

Course Name: HIST 4

Title: History of Western Civilization

Units: 3

Course Description:

This course is a survey of western civilization from the Renaissance to the present, emphasizing the interplay of social, political, economic, cultural, and intellectual forces in creating and shaping the modern world. The focus is on the process of modernization, stressing the secularization of western society and examining how war and revolution have served to create our world.

Course Objectives:

Upon completion of this course, the student will be able to:

- identify and correctly use basic historical terminology
- distinguish between primary and secondary sources as historical evidence
- compare and evaluate various interpretations used by historians to explain the development of western civilization since the Renaissance
- evaluate multiple causes and analyze why a historical event happened
- identify the major eras and relevant geography of western civilization since the Renaissance
- evaluate major economic, social, political, and cultural developments in western civilization since the Renaissance
- evaluate the experiences, conflicts, and connections of diverse groups of people in western civilization since the Renaissance
- draw historical generalizations about western civilization since the Renaissance based on understanding of the historical evidence
- describe and evaluate the major movements and historical forces that have contributed to the development of western civilization.

Course Content:

4 hours: Introduction to the Study of Western Civilization, Historiography; Age of Transition: The Early Modern Period.

3 hours: The Nature and Structure of Medieval Society; those who work, those who pray, those who fight, the Great Chain of Being, manorialism; Decline of the Medieval Synthesis; The Renaissance and the Question of Modernity: humanism, individualism, secular spirit, Petrarch, Bruni, Pico, Castiglione, Machiavelli, etc., literature, art, and politics.

3 hours: Spread of the Renaissance northward: Elizabethan England, Erasmus and Christian humanism, art and literature; The Protestant Reformation and its impact: background, Martin Luther, Address to the German Nobility, principles of Protestantism, economic and political appeals, Zwingli, Calvin, Institutes of the Christian Religion, Puritan work ethic, bourgeoisie, shift of focus northward from Mediterranean; Reformation in England, Henry VIII.

3 hours: The Counter Reformation: Trent, the Inquisition, Ignatius Loyola; Wars of Religion: the Thirty Years' War, Westphalia, impact, secular, shift; European overseas expansion: background, causes and impact, commerce, growth of the bourgeoisie.

3 hours: Making of Modern States: background, role of monarchs, tools: vernacular, divine right theory, standing armies, bureaucracies; nationalization of the Church, the military revolution and the declining role of the nobility; Limited Monarchy vs. Absolutism, background in England and France.

3 hours: Revolution in England: the Tudor background, rise of the gentry, Parliament and Puritanism; James I, divine right theory, Charles I, Civil War, Oliver Cromwell, New Model Army, Levellers, Diggers, Interregnum, restoration, Charles II and James II, Glorious Revolution, William and Mary, Bill of Rights, oligarchy; Triumph of Absolutism in France: background, Louis XIII and Cardinal Richelieu, intendants, Huguenots, Mazarin, The Fronde, Louis XIV, Corbet, mercantilism, Versailles symbol and means of absolutism, wars of Louis XIV.

3 hours: Hobbes' Leviathan and Locke's Treatises of Civil Government. Absolutism in eastern Europe and Russia: Lord and Peasant in eastern Europe, serfdom, power of nobility, Austria and Hungary; Prussia's rise from the Great Elector through Frederick William I, Junkers; Russia's background, emergence of czarism, church and state, boyars, expansion and westernization under Peter the Great, St. Petersburg.

3 hours: Transition to a New World View: The Scientific Revolution: background, astronomy and physics: the Medieval World View, Aristotle and the Church, from Copernicus to Newton, mechanical conception of nature, scientific method, Bacon and Descartes, other areas of science, science and the state, culture, the economy.

3 hours: The Enlightenment: Newton and Locke, tabula rasa, philosophies, natural law, education, Deism, Montesquieu, Spirit of the Laws, Voltaire, Candide, Rousseau, The Social Contract, Diderot and the Encyclopedia, salons and secular culture, appeal to the bourgeoisie; Enlightened Absolutism, Catherine II, Joseph II and Frederick II; new trends in the arts; literature, painting and music.

3 hours: The Age of Transformation: The French Revolution and Napoleon: background, the Ancien Regime, the Three Estates, financial crisis, economic problems, Assembly of Notables, calling of the Estates General, Abbe Sieyes, Mirabeau, the National Assembly, storming of the Bastille, the Great Fear, August 4th, Declaration of the Rights of Man and of the Citizen, October Days, reforms of the National Assembly, Civil Constitution of the Clergy, Constitution of 1791, from subject to citizen; Radicalization of the Revolution, war, internal threats, Girondins, Jacobin, Robespierre, National convention,

committee of Public Safety, the Reign of Terror, sans culottes, Thermidorean Reaction, The Directory, challenges, the rise of Napoleon, coup, Consulate, Emperor, Concordat of 1801, Code Napoleon, Napoleon and Europe, nationalism, Napoleon's defeat, Napoleon's legacy: savior or betrayer of the revolution.

3 hours: The Industrial Revolution: industrialization and modernity, Why England? Background, Agricultural Revolution, urbanization, cottage industry, transformation of industry, textiles, innovations; the spread of industrialization to the continent; The Social Question: Sadler Commission, Factory rules, conditions in factories, industrial boom towns, initial forms of protest.

3 hours: Reaction, Revolution and Reform: Ideological responses to transformation of Dual Revolution; the forces of order (conservatism and reaction) vs. forces of change (liberalism and nationalism), conservatism, Congress of Vienna, Burke, Metternich, The Concert of Europe, revolts of 1820's, Revolution of 1830 in France, July Monarchy, limitations, other revolutions of 1830's; liberalism and reform in England: parliamentary reforms, classical liberal economics, Smith, Malthus, and Ricardo, the evolution of liberalism, John Stuart Mill; the revolutions of 1848.

3 hours: The 19th century ideas and culture: the romantic retreat from the Enlightenment, literature, music and art, religion and philosophy; economic change: retreat from laissez faire; socialism, the variety of socialists, Karl Marx's Communist Manifesto; New revolution in science: Darwin, evolution, natural selection, science, medicine, social Darwinism; August comet and Positivism; Russian realism, novel, drama, music and poetry; the Enlightenment tradition under attack, Dostoevsky, Nietzsche.

3 hours: Nationalism and Unification in the 19th century: roots of modern nationalism, early nationalist thinkers, the revolutions of 1848, the Crimean War; the unification of Germany, Bismarck and Realpolitik, Zollverein, leadership of Prussia, wars of German unification, Napoleon III, Franco Prussian War, Alsace Lorraine; The unification of Italy: Mazzini, Garibaldi, Cavour, Piedmont; autocracy and reform in Russia: Alexander I, the Decembrist Revolt, the Polish Revolution, the reforms Alexander II, limitations of reforms.

3 hours: War and Revolution: imperialism causes, reasons and justifications, the glory of England, other states of Europe, impact on colonies; World War I: alliances and crises, militarism, the incident, the causes debated, the conflagration, the aftermath and results; post war settlements: the Peace Treaty of Versailles, the punishment of Germany; Revolution in Russia: background, revolutionary movement, narodniki and Marxists, Lenin's What is to be Done ; 1905 Revolution, Trotsky, impact of WWI, fall of czarist autocracy, Dual Power: Provisional Government and Petrograd Soviet, the Bolshevik seizure of power, immediate aftermath. Between the wars: post war climate, the rise of Fascism: background, Mussolini, March on Rome, Italian fascism; the rise of Nazism, Adolf Hitler, Beer Hall Putsch, Mein Kampf, Hitler in power, collectivization and Five Year Plans, totalitarianism, the U.S. from 1919 to 1939: the 1920s, the Depression, the political climate.

3 hours: World War II: events leading to war, the mood of the U.S., League of Nations, Manchuria, Ethiopia, Spanish Civil War, Hitler and his power, Anschluss, Munich Agreements, Chamberlain, appeasement, Nazi Soviet Non-Aggression Pact, invasion of Poland; the war in Europe, the Japanese and the War in the Pacific, great events of the war, the settlements, immediate aftermath.

3 hours: The world since World War II: the rise of Soviet power, emerging nations and world politics, the Cold War, science and culture in the 20th Century; literature and the arts: painting, music and dance, pop culture; upheavals in the late 1960's, gender, race, and class since 1945; the Soviet bloc, from reform to dissolution, fall of the Soviet Union, eastern European transformation; Globalism and the New World Order.

Out-of-Class Assignments:

Required readings from primary and secondary sources, exercises and written responses as required by instructor. Be prepared to discuss the following questions:

Example #1:

How does Machiavelli's The Prince represent a break from medieval political theory? How relevant is his advice?

Example #2:

Did Napoleon save or betray the French Revolution?

Methods of Evaluation:

Application/written exercises, bluebook essays, quizzes, analysis of primary sources and interpretations of history, oral and written presentations, team projects.

Examples of Appropriate Texts or Other Required Reading:

Title: Western Civilization: Ideas, Politics, and Society: Since 1400

Author: Perry, M., et al.

Date: 01/01/2009

Other Appropriate Reading:

Title: The Greatest Minds and Ideas of the Enlightenment

Author: Will Durant

Date: 10/29/2008

Title: Economic and Social History of Medieval Europe

Author: Henri Pirenne

Date: 1/1/2005