

Social Sciences Department

Division of Arts and Sciences

South Plains College

Reese Center Campus

Spring 2013

Sanford B. Hunt

Common Course Syllabus
History 2312: Survey of Western Civilization from 1600

Department: Social Sciences

Discipline: History

Course Number: HISTORY 2312

Course Title: Western Civilization to 1600

Credit: 3 Lecture, 0 Lab

Satisfies a core curriculum requirement? Yes.

Prerequisites: TSI compliance in Reading

Available Formats: Conventional

Campus: Levelland and Reese

Textbook: Varies according to instructor.

Course Specific Instructions: Each instructor will attach his/her course with specific instructions.

Course Description: This course is a survey of the history of Western Civilization from the later stages of the Age of Discovery through the Industrial Revolutions and Colonial/Imperial Era and the Age of Petroleum to the advent of modern Globalism. Primary emphasis is placed on the development of human political, religious and social institutions that are the components of civilizations.

Course Purpose: To acquaint students with the efforts of humanity to accommodate to an increasingly complex global network of diverse cultures and civilizations and to further develop critical thinking in interrelating the past to the present. The cultural literacy of the student will also be enhanced.

Course Requirements: To maximize a student's potential to complete this course, he/she should attend all class meetings, complete all homework assignments and examinations in a timely manner, and complete all other projects or papers as assigned in the instructor's specific instructions.

Course Evaluation: See the instructor's course information sheet for specific items used in evaluating student performance.

Attendance Policy: Whenever absences become excessive and in the instructor's opinion, minimum course objectives cannot be met due to absences, the student will be withdrawn from the course. Each instructor will have additional information about attendance on his/her course information sheet.

Student Learning Outcomes:

Students who have completed this course will be expected to:

Demonstrate knowledge and understanding of major issues in the history of Western Civilization.

Demonstrate knowledge and understanding of cause and effect of major events of the past and examine the interrelation of external and internal forces that shape Western Civilization.

Understand the nature of history as a fundamental subject in the study of humanity.

Evaluate the diversity of interpretations of the past and the quality of evidence for that interpretation.

Tolerate ambiguity in explanations of the past and realize that historical explanations will often be complex and tentative.

Apply historical knowledge with caution to current events, seeing common threads of development of the past with the present.

Through course assignments, papers, activities, and assessments, students will:

Demonstrate the ability to read and write clearly and concisely,

Value diversity and differences in people,

Explore relationships of ideas and see their similarities and differences,

Gain a basic understanding of the career fields related in the major,

Assimilate and synthesize information,

Integrate ideas across the curricula, and

Interrelate the past to the present.

HIST 2322.200 World Civilizations II

Monday - Thursday: 10:00 – 11:55 AM

Room: RC321 Reese Campus

Instructor: S. B. Hunt

Office hours: 0930 – 10:00; Room RC 318F or by appointment.

E-mail: shunt@southplainscollege.edu

Required Texts & Materials:

Western Civilizations: Their History and Their Culture. Nineteenth Edition. Joshua Cole & Carol Symes. W. W. Norton & Company. ISBN: 978-0-393-61595-1

One 4 gigabyte USB flash drive (aka “jump drive” or “stick drive”)

Course Description: This course examines the development and interrelationship of civilizations, societies, and states in so-called Western Europe roughly from the end of the so-called Dark Ages up until relatively recent times. The course will trace threads that run through the course of development including but not limited to the effects of religion, commerce, war, race, technology, and environment. The course will also carry the student a step further in understanding of historical research and analysis and mastering the skills needed to separate fact from fiction in terms of recorded history.

Expected Learning Outcomes: At the end of the term, you should be able to do the following:

- ✓ interpret documents from the past and differentiate between primary and secondary sources;
- ✓ trace the pattern of reciprocal influences between the world’s various cultures and regions;
- ✓ relate technological, political, and sociological developments to their respective time frames;
- ✓ chronicle the evolution of modern nation states and global socio-economic systems;
- ✓ present observations, ideas, and analyses orally and on paper in a coherent and organized manner.

Methods for assessing this expected learning outcome: written examinations (3 in-terms and a comprehensive final), in-class discussion and challenge, *muddiest point* classroom assessment techniques, graded quizzes, in-class writing, and a brief analytical essay.

GRADING

The grading scale will be as follows: 90-100=A; 80-89=B; 70-79=C; 60-69=D; and 59 or below = F. Grades will be assessed on the following:

Quiz Average:	10%	(Overall quiz average: scheduled & spot quizzes et al)
Exams:	70%	
Analytical Essay:	15%	
Class Participation:	5%	

Attendance: Regular attendance is mandatory; attendance will be taken. It is in **your best interest** to attend class regularly and on time. Material that will be covered in class goes well beyond the assigned reading, i.e. many questions that will be on exams come exclusively from lectures rather than the book. If you **DO** miss a class, **you and you alone** are responsible for finding out what you missed from a classmate. I do not repeat lectures in office hours. **More than two unexcused absences can result in a reduction of the final grade by five points per absence; more than 5 absences will result in an automatic F.** A student arriving late or leaving early is subject to being counted absent. Students who have approved absences for athletic or other university sponsored activities should provide a schedule within the first two weeks.

SPECIAL CONSIDERATIONS

Student Absence for Observation of Religious Holy Days: A student who is absent from classes for the observation of a religious holy day shall be allowed to take an examination or complete an assignment scheduled for that day within a reasonable time after the absence **if, not later than the fifteenth day after the first day of the semester, the student has notified the instructor of each scheduled class that the student would be absent for a religious holy day.**

Americans with Disabilities Act: Students with disabilities, including but not limited to physical, psychiatric, or learning disabilities, who wish to request accommodations in this class should notify the Special Services Office early in the semester so that the appropriate arrangements may be made. In accordance with federal law, a student requesting accommodations must provide acceptable documentation of his/her disability to the Coordinator of Special Services. For more information, call or visit the Special Services Office in the Student Services building, 894-9611 ext. 2529.

Diversity Statement: In this class, the instructor will establish and support an environment that values and nurtures individual and group differences and encourages engagement and interaction. Understanding and respecting multiple experiences and perspectives will serve to challenge and stimulate all of us to learn about others, about the larger world and about ourselves. By promoting diversity and intellectual exchange, we will not only mirror society as it is, but also model society as it should and can be.

I will accommodate students who have the appropriate documentation of disability. Whatever the problem, we will work together to find a solution. Please speak to me during the first week of classes and arrange for documentation immediately if you have not already done so.

GENERAL POLICIES

- **BEHAVIOR IN CLASS:** Students are expected to be considerate of one another as well as of the instructor. Conduct that interferes with other students' right to learn will not be tolerated. Feel free to bring non-alcoholic beverages to class. Please **do not** eat food or read newspapers. **Turn off cell phones before class.**
- **GETTING HELP:** Office hours are listed at the top of this page. Come see me if you have a problem with reading, lecture, or assignments. If you are having difficulty of any sort, the sooner you ask for help, the easier the solution to your problem. If you come in at the last minute, all I will be able to do for you is offer tissues to wipe your eyes. Whatever the problem, ask for help. There are no stupid questions. If you don't know----ask.
- **HONESTY:** Honesty is the expected standard. **Plagiarism and cheating** will not be tolerated and can be grounds for dismissal from the college or lesser action. Appropriating another person's ideas or words and presenting them as your own in any of your written work is theft. If you are unsure of how to document a piece of evidence in an assignment, ask me or look at a writing style manual before the assignment is due. Incidents of plagiarism or cheating on examinations will result in failure of the course and other potential consequences at the discretion of the college administration.

ANALYTICAL PAPERS

Some history classes have long essay questions on their exams; some require formal term papers. This class combines a minimal degree of independent study, reading, and analysis into a relatively painless exercise that I call "analytical essays." While you **do** have to read a book, **you** choose the book, there is much less time wasted on deciding what to write, and there is a greater opportunity to get help, revise and earn an excellent grade. Directions and a more detailed explanation of the essay can be found on Blackboard in the course

The grade on this will constitute 15% of your overall grade for this course.

Book selection deadline: 17 July (request approval no later than 11:30 PM)

Final submission deadline: 4 August (no later than 11:30 PM)

SCHEDULE OF CLASSES: This schedule is provided as a general guide to the course and its requirements. I will attempt to adhere closely to the following class schedule, but it is subject to modification. Any changes will be announced well in advance in class.

Week	Lecture & Readings	Assignments & Quizzes
1 st Day	13 July Introduction & Review of World Civilizations: "Who's on First?"	
17 Jul	Western Ascendancy and the Age of Exploration; Is Russia in the West? World Trade - Religious & Dynastic Schisms Wars of Empire Mercantilism; Economics of Slavery; Colonialism	17 July: Book Choice 18 July: Quiz 1 21 July: Quiz 2
24 Jul	The Age of Revolt Industrialism & European Political Philosophies Beginning of the Age of Petroleum Small Wars to World War I	25 Jul: Quiz 3 27 Jul: Quiz 4
31 Jul	The Interbellum World War II (the fighting) World War II (the conferences)	31 Jul: Quiz 5 (on the War-time Conferences) 4 Aug: Book analysis submission
7 Aug	The Cold War & Globalism The seeds of terrorism	
14 Aug	Final Exam	