

Course Syllabus

World Civilizations II HIS K122

Thursdays 6:30 – 9:15 PM

Room 202

Three Rivers Community College

Norwich, CT 06360

Instructor: Richard Seckla

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Office: Adjunct Office

Office Hours:

Thursday: 5:00 – 6:30PM

Or by appointment

Fall 2006

Course Description:

This course is a survey of the evolution of world societies from the year 1500 to the present day, with emphasis given to the following: technological developments; major institutions; the development of intellectual currents; the formation of empires and nation states; and the overall political, social, and economic framework that existed in these societies during this period. The course will particularly focus on the issues that have an immediate relevancy on the modern world.

Course Objectives:

The overall purpose of this course is to help students gain a solid foundation in understanding the evolution of modern societies. A secondary, yet equally important, goal is the development of a methodology in order to examine evidence in order to convey information in a clear and concise manner (this is more commonly known as critical thinking). Finally, I want students to be active participants in the course and in class discussions. I encourage you to ask questions and take the initiative to delve deeper into topics. Learning is a two-way process and I can learn as much from you as you can from me; I look for students to be enthusiastically engaged with the subject matter.

Required Text:

Bentley, Jerry and Herbert Ziegler. *Traditions and Encounters: A Global Perspective on the Past, Volume II: From 1500 to the Present*. Third Edition, 2006.

Class Schedule:

Week	Class Content	Text Reading
Week 1 August 31	No Class	
Week 2 September 7	Introduction to the course. Transformation of Europe	Chapter 24
Week 3 September 14	Encounters and Traditions The Americas and Oceania	Chapter 23 Chapter 25
Week 4 September 21	East Asia The Islamic Empires Preliminary Paper Proposals Due	Chapter 27 Chapter 28
Week 5 September 28	Africa and the Atlantic World Exam #1	Chapter 26
Week 6 October 5	The Making of Industrial Society Paper # 1 Due	Chapter 30
Week 7 October 12	Revolutions and National States in the Atlantic World Final Paper Proposals Due	Chapter 29
Week 8 October 19	Societies at the Crossroads Building of Global Empires	Chapter 32 Chapter 33
Week 9 October 26	Exam # 2 The Great War: The World in Upheaval	Chapter 34
Week 10 November 2	An Age of Anxiety Nationalism and Political Identities	Chapter 35 Chapter 36

Week 11 November 9	World War II Paper #2 Due	Chapter 37
Week 12 November 16	The Bipolar World The End of Empire	Chapter 38 Chapter 39
Week 13 November 23	No Class Happy Thanksgiving	
Week 14 November 30	A World Without Borders Paper # 3 Due	Chapter 40
Week 15 December 7	Exam #3 Research Papers Due	

Method of Evaluation:

This course will focus heavily on reading, writing, and research, and the assignments will be reflective of that.

Exams-Roughly at the end of the three units of material, an in-class exam will be given that will test your critical thinking skills. The exams will consist of identification questions and essays. Each exam will be worth 10% of your grade for an overall total of 30%.

Short Papers - Three short research and writing assignments (3-4 pages each) that are designed to enhance your understanding of the material are scheduled. You only need to complete two of them- your choice of which two. Topics will be available two weeks in advance. They will be taken from material learned in class, as well as other readings, writings, etc. The combined writing assignments will be worth 30% of your overall grade.

Classroom Participation and Preparation – This consists of how much your presence in the class enriches the learning environment. Are you involved in discussions about readings and material? Do you ask questions in order to get a deeper understanding of the subject matter? This component is worth 10% of your final grade.

Research Paper – By the end of the semester, you will be required to complete an 8-10 page research paper about an important topic, person or event covered during this course. The topic of the paper will be of your choosing, however, all topics need to be approved by me first. Start thinking about this early in the semester! In order to keep you on track, I will require that a preliminary proposal be submitted no later than the 4th week of class- September 21 and a final proposal with bibliography for your paper be submitted for approval no later than the 7th week of class-October 12. The research paper will be due on the last day of class, December 7. This component will be worth 30% of your final grade.

All assigned papers must be typed and double- spaced. Use a 12- point font, preferably Times New Roman. If you have any trouble with writing, I urge you to visit the writing center in room 106 at Mohegan and TASC at the library at both campuses. They are resources that you should use. Furthermore, the following web site will help answer many, if not all of your questions on writing:

http://www.trcc.comnet.edu/Ed_Resources/writing_center/

Grading System:

A = 94-100	C = 74-77
A- = 90-93	C- = 70-73
B+ = 88-89	D+ = 68-69
B = 84-87	D = 64-67
B- = 80-83	D- = 60-63
C+ = 78-79	F = Below 60

Late Assignments/Make-Up Exams:

If papers are not turned in on the due date, your grade will be lowered for each day in which it is not turned in. Late papers must be emailed. No extension will be given on the final research paper.

A first missed exam must be made up prior to the following class. A second missed exam will be penalized severely.

Attendance:

Regular attendance is essential for success in the course and is expected. Within the College's guidelines and with permission, occasional absences for compelling reasons will be granted. I take attendance at the beginning of each class, and it goes without saying that habitual absences or lateness will negatively affect your individual contribution grade.

College Withdrawal Policy:

A student who finds it necessary to discontinue a course **MUST** complete a withdrawal form obtained from the Registrar's Office. Students may withdraw from class anytime during the first ten weeks of the semester without being in good standing or obtaining prior permission of the instructor. After that period, a student wishing to withdraw must obtain written authorization of the instructor to receive a "W" grade for the course. Students who fail to properly withdraw and cease coming to class, will be assigned an "F" for the course. Eligibility for refund of tuition is based upon date of withdrawal when received by the registrar. Verbal withdrawals will not be accepted.

Learning Disabilities Statement:

If you are a student with a disability and believe you will need accommodations for this class, it is your responsibility to contact the Disabilities Counseling Services at 383-5240. To avoid any delay in the receipt of accommodations, you should contact the counselor as soon as possible. Please note that I cannot provide accommodations based upon disability until I have received an accommodation letter from the Disabilities Counselor. Your cooperation is appreciated.

Cell Phones / Pagers:

Students are notified that cellular phones and beepers are allowed in class or in the Learning Resource Center only if they turned off or in the silent mode. Under no circumstances are phones to be answered in class. When there are extenuating circumstances that require that a student be available by phone or beeper, the student should speak to the instructor prior to class, so that together they can arrive at an agreement.

Academic Dishonesty:

Plagiarism in any form is a major breach of academic standards. Any form of cheating or plagiarism will be reported to the college immediately and may result in an “F” for the assignment or an “F” for the entire course. Remember, you can cite other sources or use quotations from other writers in your papers as long as you use the proper citation – in other words, a footnote.

Civility in the Classroom:

The classroom is a place of learning. In this setting, all ideas and opinions are to be heard and respected, even if you disagree with what is said. Anyone who upsets this

environment, or who disrespects anyone in the class, will not be tolerated. Lively, insightful, and considerate interaction is encouraged – so let's enjoy!