

DR. STARKS
WESTERN CIVILIZATION - HISTORY 1013
FALL 2009

Overview of Core Courses in History:

History is the study of the past. As an academic discipline, History embraces every aspect of the human experience, including warfare, political institutions, the economy, religious practice, technology, and artistic endeavor. History asks students to analyze empire and revolution, genocide and humanism, enslavement and liberation, sexuality and gender and to do so from the perspective of both social scientific and humanistic inquiry. There is no field more diverse than History and none more individualistic. History can be as long ago as the excavated texts and artifacts of ancient China or as recent as mass-produced newspapers from the twentieth-century American West

Course Objectives:

This course is designed to introduce some of the most influential political, economic, social, and cultural issues of the last four centuries of western history. Starting with the ideas of the scientific revolution and enlightenment, students will be exposed to the philosophies, disciplines, and technologies that have come to make up our conception of modern, industrial, and western, as well as the political relationships that have defined Europe. The rise of the nation state, and its consequent meanings for people of Europe and the rest of the world, will be examined in all its benefits and hazards.

By the end of the semester, you will have an understanding of the following issues:

- The role played by diversity in shaping human experience
- The operation of large-scale forces responsible for causing change over time, such as politics, economics, technology, and religion
- The challenges mounted by an increasing reliance on technology
- The changes caused by the increasing interconnectedness of today's world

Required Texts:

Hunt, et. al. [The Making of the West: People's and Cultures: A Concise History](#)
Volume II: Since 1340.

Voltaire, *Candide* (Also available [online](#))

Achebe, *Things Fall Apart*

Spiegelman, *The Complete Maus*

Course Requirements:

Participation and quizzes:

This class will incorporate student discussion on an almost daily basis. Attendance, preparation, and participation will be weighed heavily in the grade. There will be four quizzes with dates noted in the syllabus -- one map quiz, the terms of which will be handed out in class, and three reading quizzes (one over each book). In addition, students are expected to attend lecture and participate in class discussion. Quizzes, attendance, and preparation will account for **20%** of the final grade.

Exams:

There will be two examinations. The first will account for **20%** of the final grade. The second examination will account for **30%** of the final grade. If the student will be unable to attend a test, they must inform the instructor BEFORE the class period and must schedule a make-up within two weeks' time of the examination date.

Paper:

Students will be expected to write one 3-5 page paper based on either the Voltaire or Achebe novel in answer to a question which will be distributed in lecture. The paper accounts for **30%** of the course grade and is due at the beginning of class on the day of discussion.

The paper must follow the five-paragraph format. Please consult the [paper writing guide](#) for further details.

Late papers will be penalized a full letter grade for every day late.

Plagiarism:

Stealing the words or thoughts of another and presenting them as your own (plagiarism) is a serious offense. Plagiarism will be dealt with severely and may result in a failing grade for the course.

Papers written on topics other than that assigned will not be accepted.

Grievance Policy:

If unhappy with a grade, a student must submit to the instructor approximately one page detailing why s/he feels the assignment was not graded correctly, along with the graded assignment, at which time the instructor will set up an appointment to discuss the grievance.

Students must submit grievances within one week of the assignment's return to the general class.

Inclement weather policy:

If Fayetteville Public Schools cancel class due to bad weather, this class will not meet.

Further notes:

Students with disabilities should contact the [Center for Students with Disabilities](#) to find out about their rights and their obligations.

The instructor reserves the right to change the syllabus. Any changes will be announced in class (they may not appear on this site) and are the responsibility of the student.

WEEKLY SCHEDULE

Note: Reading assignments for the day are presented below the lecture title of the date they are assigned.

Those items which are presented with READ in front of them are required for class.
All LINKS are for amusement only and not required for class.

WEEK ONE:

August 25: Traditional Society and the Wars of Religion
READ Hunt, Chapter 12
August 27: Constitutionalism
READ Hunt, Chapter 13

WEEK TWO:

September 1: Absolutism
LINKS [Walk a day in Louis XIV's heels.](#)

September 3: Age of Discovery

MAP QUIZ

LIST OF TERMS

WEEK THREE:

September 8: Scientific Revolution
READ Hunt, Chapter 14
LINKS [The indictment of Galileo](#)

September 10: Ideas of the Enlightenment
READ Hunt, Chapter 15

WEEK FOUR:

September 15: Enlightened Despotism in Europe and Russia
September 17: *Candide* Book Quiz and Discussion
READ Voltaire all

CANDIDE BOOK QUIZ

WEEK FIVE:

September 22: French Revolution
READ Hunt, Chapter 16
LINKS [Eye-witness accounts of the Revolution.](#) or Sing along with the [Marseillaise.](#)
September 24: Napoleon and the Congress of Vienna
LINKS [The Napoleon Internet Guide](#)

WEEK SIX:

September 29: The Industrial Revolution
READ Hunt, Chapter 17

October 1: Liberalism and Conservatism

WEEK SEVEN:

October 6: Romanticism, Nationalism, and 1848

October 8: Socialism and Communism

WEEK EIGHT:

October 13: TBA

October 15:

MIDTERM EXAMINATION

WEEK NINE:

October 20: Bismarck and the Responsive State

READ Hunt, Chapter 18, 19

October 22: Imperialism in Theory and Practice

WEEK TEN:

October 27: Achebe Book Quiz and Discussion

Achebe ALL

ACHEBE BOOK QUIZ

October 29: WWI

READ Hunt, Chapter 20

WEEK ELEVEN:

November 3: The Russian Revolution

November 5: The Rise of Hitler and Fall of Versailles

READ Hunt, Chapter 21

LINKS [Nazi Propaganda Archive](#)

WEEK TWELVE:

November 10: The Eastern Front

LINKS [Battle of Britain](#)

November 13: TBA

WEEK THIRTEEN:

November 17: The Holocaust

LINKS The [United States Holocaust Memorial Museum](#); The [Wannsee Conference](#)

November 19: *Maus* Book Quiz and Discussion

Spiegelman all

MAUS BOOK QUIZ

WEEK FOURTEEN:

November 24: Western Front

November 26:

FALL BREAK

WEEK FIFTEEN:

December 1: Post-War Europe and the Collapse of Empires

READ Hunt, Chapter 22

LINKS The Nuremberg War Crimes [Trials](#); The 1948 UN Resolution on [Genocide](#)

December 3: Cold War and the Collapse of Communism

READ Hunt, Chapter 23, 24

WEEK SIXTEEN:

December 8: TBA

December 9:

DEAD DAY