

HIST 2312

Social Sciences Department

Division of Arts and Sciences

South Plains College

Reese Center Campus

Spring 2020

Sanford B. Hunt

Common Course Syllabus  
History 2312: Survey of Western Civilization from 1600

Department: Social Sciences  
 Discipline: History  
 Course Number: HISTORY 2312  
 Course Title: Western Civilization to 1600  
 Credit: 3 Lecture, 0 Lab  
 Satisfies a core curriculum requirement? Yes.  
 Prerequisites: TSI compliance in Reading  
 Available Formats: Conventional  
 Campus: Levelland and Reese  
 Textbook: Varies according to instructor.  
 Course Specific Instructions: Each instructor will attach his/her course with specific instructions.

Course Description: This course is a survey of the history of Western Civilization from the later stages of the Age of Discovery through the Industrial Revolutions and Colonial/Imperial Era and the Age of Petroleum to the advent of modern Globalism. Primary emphasis is placed on the development of human political, religious and social institutions that are the components of civilizations.

Course Purpose: To acquaint students with the efforts of humanity to accommodate to an increasingly complex global network of diverse cultures and civilizations and to further develop critical thinking in interrelating the past to the present. The cultural literacy of the student will also be enhanced.

Course Requirements: To maximize a student's potential to complete this course, he/she should attend all class meetings, complete all homework assignments and examinations in a timely manner, and complete all other projects or papers as assigned in the instructor's specific instructions.

Course Evaluation: See the instructor's course information sheet for specific items used in evaluating student performance.

Attendance Policy: Whenever absences become excessive and in the instructor's opinion, minimum course objectives cannot be met due to absences, the student will be withdrawn from the course. Each instructor will have additional information about attendance on his/her course information sheet.  
 Student Learning Outcomes:

Students who have completed this course will be expected to:

- Demonstrate knowledge and understanding of major issues in the history of Western Civilization.
- Demonstrate knowledge and understanding of cause and effect of major events of the past and examine the interrelation of external and internal forces that shape Western Civilization.
- Understand the nature of history as a fundamental subject in the study of humanity.
- Evaluate the diversity of interpretations of the past and the quality of evidence for that interpretation.
- Tolerate ambiguity in explanations of the past and realize that historical explanations will often be complex and tentative.
- Apply historical knowledge with caution to current events, seeing common threads of development of the past with the present.

Through course assignments, papers, activities, and assessments, students will:

- Demonstrate the ability to read and write clearly and concisely,
- Value diversity and differences in people,
- Explore relationships of ideas and see their similarities and differences,
- Gain a basic understanding of the career fields related in the major,
- Assimilate and synthesize information,
- Integrate ideas across the curricula, and
- Interrelate the past to the present.

HIST 2322.200

Western Civilizations II

Classroom: RC321 (Reese Campus) Time: 4:00-5:15 PM, Monday & Wednesday  
 Instructor: S. B. Hunt Contact: shunt@southplainscollege.edu  
 Office hours: 1:45-3:45 PM Monday & Wednesday & 11:00-12:00 Noon Friday or by appointment.

Required Texts & Materials: ***Cultures of the West: A History*** (vol.2). Clifford R. Backman. New York: Oxford University Press, 2019. [ISBN-10: 0190070439; ISBN-13: 9780190070434]

This course will focus on the development of political entities (nation-states), the development of political relationships within those entities as well as the relationships between those entities ranging from diplomacy to war in competition for the economic and natural resources of the world. Although it is focuses on the so-called “Western World,” it will include, as it must for the sake of completeness, civilizations well beyond that Western World.

### **Exam Structure and Assessment Policy (Grading):**

**Exams (60%):** There will be three major exams during the semester, two unit exams and a final. These will cover materials in the lectures and readings. Each will consist of essay or id questions and 20-40 multiple choice questions. Also, there may be a Special Assignment (something like a three-paragraph essay question) assigned in the class with an equal grade value to an examination. Your exam average will account for 60% of your overall grade.

**Reading quizzes and “in-class quizzes” (20%):** Students will be tested weekly on assigned readings and current class materials. Readings assigned in the class schedule must be completed by the indicated class. The average of the quiz scores will constitute 20% of your final grade.

**Book analysis (15%)** A roughly 5-page analysis of a book approved by the professor on a subject with relevance to the subject matter of the course.

**Class Participation (5%):** This class is one in which the student is required to **think** about the concepts being discussed and to participate in discussions. Mere presence in the classroom in no way guarantees a passing grade.

Grade Scale: The grade scale will be as follows: 90-100=A; 80-89=B; 70-79=C; 60-69=D; 59 or below = F. Grades will be assessed on the following:

Quiz Average:	20%	(Overall quiz average: scheduled & spot quizzes et al)
Exams:	60%	
Analytical Essay:	15%	
Class Participation:	5%	

**Attendance:** Regular attendance is mandatory; attendance will be taken. It is in **your best interest** to attend class regularly and on time. Material that will be covered in class goes well beyond the assigned reading, i.e. many questions that will be on exams come exclusively from lectures rather than the book. If you DO miss a class, **you and you alone.** A student who has more than 5 absences from class will be dropped without further notice with either a “no grade” or “failing grade,” depending on what grade that student had achieved in the class thus far. Students who have approved absences for athletic or other university sponsored activities should provide a schedule within the first two weeks.

**Student Performance:** You must maintain your standards throughout the duration of the semester. There will be no extra credit and there will be little time for playing “catch-up.” **If you fail four (4) quizzes, you will be dropped from the class with a failing grade with no further warning.** If you fail to submit required work on time, you may also be dropped from the class at the discretion of the instructor.

**ANALYTICAL PAPERS:** Some history classes have long essay questions on their exams; some require formal term papers. This class combines a minimal degree of independent study, reading, and analysis into a relatively painless exercise that I call “analytical essays.” While you **do** have to read a book, **you** choose the book, there is much less time wasted on deciding what to write, and there is a greater opportunity to get help, revise and earn an excellent grade. Directions and a more detailed explanation of the essay can be found on Blackboard in the course

**The analytical paper will constitute 15% of your overall grade for this course.**

Book selection deadline: 22 January (request approval no later than 11:30 PM)  
Final submission deadline: 9 April (no later than 11:30 PM)

**SCHEDULE OF CLASSES:**

I will attempt to adhere closely to the following class schedule, but it is **subject to modification**. Note that the “Text” column references are just that: references. They are not assignments – just guides. If you keep current in the text with topics that are being covered during lectures, you will get much more out of the lectures. **For the best results, look them over before the week begins!**

Week	Lectures & Readings	Assignments	Text
18 Jan	The World in 1500	Introduction, Vocabulary & Maps	
25 Jan	<b>MLK</b> Families & Dynasties in control. Christian dissent	Book adoption deadline: 22 Jan	409-452
1 Feb	Development of the body politique & the Emergence of an Atlantic World	Unit Readings	453-578
8 Feb	Enlightenment versus War & Colonial Empire <b>Exam I [10 Feb]</b>	Unit Readings	579-619
15 Feb	Napoleon to The Post-Napoleonic World; Concepts of balance & citizenship	Unit Readings	621-703
22 Feb		Unit Readings	788-913
1 Mar	End of an Empire; growth of a democracy; imperialism versus colonialism	Unit Readings	
8 Mar	19 <sup>th</sup> Century Revolutions; Birth of Two “Old” Nations <b>Exam II (10 March)</b>	Unit Readings	
15 Mar	<b>SPRING BREAK</b>		
22 Mar	World War I and the Interbellum	Unit Readings	
29 Mar	World War II	Unit Readings	
5 Apr	From Colonies to Economic Hegemonies		
12 Apr	Cold War	Submission of analytical essay: 12 April	
19 Apr	<b>Good Friday</b>		
26 Apr	End of the Cold War; The New Globalism Non-State Global War	Unit Readings	
3 May			
10 May	<b>Final Exam Week</b>		

## SPECIAL CONSIDERATIONS

**Student Absence for Observation of Religious Holy Days:** A student who is absent from classes for the observation of a religious holy day shall be allowed to take an examination or complete an assignment scheduled for that day within a reasonable time after the absence **if, not later than the fifteenth day after the first day of the semester, the student had notified the instructor of each scheduled class that the student would be absent for a religious holy day.**

**Campus Concealed Carry - Texas Senate Bill - 11 (Government Code 411.2031, et al.)** authorizes the carrying of a concealed handgun in South Plains College buildings only by persons who have been issued and are in possession of a Texas License to Carry a Handgun. Qualified law enforcement officers or those who are otherwise authorized to carry a concealed handgun in the State of Texas are also permitted to do so. Pursuant to Penal Code (PC) 46.035 and South Plains College policy, license holders may not carry a concealed handgun in restricted locations. For a list of locations, please refer to the SPC policy at: [http://www.southplainscollege.edu/human\\_resources/policy\\_procedure/hhc.php](http://www.southplainscollege.edu/human_resources/policy_procedure/hhc.php) Pursuant to PC 46.035, the open carrying of handguns is prohibited on all South Plains College campuses. Report violations to the College Police Department at 806-716-2396 or 9-1-1.

**Diversity Statement:** In this class, the instructor will establish and support an environment that values and nurtures individual and group differences and encourages engagement and interaction. Understanding and respecting multiple experiences and perspectives will serve to challenge and stimulate all of us to learn about others, about the larger world and about ourselves. By promoting diversity and intellectual exchange, we will not only mirror society as it is, but also model society as it should and can be.

**Title IX Pregnancy Accommodations:** If you are pregnant, or have given birth within six months, Under Title IX you have a right to reasonable accommodations to help continue your education. To [activate](#) accommodations you must submit a Title IX pregnancy accommodations request, along with specific medical documentation, to the Director of Health and Wellness. Once approved, notification will be sent to the student and instructors. It is the student's responsibility to work with the instructor to arrange accommodations. Contact the Director of Health and Wellness at 806-716-2362 or [email cgilster@southplainscollege.edu](mailto:cgilster@southplainscollege.edu) for assistance.

**Americans with Disabilities Act:** Students with disabilities, including but not limited to physical, psychiatric, or learning disabilities, who wish to request accommodations in this class should notify the Disability Services Office early in the semester so that the appropriate arrangements may be made. In accordance with federal law, a student requesting accommodations must provide acceptable documentation of his/her disability to the Disability Services Office. For more information, call or visit the Disability Services Office at Levelland (Student Health & Wellness Office) 806-716-2577, Reese Center (Building 8) 806-716-4675, or Plainview Center (Main Office) 806-716-4302 or 806-296-9611.

You are encouraged to communicate directly with me in person or via the Blackboard message center (use the e-mail address provided on Page 2 above only in an emergency). **If you send an e-mail, put your name and class number in the subject line.**