The History of Western Civilization II

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Overview
This course is a broad survey introduction to the history of Europe from 1660 to the present day. Throughout the semester, we will be concerned with learning about the basic events and concepts that have shaped the modern history of the West. At the same time, we will seek to understand how historians develop these events and concepts into an interpretation of history – in short, how historians write a history from a series of facts. Two questions dominate this course. How have Europeans balanced individual liberties and the desire for social unity? Second, how have modern social and economic transformations affected this balance? To do this, we will use two texts: a standard textbook, and a collection of source documents. Both texts are equally important, and students will be expected to have read and understood the material in both.

Through class discussion, students will interact with the materials, the instructor, and their peers. In the process, they will practice both their public speaking skills, and learn how to engage critically with the arguments and evidence of the texts. Students will also regularly practice their writing skills in two take home assignments where they will approach historical questions using primary source documents. In both the written assignments and the class discussions, students will develop their analytical skills by identifying the course readings’ main theses, supporting arguments, evidence, assumptions, and rhetorical strategies.

Course Requirements:
There will be two midterm exams and a final exam. All are in-class exams but students will receive a comprehensive guide to prepare for these exams. There will also be two primary analysis assignments, each 2-3 pages in length. The details surrounding each will be explained further during class. Class lectures are a mix of lectures and class discussion. The participation grade will be based on participation and attentiveness in class throughout the semester. Having perfect attendance is not enough to get full marks for participation.

Primary Analysis assignments must be submitted to Blackboard for review. I will give you more detailed instructions about how to do this later in the semester. Papers not submitted to Blackboard will not receive a grade. Assignments submitted via email will not be accepted. It is your responsibility to make back-up files of your work. Assignments submitted late will have a grade reduction of three points for every two days that it is late.

Grading:
Participation: 10%
Primary Analysis 1: 10%
Primary Analysis 2: 10%
Midterm Exam 1: 20%
Midterm Exam 2: 20%
Final Exam: 30%

Attendance policy:
Attendance is required. If you have more than four unexcused absences, your grade will be lowered by a third of a grade (from B+ to B, for example). If you have more than more than six unexcused absences, your grade will be lowered by one full grade (B+ to C+, for example). Any student who misses eight or more sessions through any combination of excused and unexcused absences will not earn credit in this class. Such students should withdraw from the class.

If you plan to be excused for any religious holidays during the semester, please talk to me before the end of January so I can mark it in the roster in advance.

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 me BEFORE the exam is to take place. Students who are unclear about the course’s requirements should speak to me early in the semester.

**Required Texts:**


**Course Website**
You will find a copy of this syllabus at the Blackboard course website (blackboard.newark.rutgers.edu). If there are any changes to the syllabus, I will announce these in class and then post them on the website.

**Schedule of Topics and Readings:**

**Week 1**
January 21st: Introduction

**Week 2**
January 25th: The Old Regime: Corporate Society
   Readings: Making of the West, pp. 492-496; Lualdi, 1-14

January 28th: Absolutism
   Readings: Making of the West, pp. 515-532; Lualdi, 63-69, 72-74, 82-85.

**Week 3**
February 1st: Europe and the World in the 18th Century
   Readings: Making of the West, pp. 551-576; Lualdi, 75-82, 85-94

February 4th: The Enlightenment
   Readings: Making of the West, pp. 587-610; Lualdi, 95-111

**Week 4**
February 8th: The French Revolution
   Readings: Making of the West, pp. 619-638; Lualdi, 112-133

February 11th: Napoleon and the Revolutionary Legacy
   Readings: Making of the West, pp. 638-647, 651-672.
Week 5
February 15th: Conservatism, Liberalism, Nationalism
Readings: Making of the West, pp. 672-681, 703-709; Lualdi, 137-150

February 18th: The Industrial Revolution, the Working Class, and the “Social Question”
Readings: Making of the West, pp. 685-702; Lualdi, 151-165

Week 6
February 22nd: MIDTERM 1

February 25th: The Revolutions of 1848
Readings: Making of the West, pp. 709-717; Lualdi, 166-168.

Week 7
February 29th: The Rise of the Nation-State
Readings: Making of the West, pp. 721-745; Lualdi, 171-178

March 3rd: 19th Century European Society: Mass Politics and the Middle Class
Readings: Making of the West, pp. 745-748, 759-760, 768-793

Week 8
March 7th: Science and Society
Readings: Making of the West, pp. 748-755, 797-810; Lualdi, 178-185; 205-207.

PRIMARY ANALYSIS 1 DUE

March 10th: Colonialism/New Imperialism
Readings: Making of the West, pp. 761-768; 817-831; Lualdi, 168-170, 186-193; 218-221.

Week 9
Spring Break – HAVE FUN!

Week 10
March 21st: Politics (and Culture) in a New Key
Readings: Making of the West, pp. 810-817; Lualdi, 207-225.

March 24th: World War I
Readings: Making of the West, pp. 835-845; Lualdi, 221-231

Week 11
March 28th: The Russian Revolution
Readings: Making of the West, pp. 845-851; Lualdi, 231-235

March 31st: MIDTERM 2

Week 12
April 4th: The Crisis of Democracy and the Rise of Fascism
Readings: Making of the West, pp. 851-859, 873-889; Lualdi, 235-252

April 7th: Inter-War Society: Restoring Order
Readings: Making of the West, pp. 860-869

Week 13
April 11th: Stalinism
Readings: Making of the West, pp. 878-885
April 14th: War, Genocide, and the Division of Europe
   Readings: Making of the West, pp. 890-909; Lualdi, 252-262

**Week 14**
April 18th: Rebuilding the West
   Readings: Making of the West, pp. 913-930; Lualdi, 263-270

**PRIMARY ANALYSIS 2 DUE**

April 21st: Rebuilding the East
   Readings: Making of the West, pp. 936-945; Lualdi, 273-275

**Week 15**
April 25th: Decolonization
   Readings: Making of the West, pp. 930-936, 999-1005, 1008-1013; Lualdi, 270-272, 284-285

April 28th: 1960s and 1970s Cultural and Technological Changes; Challenges to the Cold War Blocs
   Readings: Making of the West, pp. 949-981; Lualdi, 275-282

**Week 16**
May 2nd: 1989 and the Emergence of European Unity?
   Readings: Making of the West, pp. 985-999; 1006-1008, 1013-1016; Lualdi, 291-306

**FINAL EXAM:** May 9th: 11.45am-2.45pm