), including on time arrival to class, not leaving the classroom during class, and staying the entire class period; frequent participation in lectures and discussion in the form of commenting on the readings, asking questions, offering reflections and engaging others’ opinions; and absolutely no behavioral concerns (texting, holding unrelated conversations, using unrelated social media during class); and seeking help outside of class as needed, including visiting office hours, seeking help from the instructor via email, and visiting the writing center.
- A “B” participation grade constitutes an outstanding attendance record, regular participation in lectures and discussion, absolutely no behavioral concerns, and some attempt to receive help outside of class as needed.
- A “C” participation grade denotes a fine attendance record, infrequent participation in lectures and discussion, no behavioral concerns, and little or no attempt to received help as needed outside of class.
- A “D” or “F” participation grade suggests that I have no way to assess positive engagement with the material based on our contact as well as problems in the aforementioned areas: irregular attendance in class, no attempt to participate productively in lecture and discussion, distracting behavior in class, and no attempt to seek outside help as needed.

## Attendance Excuse Policy

Excused absences from exams will only be granted for students who can document medical or family emergency. Students who feel a personal emergency is sufficiently grave to warrant an excused absence must speak with the dean of their college and obtain a written letter from him/her explaining the nature of the emergency. No excused absence will be granted without a letter from the dean of your college. Students who are unclear about the course’s requirements should speak to me early in the semester.

## Grading Rubric

The percentage breakdown for grades is as follows:

A: 90-100      B+: 85-89      B: 80-84      C+: 75-79      C: 70-74      D: 60-69      F: 0-59

## Required Texts

Lynn Hunt et al. *The Making of the West: Peoples and Cultures. A Concise History*. Volume 2: Since 1500. 4<sup>th</sup> Edition. Boston: Bedford/St. Martin’s, 2013. ISBN: 978-0-312-67274-4 [Note: I recommend getting the print edition of this book either used or new. The book is also available as an e-book for \$29 at <http://bcs.bedfordstmartins.com/huntconcise4e>]

Katherine J. Lualdi. *Sources of the Making of the West: Peoples and Cultures*. Volume 2: Since 1500. 4<sup>th</sup> Edition. Boston: Bedford/St. Martin’s, 2012. ISBN: 978-0-312-57612-7 [Referred to in the syllabus as Lualdi]

Primo Levi. *Survival in Auschwitz*. New York: BNPublishing, 2008. ISBN: 978-1-492-94258-0

## Schedule of Topics and Readings:

1. Wednesday, January 20, 2016: Introduction
2. Monday, January 25, 2016: Absolutism and Constitutionalism, 1640-1700  
Readings: *The Making of the West*, 493-527; Lualdi, 63-68 (Hobbes) and 68-71 (Locke)
3. Wednesday, January 27, 2016: The Atlantic System and its Consequences, 1700-1750  
Readings: *The Making of the West*, 529-554; Lualdi, 75-78 (Equiano) and 78-82 (“A Brief Description of the Excellent Vertues of That Sober and Wholesome Drink, Called Coffee”); Peter the Great, “Laws and Decrees,” [available on Blackboard]
4. Monday, February 1, 2016: The Promise of Enlightenment, 1750-1789  
Readings: *The Making of the West*, 554-580; Lualdi, 101-103 (Ménétra), 103-107 (Beccaria), and 107-110 (Smith)  
**DUE: Primary source analysis**
5. Wednesday, February 3, 2016: The French Revolution and Its Causes, 1789  
Readings: *The Making of the West*, 580-607; Lualdi, 112-117 (Sieyès), 117 (“Political Cartoon”), 118-120 (“Declaration of the Rights of Man and Citizen”), and 120-124 (de Gouges)
6. Monday, February 8, 2016: Terror and Counterrevolution, 1789-1799  
Readings: *The Making of the West*, 607-623; Lualdi, 95-101 (Rousseau) and 124-128 (Robespierre)
7. Wednesday, February 10, 2016: Napoleon and the Revolutionary Legacy, 1799-1815  
Readings: *The Making of the West*, 627-641; Lualdi, 134-137 (al-Jabarti)
8. Monday, February 15, 2016: The “Restoration” of Europe, 1814-1830  
Readings: *The Making of the West*, 641-657; Lualdi, 137-140 (Metternich) and 140-144 (Kakhovsky)
9. **Wednesday, February 17, 2016: Midterm I**
10. Monday, February 22, 2016: Industrial Revolution, the Working Class, and Social Reform, 1830-1840s  
Readings: *The Making of the West*, 659-677; Lualdi, 151-154 (“Factory Rules in Berlin”), 157-160 (“Testimony Gathered by Ashley’s Mines Commission”), 161 (“Capital and Labour”), and 168-170 (Commissioner Lin)
11. Wednesday, February 24, 2016: New Ideologies and the Revolution of 1848  
Readings: *The Making of the West*, 677-693; Lualdi, 161-165 (Engles); Mill, “The Subjection of Women” [excerpts available on Blackboard]
12. Monday, February 29, 2016: Politics and Culture of the Nation-State, 1850-1870  
Readings: *The Making of the West*, 695-719; Lualdi, 174-176 (Cavour) and 176-178 (von Ihering)
13. Wednesday, March 2, 2016: Social Order and the Social Sciences  
Readings: *The Making of the West*, 719-729; Lualdi, 178-182 (Spencer) and 182-186 (Darwin)
14. Monday, March 7, 2016: The New Imperialism, 1870-1914  
**Due: Take-home Essay**
15. Wednesday, March 9, 2016: The Birth of Mass Politics  
Readings: *The Making of the West*, 731-765; Sergei Nechaev, “Catechism of a Revolutionary” [available on Blackboard]

**Spring Break: Saturday, March 12, 2016 – Sunday, March 20, 2016**

16. Monday, March 21, 2016: Cultural Modernism  
Readings: *The Making of the West*, 767-778; Einstein, “On the Idea of Time in Physics” and “The Relativity of Simultaneity,” 25-31 [available on Blackboard]; Maronetti, “Futurist Manifesto” [available here: <http://bactra.org/T4PM/futurist-manifesto.html>]
17. Wednesday, March 23, 2016: The Road to Total War  
Readings: *The Making of the West*, 793-812; Lualdi, 226-229 (Franke and Sassoon) and 229-231 (L. Doriat)
18. Monday, March 28, 2016: **Midterm 2**
19. Wednesday, March 30, 2016: Revolution in Russia  
Readings: *The Making of the West*, 812-829; Lenin, “What is to be done?” [available on Blackboard]
20. Monday, April 4, 2016: Liberal Democracy in Crisis and the Rise of Fascism  
Readings: *The Making of the West*, 829-857; Stalin, “The Results of the First Five-Year Plan” [available on Blackboard]; Lualdi, 240-242 (Hitler) and 243-245 (Goebbels)
21. Wednesday, April 6, 2016: World War II  
Readings: *The Making of the West*, 857-879; Primo Levi, *Survival in Auschwitz*, 1-78
22. Monday, April 11, 2016: Holocaust  
Readings: Primo Levi, *Survival in Auschwitz*, 79-206
23. Wednesday, April 13, 2016: Rebuilding Europe during the Cold War  
Readings: *The Making of the West*, 881-898, 906-915; Lualdi, 263-267 (“The Formation of the Communist Information Bureau”) and 267-270 (National Security Council); Kitchen Debate [available on Blackboard]  
**Due: Primary Source Analysis**
24. Monday, April 18, 2016: Decolonization and War in Algeria  
Readings: *The Making of the West*, 899-906; additional readings TBD
25. Wednesday, April 20, 2016: 1968 in Europe  
Readings: *The Making of the West*, 917-937; Lualdi, 278-282 (Srnković) and 282-284 (“Student Voices of Protest”)
26. Monday, April 25, 2016: Collapse of the Soviet Union  
Readings: *The Making of the West*, 937-951; Lualdi, 292-293 (Andreeva) and 293-296 (*Pravda* editorial)
27. Wednesday, April 27, 2016: Post-Soviet Order: War in the Balkans  
Readings: *The Making of the West*, 953-977; Lualdi, 297-305 (Zlata Filipovic); Samuel Huntington, “The Clash of Civilizations” [available on Blackboard]
28. Monday, May 2, 2016: A New Globalism? War in Ukraine  
Readings: *The Making of the West*, 977-989; Simon Ostrovsky’s “Soldier Selfies,” video journalism on the conflict in Ukraine: <https://news.vice.com/video/selfie-soldiers-russia-checks-in-to-ukraine>; Chris Allan, “Meet the European Fighters who have gone to War in Ukraine” [available here: <http://www.diplomaticourier.com/2015/11/16/the-foreign-troops-fighting-on-eastern-ukraines-frontlines/>]

Final Exam: TBD