

Introduction to the Modern World

History 104 / Spring 2013

Prof. William G. Gray

Test the West!

This is the third in a sequence of courses at Purdue designed to provide a comprehensive survey of what used to be known (with stern capital letters) as WESTERN CIVILIZATION. Don't worry if you haven't taken History 102 and 103, the ancient and medieval components; there are no prerequisites for this course. Its purpose is, after all, foundational: to acquaint you with some of the big themes in European history since 1500.

There is always something arbitrary about the design of a "Western Civ" survey. Our attention will wander geographically as the course progresses; by the 19th Century we'll have discovered Hungary and forgotten all about Spain. Like journalists, we follow the action: our eye is on Paris in 1789, Moscow in 1917, Berlin in 1933. Be forewarned that the rush of details tends to become dizzying in a course like this! On essay exams and in your written work, you will face the challenge of wielding details accurately and effectively while developing balanced and persuasive arguments.

Our course material is arranged chronologically. Experience suggests that this is the most straightforward means of conveying how values, technologies, and institutions varied over time. By December, you should be in a position to contrast, say, absolutist rule under Louis XIV with the "totalitarian" claims of 20th-Century dictatorships; or the mercantile Dutch capitalism of the 17th Century with the pinnacle of European imperialism two centuries later. As these examples suggest, we will focus much of our attention on three basic threads or "genres" over time:

- political ideas and institutions
- economic and technological developments
- intellectual, cultural, and religious priorities

Course Requirements

As with any lecture course, exams will weigh heavily in your final grade. There will be two midterms (each worth 20%) and a final exam (worth 30%). In all cases, the exams will feature a combination of short factual questions and long essays. You will receive the essay questions in advance so that you can prepare well-considered responses.

The final component of your grade (30%) will reflect your performance on written exercises. During the course of the semester, you'll need to complete a total of four of these assignments and submit them via Blackboard. If you do not turn in four exercises, each missing assignment will be recorded as a "zero." That could easily drop you down to the next letter grade... or in extreme cases, result in an "F" for the entire course. (It's happened before.) Late exercises will not be accepted.

Course Textbooks

We will make do with just two course books. Purchase them both. They are being sold as a “bundle” at Follett’s and the University Bookstore, which drops the price of the course reader to just \$10. The ISBN for this combined package is 978-0-393-12846-8.

1) Textbook. We have ordered a loose-leaf, three-hole punch version of the textbook. This saves you a lot of money up front, and also keeps you from having to carry around a heavy book.

The book is: Judith Coffin et al, *Western Civilizations: Their History & Their Culture*, 17th edition, Vol. 2. The ISBN number of this text, when sold separately, is 978-0-393-14970-8.

2) Sourcebook. James Brophy et al, *Perspectives from the Past: Primary Sources in Western Civilizations*, 5th edition, Vol. 2. The ISBN number of this text, when sold separately, is 978-0-393-91295-1.

Again, because of the publisher’s specially priced bundle, the least expensive option is probably for you to buy the two books as a bundle at Follett’s or the University Bookstore.

Course Policies

Attendance is required. When course enrollment has stabilized, we will institute a mandatory seating chart. Over the course of the semester, you may accumulate six (yes, six!) unexcused absences without penalty. It is not our job to “approve” absences one way or another, but if you expect to be representing the university repeatedly in an official capacity (sports, band, etc.), please do discuss this with me early on this semester.

Common courtesy suggests that you should arrive on time. A lecture is not the same thing as a television viewing! Your coming and going may represent a significant distraction. We will break once during our evening sessions; please try to hold on until then.

It pains me to say it, but contemporary students are tempted by all kinds of electronic distractions that inhibit their ability to learn effectively in class. If you are using a laptop, you must sit in the first few rows. There is no legitimate reason for you to consult a phone during class. If I see that you are continuously texting or looking at your phone, I may ask you to surrender your device or leave the classroom.

Examine the syllabus carefully and note the exam dates. Only in exceptional circumstances will students receive permission to make up exams that they miss. (Medical emergencies and extra-curricular activities are the most common grounds for being excused.)

Academic integrity: The assignments in this course require you to formulate complex thoughts in your own words. Attempts to pass off another’s words as your own – be it on an exam or in your written work – will carry harsh penalties. Plagiarized papers will earn a “zero” for the assignment and may lead to further consequences.

Disclaimer: In the event of a major campus emergency, the above requirements, deadlines and grading policies are subject to changes that may be necessitated by a revised semester calendar. Any such changes in this course will be posted, once the course resumes, on the course website or can be obtained by contacting the instructor via email or phone.

Contact Information

Course Director

Professor William Gray (wggray@purdue.edu)
Office hours in UNIV 328:
MW 1:45 – 3:15 pm

Teaching Assistants

Rob Kirchubel (rkirchub@purdue.edu)
Office hours in REC 419:
MW 4:30 – 5:30 pm

Mark Otto (ottom@purdue.edu)
Office hours in REC 422:
T 2 – 4 pm

Check the course web site for handouts & announcements:
<<http://web.ics.purdue.edu/~wggray/Teaching/His104/Index.htm>>

Podcasts of the lectures will be available via the Purdue iTunes U service. These are intended to assist in reviewing lecture material – not to replace class attendance altogether!

Lecture and Reading Schedule		Textbook	Sourcebook
Jan. 7	Intro: Europe in 1500		
Jan. 9	Europeans as explorers, conquerors & traders	347-371	Columbus (25-9)
Jan. 11	Renaissance humanism	372-397	Castiglione, Mirandola, Machiavelli, Erasmus, More (41-62)
Jan. 14	Luther's Reformation	398-420	Luther, Lutzer, Calvin x 2 (63-82)
Jan. 16	Reform in the Catholic world	420-425	Loyola, Council of Trent, Michiel (82-5, 92-8, 99-102)
Jan. 18	The age of religious wars	426-440	Grimmelshausen, Grotius, Bodin (111-16, 123-28, 132-38)
Jan. 21	NO CLASS		
Jan. 23	Countries without a king	440-455	Hobbes, Dutch West India (138-43, 173-81)
Jan. 25	Louis XIV, center of the universe	456-478	FIRST EXERCISE DUE
Jan. 28	Baroque culture		
Jan. 30	England's special path	478-491	Coffee House, Locke, Smith (145-66)
Feb. 1	Toward a scientific world view	492-515	Copernicus, Galileo, Bacon, Descartes (182-199, 203-7)
Feb. 4	The age of aristocracy	516-529	Voltaire, Hume, Montesquieu (221-38)
Feb. 6	What is Enlightenment?	529-543	Rousseau, Kant, Condorcet (244-66)
Feb. 8	The classical era		SECOND EXERCISE DUE

Feb. 11	France's revolution, 1789-1791	544-556	Young, Sieyès, Grievance Petitions, Declaration of Rights (272-87)
Feb. 13	The Republic and the Reign of Terror, 1792-1794	556-564	
Feb. 15	Napoleon – revolutionary conqueror	564-577	
Feb. 18	FIRST MIDTERM		
Feb. 20	Wheels are spinning: the potential of industrialization	578-601	Smith (301-8)
Feb. 22	Dark satanic mills: the problems of industrialization	601-611	Malthus, Berlin Factory, Engels, Saint-Simon, Owen (308-22)
Feb. 25	Putting a lid back on Europe	612-626	Herder, Fichte, Mazzini (372-80, 384-90)
Feb. 27	The mood of Romanticism	626-632	
Mar. 1	Liberal revolutions	633-653	People's Charter, de Tocqueville, Wilberforce, Fox, Mill (334-36, 344-60)
Mar. 4	Basics of Marxism		Marx & Engels (322-26)
Mar. 6	Uniting nations – by force	653-677	THIRD EXERCISE DUE
Mar. 8	The new imperialism	678-709	Fabri, Kipling, Lenin (409-12, 417-20)
Mar. 18	European nation-states in the age of mass politics	710-724	Renan, Bernstein, Lenin (391-94, 421-28)
Mar. 20	Urban life transformed		
Mar. 22	Fin-de-siècle Europe	724-745	Sorel, Drumont, Pankhurst, Galton, Herzl, Nietzsche, Freud (436-46, 451-67)
Mar. 25	The onset of war	746-754	

Mar. 27	SECOND MID-TERM		
Mar. 29	In the trenches	755-769	Brooke, Owen, Press Reports, Jünger, Brittain (468-82, 490-91)
Apr. 1	The Bolshevik revolution	769-781	Sukhanov, Petrograd Soviet, Kollontai (492-504)
Apr. 3	Europe's featherweight democracies	783-805	
Apr. 5	Modernism at its peak	805-813	
Apr. 8	The appeal of fascism		Mussolini (509-12) FOURTH EXERCISE DUE
Apr. 10	National socialism in Germany		Hitler, Klemperer (513-23)
Apr. 12	Trapped by the extremes: Europe in the 1930s	814-824	Stalinism, Orwell (504-9, 523-26)
Apr. 15	A second world war	824-849	Atlantic Charter, Kuribayashi, UN Charter, Bombing (530-34, 544-53)
Apr. 17	The Holocaust in history		Levi, Nuremberg Tribunal (534-44)
Apr. 19	<i>Another</i> clash of ideologies: the Cold War	850-862	Churchill, Gandhi, Fanon (554-57, 578-88)
Apr. 22	Europe divided	862-883	Khrushchev (557-61)
Apr. 24	Détente and social change	884-915	French students, Havel, Gorbachev, de Beauvoir (562-77)
Apr. 26	The post-Cold War world	916-943	Mazower, Sarkozy, Mbembe, Roy (588-98)
TBA	FINAL EXAM		