

# World Civilization 122

## Instructor Information:

Name: Professor J. Michael Green

Email: worldcivilization@lycos.com (this is the best way to communicate with me)

Office Hours: by arrangement. (I can always make time around most schedules)

Meeting Time: Mondays 6:30-9:15 (we will utilize most of this allotted time with occasional breaks)

## Course Description/Objectives:

This course is a survey of world cultures that have contributed importantly to the development of Western and Eastern thought. Consideration is given to institutions and ideas from prehistoric times through the evolution of ancient civilizations to the formation of empires and modern nation states. Major economic, political, and social forces are examined for their influence upon modern society. This course is a continuation of the survey of world cultures (Early World Civilizations) from the Age of Discovery to the present. **Prerequisite:** **Placement test score indicating ENG\* K101 or completion of ENG\* K100 with a "C" grade or better.**

## Required Text:

Bentley, Jerry H & Herbert T. Ziegler. Traditions & Encounters: Vol II.

## Course Objectives & Expected Outcomes:

- Demonstrate a knowledge of the social sciences and their methods.
- Observe data accurately.
- Analyze and organize facts and ideas
- Draw reasonable inferences from facts and ideas.
- Write and speak clearly in standard American English
- Receive and comprehend written and oral information.
- Collect and organize information about a topic.
- Recognize ethical issues, both personal and public.

## Other (Course-Specific) Objectives:

- To develop an appreciation of world civilization through the analysis of its origins in the ancient world, its growth during the middle ages, and its development through the

Renaissance to the modern era.

- Acquire an appreciation of the contributions of other civilizations to the West and vice versa. This will include the influence of the European, Asian, South/Central America and African nations.
- To gain an understanding of how major institutions of various civilizations developed, grew and were incorporated into the different histories and cultures of world peoples.

## Instructional Methodology:

Writing is a key element in the development of critical thinking and communication skills. An old Chinese proverb states: *If you cannot say what you mean, you will never mean what you say.* This is a very difficult motto to attain. However, it will serve you

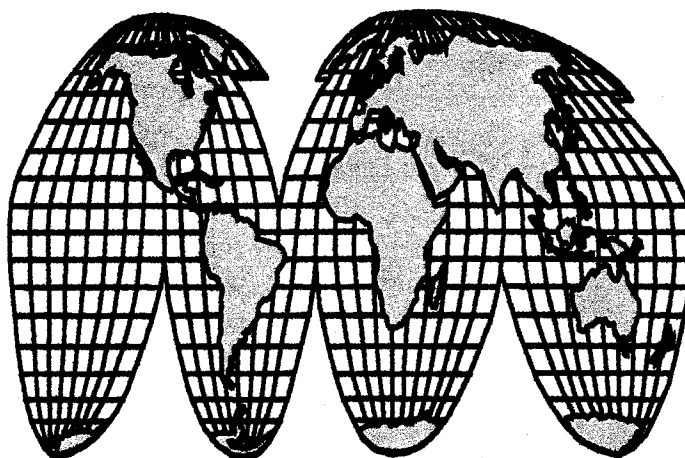
in whatever occupation you pursue. In this class, I assign essay exams and a written paper. Much of the class will be a lecture/discussion format using PowerPoint type visualizations. to expand on the lecture format and encourage participation, I plan to set aside time for discussing lecture/text topics during each session. It is expected that during discussion periods students will act with decorum and civility. History is full of controversial topics and points of view. All points of view will be treated with civility by students in this class. Those unable to do so will be asked to leave. Enthusiastic discussion is encouraged. However, reckless disregard of historical facts will be scrutinized. I welcome questions throughout the lecture, chances are if you have a question somebody else has a similar question. The only dumb question is the one never asked.

## Expected Student Outcomes:

Three Rivers Community College is interested in assessing student outcomes. Besides using course grades, an analysis will periodically be conducted on questions that are specific to each test and are related to some of the more specific objectives of the course. Each student will be asked to fill out one or more questionnaires during the semester to help in this assessment. These assessments are designed to help the teaching-learning process.

## Writing Assignments (Writing Across the Curriculum Strategy):

During the course of the semester, students will write a 4-6 page paper on a topic that is confined to the historical period of the course (1450-1900). The paper will have 1-inch top, bottom, left and right margins. In addition, the page count does not include the required bibliography. Citing sources is an absolute necessity. To ensure that sources are cited correctly, students may write their papers according to the MLA style. Those who have taken the prerequisite English class should know how to use this method. However, if students are interested in the social sciences, they may use the method that most social scientists and historians approve as explained in The Chicago Manual of Style. This text is found online and in the library in the reference section. In addition, the MLA style is also featured in the library by a text authored by Diane Hacker. Students will use a Times or Courier font style and the size should be no larger than 12pt. It is important to remember that you need to change the margins before you start typing in Microsoft Word, as the default settings for the left and right margin are 1.25 inches. Thus, students will need to change these to obtain the correct margin settings. **I will mark down 25 points for improper margins.**



student with the approval of the instructor. Thus, students will at the assigned date turn in a typed 1 page paper describing their topic. Students will type their topic in 2-4 sentences and a short list of sources to be used. Students should have at least four credible sources. Upon conference with the instructor, the topic will be accepted when the instructor initials the topic paper and hands it back to the students. The student will then write the paper and turn in the initialed approval paper with the finished paper. No paper will be accepted without the initialed approval sheet attached.

During the course of the semester, the student will also write a 2-3 page book review on a historical work. It is advised that students read a work that could be used in writing their larger course paper. Because the work is a book review and not a book report, it is expected that the writer will scrutinize the work they have read rather than summarize it.

The large 4-6 page paper must be submitted in both printed form and on a floppy disk. Students should use Microsoft Word or WordPerfect. If any other processor is used please save the paper on the disk as a word document. Most programs can do this. Please make sure that your name is on both the paper and the disk. All papers will be submitted

to MyDropbox.com. This is to ensure that there are no doubts about the authorship of the paper.

**Plagiarism or cheating** will not be tolerated. Plagiarism is attributing someone's work or ideas as your own, whether it is a published or unpublished work. This is intellectual theft that includes the work of fellow classmates, an author of a book, or website. The **LIGHTEST** penalty for dishonesty will involve failing the assignment in question. The maximum penalty could include failure of the course and expulsion from the college. My policy for plagiarism is simple: **If you are caught you fail the class. This is a zero tolerance policy.**

The topic for the paper will be chosen by the

Examinations:

The class will have a midterm and a final examination. The exams will be given over the material covered in the preceding lectures and assigned course material. The exam will be a take home exam. There will be 3-4 questions that will be asked with a choice of 2 questions that students must answer. The midterm and final exams are designed to synthesize the materials from the book and from lectures.

Book Review & Topic:

Be aware of dates on the schedule below. On February 11, 2008, students will turn in a 1 page typed paragraph of their chosen topic of world history covering the dates of 1450-1900 and the title and author of their book for their book review. Keep in

Tentative Schedule of Weekly Reading and Class Assignments. It is expected that students will have read the Material *before* arriving to class.

January 28	Items due (Jan 28. Intro lecture)	Weekly Reading Assignment
February 4		Chapter 23
February 11	Web Assignment due: Topic for paper due	Chapter 24
February 18		Chapter 25
February 25		Chapter 26
March 3	Book Review Due. Midterm passed out.	Chapter 27 (Midterm covers up to this point)
March 10	Midterm Exam Due	Chapter 28
March 17-23	Spring Break (No Class)	
March 24		Chapter 29
March 31		Chapter 30
April 7		Chapter 31
April 14		Chapter 32
April 21		Chapter 33
April 28		Chapter 34
May 5	Final Exam Passed Out, Paper Due	Chapter 35
May 12	Final Exam Due	

mind a book review is not the same as a book report. The focus of the book review is on the content of the work. For example, did the author cite his/her sources properly; are there footnotes and proper citations; does the author rely on primary or secondary sources for their assumptions. Students are allowed to use their opinions as long as their statements are justified.

For the large 4-6 page paper: Students have a wide range of topics and suggestions for their topics. The sources for their paper will be, primarily, secondary and primary sources. A discussion of primary and secondary sources

will ensue in class. The paper should have no fewer than 4 sources (1 of which should be primary source). If any question arises about sources please contact the instructor via email or before/after a class. Furthermore, the rule for a well researched paper in history will include proper citations. There should be an average of 2 citations per page. (ex: if you have a 6 page paper you should have around 12 citations or footnotes)

As it has been stated, students are confined for their topics to the events between 1450-1900. Suggestions for writing a paper are vast. The choices for this assignment are limitless. Hence, the student may feel overwhelmed. Start by listing your interests. Afterwards, think of some aspect of history that may fit within your interests. For example: Business majors may be interested in the business practices of the early Renaissance; scientists may be interested in the limits of scientific exploration during the Reformation; medical students may be interested in the life of Louis Pasteur and his effect upon the medical profession; If one wishes to study a major event, those are also extensive. If you are having a problem please contact the professor for a discussion of suggestions.

### Civility in the Classroom

Ideally a classroom is a place of learning. In an ideal setting all opinions are heard and respected, although you may disagree. In this class we want to create as safe an environment to learn as possible. To achieve this everyone must be willing to follow guidelines established by the class. Anybody diverging from these guidelines, or disrespecting anyone in the class, will not be tolerated.

### College Withdrawal Policy

A student who finds it necessary to discontinue a course **MUST** complete a withdrawal form obtained from the Registrars 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 discontinue coming to class, will be assigned an "F" grade. 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.

## **Disclaimer**

**This syllabus is intended to be a guideline for successful completion of the class. It is not intended to be a contract either between the instructor and the student or Three Rivers Community College and the students. All materials, due dates, and assignments are subject to change on the part of the instructor.**

Grading Criteria: In this class grading is performed by assigning points.

<u><b>Assignment</b></u>	<u><b>Points</b></u>
1. Midterm Exam	250
2. Final Exam	350
3. Course Paper	300
4 Class Assignments/ Participation (Web Assianment. Book Review)	400
Total Points	1300