

Course Outline

World Civilizations II (HIS K122)

Monday, Wednesday, and Friday 10:00 – 10:50

Three Rivers Community College

Norwich, CT 06360

Instructor: Peter Patsouris

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Office Hours:

Monday, Wednesday, and Friday: 11:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m. - Tuesday and Thursday: 10-

11; 12:30 – 2:00

Or by appointment

Spring 2009

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 time 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 and question 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. Interrupting me in order to ask questions and taking the initiative to delve deeper into topics is very much encouraged. I can learn as much from you as you can from me, and I look for students to be enthusiastically engaged with the subject matter.

Required Texts:

Bentley, Jerry and Ziegler, Herbert, Traditions and Encounters: A Global Perspective on the Past, Volume II: From 1500 to the Present. Fourth Edition, 2008

Spiegelman, Art. Maus: A Survivor's Tale: My Father Bleeds History/Here My Troubles Began

Tentative Schedule:

<u>Dates</u>	<u>Class Content</u>	<u>Text Reading</u>
January 21 st and 23 rd	Intro to Course; Encounters and Traditions	Chapter 23
January 26 th , 28 th , and 30 th – Note: no class on the 30th	The Transformation of Europe	Chapter 24
February 2 nd , 4 th , 8 th	The Transformation of Europe (cont.) The Americas and Oceania	Chapters 24 and 25
February 9 th , 11 th , and 13th	The Americas and Oceania (cont.); Africa and the Atlantic World	Chapters 25 and 26
February 16 th , 18 th , and 20 th – Note: No class on the 16 th : President's Day observed	Africa and the Atlantic World (cont.)	Chapter 26
February 23 rd , 25 th , and 27th – Note: no class on the 27 th	Africa and the Atlantic World (cont.) East Asia	Chapters 26 and 27
March 2 nd , 4 th , and 6th	East Asia (cont); The Islamic Empires; The Making of Industrial Societies	Chapters 27, 28, and 30
March 9 th , 11 th , and 13th	Revolutions and National States in the Atlantic World; Individual Conferences	Chapter 29

March 16 th , 18 th , and 20 th – Note: Spring Break	None	None
March 23 rd , 25 th , and 27 th ; Note – Final topic proposals due this week	Revolutions and National States in the Atlantic World (cont);	Chapter 29
March 30 th , April 1 st , April 3 rd	Societies in the Crossroads	Chapter 32
April 6 th , 8 th , and 10 th - Note – No class on the 10 th (Spring Recess)	The Building of Global Empires	Chapter 33
April 13 th , 15 th , and 17 th	The Building of Global Empires (cont); The Great War	Chapters 33 and 34
April 20 th , 22 nd , and 24 th	The Great War; The Rise of Fascism	Chapters 34 and 35
April 27 th , 29 th , and May 1 st	The Rise of Fascism (cont.); Discussion of Maus	Chapter 35
May 4 th , 6 th , and 8 th – Note: Final Projects due on the 8 th	Make up Class (if necessary); In-class Presentations	None
May 11 th , 13 th , and 15 th	In-class Presentations	None

Method of Evaluation:

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

Written Assignments – During the course of the semester, you will be given a minimum of five research and writing exercises that are designed to enhance your understanding of the material. 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.

Quizzes – You will be given several quizzes during the semester that will cover both material presented in class, and textbook readings. The combined quiz grades will be worth 20% of your total grade.

Individual Contribution – 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 total grade.

Final Research Project – Near the end of the semester, you will be required to complete a research project that covers an important topic during the course. I will allow students to have a certain amount of freedom to choose how to complete the assignment, but here is a list of *possible* ways to fulfill the assignment:

1. A 5-10 page paper.
2. A 10-15 minute formal in-class presentation.
3. A paper that compares/contrasts books, films, etc.
4. An art project.

The more creative and challenging the assignment is, the higher it will be graded. There will be a date at roughly the mid-point of the semester where I will ask that you hand in a

topic proposal so that I am sure you are on the right track. This component will be worth 40% of your grade.

Grading System:

A = 94-100	C = 74-77
A- = 90-93	C- = 70-73
B+ = 88-89	D+ = 68-70
B = 84-87	D = 64-67
B- = 80-83	D- = 60-62
C+ = 78-79	F = Below 60

Paper Information

All written materials that are handed in must be typed and double spaced. If you have any trouble with writing, I strongly advise you visit the writing center at Mohegan and TASC in 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.commnet.edu/Ed_Resources/writing_center/

Attendance:

Please look at the student handbook regarding the college's attendance policies. It goes without saying that habitual absences or lateness will negatively affect your individual contribution grade.

Late Assignments

(Please note that none of following applies if we have made arrangements beforehand.)

My policy on late assignments is as follows: I will accept the first late writing assignment during the same week that it is due, and give you partial credit. The second and subsequent late assignments will be given minimal credit during the same week, with none given afterwards.

I will not accept any late final project unless we have arrangements beforehand.

Disabilities Statement:

If you have a hidden or visible disability, which may require classroom or assignment modifications, you are obligated to come see me as soon as possible.

Academic Dishonesty:

Any form of cheating or plagiarism will be reported to the college immediately, and may result in the failure of an assignment or the course itself.

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.