

WESTERN CIVILIZATION II HIST A102-602 – Fall 2011

Please read this syllabus carefully and let me know if you have any questions. Otherwise, I will assume you have read and understand the syllabus.

Dr. Gavorsky
ADM 142
MW 11:30am-12:45pm
CRN: 72276
E-Mail: afsg2@uaa.alaska.edu

Office: ADM 147B
Hours: TR 10:30am-12:00pm
W 4:00pm-5:00pm
or By Appointment
Phone: (907) 786-1690

This course is an introduction to Western (predominantly European) history from the seventeenth to the late twentieth century. The period was incredibly vibrant, with many of the conflicts of these centuries continuing to resonate within contemporary Western societies and, in some cases, far beyond. We will be examining some of the major themes and events of Western intellectual, political, economic, and social life over this period.

A major focus of this course will be the development of mass societies. Economic changes disrupted traditional lifestyles and forced large numbers of people into cities ill-prepared for them. Government officials in new bureaucracies became an increasingly common feature of everyday life, giving rise to debates of the rights of individuals in society. New means of communication—from letter-writing to newspapers to advertising—and spreading literacy opened new lands and new ideas to increasingly inquisitive populations. Forms of associational life from corporations to political movements to special interest societies utilized all these changes in promoting their goals to ever-larger groups of people—often with violent outcomes.

The three main goals of this course are:

1. To introduce the major events and chronological sequence of modern Western history.
2. To introduce the major issues and themes of this history, and the debates over them as seen through the eyes of the participants themselves and by historians seeking to understand the past. To this end, you will be reading a large number of primary works.
3. To introduce the basic techniques of the historical profession, especially those needed for analyzing both primary and secondary material. Most of these techniques will be useful to you in whatever major you are pursuing at UAA.

READINGS

All books are available at the UAA Bookstore.

It is the student's responsibility to acquire all textbooks.

TEXTS: Kishlansky *et al.*, *Civilization in the West, volume 2: since 1555*
(ISBN: 978-0-205-66474-0) [referred to below as “Kishlansky”]
Marx and Engels, *The Communist Manifesto* (ISBN: 978-0-553-21406-2)
Levi, Primo, *Survival in Auschwitz* (ISBN: 978-0-684-82680-6)
Bullock and Weinberg, *The Little Seagull Handbook* (ISBN: 978-0-393-91151-0)

BLACKBOARD: Most daily readings are available through the class Blackboard site; assume that any readings not listed above are available through Blackboard unless noted otherwise. You will want to have a copy (electronic or print) out for reference during class discussions. If you are not familiar with Blackboard, tutorials are available at <http://classes.uaa.alaska.edu/>.

COURSE REQUIREMENTS

1) This course requires the fulfillment of all class assignments and participation in class activities. Key to fulfilling these requirements is regular class attendance and turning in assignments on time.

You should expect 50-75 pages of reading per week. All readings should be completed by the day listed on the syllabus.

All overdue assignments will be penalized 1 letter grade per day (including weekends and holidays). It is your responsibility to contact me about any missed absences or conflicts.

No Incomplete grades will be given except under extremely unusual circumstances.

2) ***Cheating and plagiarism (including the usage of another's work without citation) will be handled with the greatest possible severity. Penalties can include a zero on the assignment, reference to the Student Affairs Office, and an automatic failure in the course.***

It is your responsibility to understand the provisions of the *Student Code of Conduct for Student Rights, Freedoms, and Responsibilities*, particularly the "Academic Honesty" section.

3) Active participation in class discussions is a requirement for this course. ***Please note that we will be discussing topics of a mature and/or controversial nature; I expect everyone to adhere to common standards of courtesy and decorum.*** For class discussions, you will need to come to class having read all assignments for that day and prepared to discuss the issues they raise; bring the readings and your notes to class with you. The textbook readings will provide background information for the day's topics, assist you in establishing a basic chronology, and help place the additional readings in their historical context.

4) Pop quizzes may be given throughout the semester. These will be drawn from the day's readings, and will be given at the beginning of class. **There will be no make-up quizzes.**

5) Writing is an important component of the course, and essential to an active life as a citizen. Three written papers are required. These will be graded on both content (accuracy, argument and evidence) and writing (grammar, syntax, clarity, structure and style).

All citations for this class will need to follow the Chicago format. The format is covered in *The Little Seagull Handbook*, pages 170-204

6) E-Mail Policy: I will be checking e-mail daily, but I am not necessarily online constantly. Please do not expect immediate replies. ***Note, however, I will not accept papers through e-mail or file attachment.*** There will also be a Blackboard site where I will be posting items of interest to the entire class (including information on extra-credit opportunities). You will want to check Blackboard a few times over the course of a week.

7) Extra-Credit: Throughout the semester, there might be some talks of interest to our class, which will be available as extra credit. Events and instructions will be posted on Blackboard.

GRADING

- CLASS PARTICIPATION/QUIZZES 15%
 - MAP TEST 10% (Given 12 September)
 - ACADEMIC INTEGRITY TUTORIAL 5% (Complete by 19 September)
 - SCAVENGER HUNT ASSIGNMENT 20% (Due 28 September)
 - SHORT ESSAY (5-6 pages) 20% (Due 31 October)
 - FINAL PAPER (5-6 pages) 30% (Due 14 December)
- 100%

GRADE SCALE: A = 90-100; B = 80-89; C = 70-79; D = 60-69; F = 59 - lower

WEEKLY CALENDAR

Week 1: Seventeenth Century Crises

Monday, 29 Aug. Course Introduction

Wednesday, 31 Aug. Kishlansky, chap. 14 (pgs. 335-342 only) and chap. 16

Week 2: Absolutism

Monday, 5 Sep. **LABOR DAY: No Classes**

Wednesday, 7 Sep. Hobbes, selections from *Leviathan*

Week 3: Constitutionalism and the Rise of Property

Monday, 12 Sep. **MAP QUIZ** (beginning of class)
Locke, selections from *Second Treatise Concerning Government*

Wednesday, 14 Sep. Kishlansky, chaps. 17 and 18

Week 4: Eighteenth-Century Life: The Impact of the Enlightenment

Monday, 19 Sep. **Academic Integrity Tutorial due at beginning of class**
LIBRARY INSTRUCTION SESSION
Class Meets in Library 309

Wednesday, 21 Sep. Kishlansky, chaps. 15 and 19

Week 5: The Coming of the French Revolution

Monday, 26 Sep. Kant, "What is Enlightenment?"
Rousseau, selections from *The Social Contract*

Wednesday, 28 Sep. **SCAVENGER HUNT DUE AT BEGINNING OF CLASS**
Kishlansky, chap. 20 (paged 449-453 only)

Week 6: The French Revolution and Napoleon

Monday, 3 Oct. Kishlansky, chap. 20 (remainder)
Burke, selection from *Considerations on the Revolution in France*

Wednesday, 5 Oct. Robespierre, “Report on Political Morality”

Week 7: New Ideologies and New Economies

Monday, 10 Oct. Kishlansky, chaps. 21 & 22

Wednesday, 12 Oct. Smith, selections from *The Wealth of Nations*
“Poverty Knock” (song and lyrics)

Week 8: New Moralities: Marxism

Monday, 17 Oct. Marx and Engels, *The Communist Manifesto* (entire)

Wednesday, 19 Oct. Marx and Engels (continued)
Kishlansky, chap. 23

Week 9: New Communities: Nationalism

Monday, 24 Oct. Kishlansky, chap. 24

Wednesday, 26 Oct. Mazzini, “Duties to Country”
Pearson, selections from *National Life from the Standpoint of Science*

Week 10: European Civilization and the World

Monday, 31 Oct. **SHORT PAPER # 1 DUE AT BEGINNING OF CLASS**
Kishlansky, chap. 25

Wednesday, 1 Nov. George Orwell, “Shooting an Elephant”

Week 11: The Great War and Russian Revolutions

Monday, 7 Nov. Kishlansky, chap. 26

Wednesday, 9 Nov. Kishlansky, chap. 27 (pages 611-617 only)
Lenin, selections from *What is to Be Done?*

Week 12: Interwar Crises and the Questioning of Belief

Monday, 14 Nov. Kishlansky, chap. 27
John Maynard Keynes, selections from *The Economic Consequences of the Peace*

Wednesday, 16 Nov. Arthur Koestler, selections from *The God That Failed*
Mussolini, selections from *Fascist Doctrine*

Week 13: The Second World War

Monday, 21 Nov. Kishlansky, chap. 28
Hitler, selections from *Mein Kampf*

Wednesday, 23 Nov. **THANKSGIVING HOLIDAY: No Class**

Week 14: Totalitarianism and its Victims

Monday, 28 Nov. Primo Levi, *Survival in Auschwitz*, 22-55 (“On the Bottom,”
“Initiation,” and “Ka-Be”) and 65-76 (“The Work” and “A
Good Day”)

Wednesday, 30 Nov. Levi, *Survival in Auschwitz*, 77-100 (“This Side of Good and
Evil”); 151-173 (“The Story of Ten Days”)

Week 15: Brave New Worlds?

Monday, 5 Dec. Kishlansky, chap. 29
Churchill, “Speech at Fulton, MO”
Khrushchev, selections from Speech at the XXth Party Congress

Wednesday, 7 Dec. Kishlansky, chap. 30

***FINAL PAPER DUE AT 12:45pm WEDNESDAY, 14 DECEMBER 2011 IN ADM 147B
(end of final exam period for this class)***