This course is designed for you to study and seriously consider some of the major epochs and turning points in history over the past 650-700 years. At Purdue, HIST 104 covers what many other universities call “Modern Western Civilization,” or “Western Traditions: 1500 to Present,” or some other such moniker. Since our course is dubbed “Introduction to the Modern World,” we will fully debate exactly what terms such as “Modern” and “World,” (and even “Introduction”) really mean. In preparing this course I have used a broad definition of the course title. Our central point of focus is the historical development of Western Civilization from the Renaissance to today. Western Civilization originated from ancient Mediterranean roots in Greece, Rome, the Middle East, and North Africa and incubated on the continent of Europe during the first 1,300 years AD before we pick up the story. Don’t worry if you have little grounding in Western Civilization during these previous time periods. We will fill in many gaps as we go along. Although our inquiry is from a European focal point, history never develops within a vacuum. Our course of study will also examine European connections, transactions, and encounters with civilizations throughout the world.

Course Requirements

Your grade will be based on **3 Exams** (25pts x 3 = 75%), **2 short 3-5pg Critical Review/Analysis Essays** (7.5pts x 2 = 15%), and **10 Participation Points** (10%). Attendance is mandatory and attendance will be checked randomly through in-class quizzes that will count toward your participation grade. The short essays will be based on either the two required additional texts, or an analysis of a set of selected primary source documents. We will discuss this requirement further as the deadlines draw near. The three exams are non-cumulative and will cover three different chronological eras.

**Required Texts:** There are many different ways of procuring (renting, buying, etc.) these books. Come talk to me if you have any questions.


In addition to the required texts, we will have additional readings and assignments posted to the Blackboard Learn page for this course. Check Blackboard Learn frequently.
Cheating / Plagiarism

Plagiarism refers to the reproduction of another's words or ideas without proper attribution. University Regulations contains further information on dishonesty. Plagiarism and other forms of academic dishonesty are serious offenses, and will be treated as such in this class. You are expected to produce your own work and to accurately cite all necessary materials. Cheating, plagiarism and other dishonest practices will be punished as harshly as Purdue University policies allow. Any instances of academic dishonesty will likely result in a grade of F for the course and notification of the Dean of Students Office.

Disclaimer

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

Day-by-day Course Schedule & Assignment Due Dates

M Jan. 7 – Introduction to Class, Syllabus, Books, etc…

W Jan 9 – Byzantines, Mongols, Ottomans, and the Medieval Antecedents of Early Modern Europe – The West in the World (WW) read front matter & Blackboard Learn Assignment

F Jan 11 – Italy and the Renaissance: Medieval or Early Modern? – WW, 308-323

M Jan 14 – Renaissance Art, Society, and Culture – WW, 323-341

W Jan 16 – The Reformation: Luther, Zwingli, Calvin…& Henry VIII? – WW, 342-360

F Jan 18 – The Counter-Reformation – WW, 360-366

M Jan. 21 – No Classes: MLK, Jr. Day


F Feb 1 – Peter the Great & the Ottoman/Habsburg/Hohenzollern Contest – WW, 427-433
M Feb 4 – The Scientific Enlightenment – WW, 450-462
W Feb 6 – The Enlightenment of the Philosophes – WW, 462-476
F Feb 8 – Candide, v-39
M Feb 11 – Candide, 41-98
W Feb 13 – Candide 98-135, be prepared to discuss questions on pg. 134
F Feb 15 – The 18th Century Book Trade & Discussion of the First Essay Assignment
M Feb 18 – Statebuilding, War, and Europe’s Role in the World during the 18th Century – WW, 478-503, First Paper Due
W Feb 20 – Late Enlightenment Culture and Society – WW, 503-513
F Feb 22 – Exam #1
M Feb 25 – The French Revolution – WW, 514-533
W Feb 27 – Europe under Napoléon Bonaparte – WW, 533-545
F Mar 1 – The Industrial Revolution’s Successes & Sorrows – WW, 546-563
M Mar 4 – Society and Urban Life in the 19th Century – WW, 564-575
W Mar 6 – The “-isms” of the 19th Century – WW, 576-591
F Mar 8 – Restorations, Revolts, and the Revolutions of 1848 – WW, 591-606
Mar. 11-13-15 – No Classes Spring Break
M Mar 18 – Nationalism & Statebuilding in the 19th Century – WW, 608-627
W Mar 20 – The Era of Mass Politics – WW, 628-640
M Mar 25 – Exam #2
W Mar 27 – Fin de siècle – WW 658-688
F Mar 29 – The World at War – WW, 690-705
M Apr 1 – The World at “Peace” – WW, 705-710; 720-732

F Apr 5 – *The Great Depression and the Rise of the Nazi State* – *WW*, 736-745

M Apr 8 – *From Anschluss to Annihilation* – *WW*, 746-761

W Apr 10 – *Breaking the Nazi State & the Legacy of War* – *WW*, 761-771

F Apr 12 – *The Cold War* – *WW*, 772-790

M Apr 15 – *Post-Colonialism & Western Culture, Society, & Politics in the 1960s & 70s* – *WW*, 790-809

W Apr 17 – *War & Peace during the Collapse of Communism* – *WW*, 810-822

F Apr 19 – *Safe Area Goražde*, introduction-149

M Apr 22 – *Safe Area Goražde*, 150-end

W Apr 24 – *Genocides of the late 20th Century & early 21st*

F Apr 26 – *Into the Great Wide Open*, *WW*, 818-825

**Week of Apr. 28th** – Final Exam & Final Paper Due

**Final Grade Scale**

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