

Western Civilization II
HIS 122.20
Spring Semester 2007

Course: Western Civilization II Instructor: Ken Nelson

Term: Spring Semester 2007 Prerequisite: Reading 90

Time: Thursday 6:00-8:50 pm

Room: 210 Gwaltney Hall

Email address: kenn14@verizon.net

Primary Text: Chambers, et al, The Western Experience, 7th edition

Supplemental Text: Timmer, A Guide to MLA Documentation, 5th edition

Course Description:

This course introduces western civilization from the early modern era to the present. Topics include the religious wars, the Industrial Revolution, World Wars I and II, and the Cold War. Upon completion, students should be able to analyze significant political, socio-economic, and cultural developments in modern western civilization. *This course has been approved to satisfy the Comprehensive Articulation Agreement general education core requirement in social/behavioral sciences.*

Mission Statement and Competencies for the General Education Core at MCC

This course directly supports the mission statement and competencies for the General Ed core courses in the Division of Arts and Sciences:

Mayland Community College's General Education core courses will provide the essential body of knowledge and skills that enable all degree-level students to perform competently as employees and as contributing members of society. Graduates of all degree programs at Mayland Community College will have completed the general education core. That core encompasses the essential knowledge and skills that enable all degree-level students to perform competently as employees and as contributing members of society. Upon completion of the general education core, students will be able to demonstrate the following:

1. Effective communication in speaking and listening situations needed for college, personal, and work successes
2. Effective communication in writing and reading situations needed for college, personal & work successes
3. Logical, critical, and creative thinking to evaluate evidence and reach a conclusion

4. Application of basic computer use skills
5. Application of fundamental math skills
6. Basic awareness of the diversity of various world groups from both historical and contemporary contexts

Course Schedule: Class preparation is essential for a successful experience in Western Civilization II. Reading assignments should be completed before each designated class period. You should take notes as you read in order to retain the material for class discussion and for examinations. If I detect evidence that students are not completing assigned readings, I reserve the right to administer unannounced quizzes over the assigned readings. Students who perform poorly on quizzes will be presumed to have failed to complete the reading assignments and therefore may suffer a reduction in the final grade. **No provisions are made for extra credit work for this class.**

Syllabus Review and Course Introduction

Ch 15 “War and Crisis”

Ch 16 “Culture & Society in the Age of the Scientific Revolution”

Ch 17 “The Emergence of the European State System”

Ch 18 “The Wealth of Nations”

Ch 19 “The Age of Enlightenment”

Ch 20 “The French Revolution”

Ch 21 “The Age of Napoleon”

Ch 22 “Foundations of 19th Century: Politics and Social Change”

Ch 23 “Learning to Live with Change”

Ch 24 “National States and National Cultures”

Ch 25 “European Power: Wealth, Knowledge and Imperialism”

Ch 27 “World War and Democracy”

Ch 28 “The Great 20th Century Crisis”

Ch 29 “The Nightmare: World War II”

Ch 29 “The Nightmare: World War II”

Class Dates:

This class will meet on Thursday evenings from 6:00 to 8:50 p.m. in room 210.

This schedule will be adhered to as closely as possible; however, there may be adjustments during the semester to meet the needs of this particular class. Weather will likely be a factor, causing cancellations and rescheduling of work.

Class Attendance is Mandatory. Students are expected to attend all classes. Please come to class on time—it is too difficult in class to attempt to adjust attendance records for students who stroll in late. Two tardies is equal to one absence from class and will be so reflected on the attendance roster. This class will include discussion and other participatory activities designed to foster an exchange of ideas and information. Students not present for the class will miss an integral part of the course content and exchange of ideas. Courtesy will be observed in this class. Whispering, flirting, snoring, evil speaking, and other forms of disturbance will not be tolerated. Students causing any form of disturbance (as judged by the instructor) will receive a warning. If problems persist, the student will be asked to leave the class and will be dropped from the class role. Cell phones, beepers, two way radios, and similar devices may cause distraction and/or disruption of the learning environment. Students are to keep such devices turned off during class. Students with extenuating circumstances must seek permission from the instructor to have such devices turned on in class. In sum, students are expected to deport themselves as serious, mature college students.

Course Withdrawal: Should you be unable to complete this course for any reason, you need to be familiar with MCC’s withdrawal policy, which is detailed in the MCC catalog. Dates for Spring Semester 2007 are:

- Unconditional Withdrawal through Tuesday, 13 February 2007
- Conditional Withdrawal through Tuesday, 27 March 2007
- Emergency Withdrawal only through the last day of class

Evaluation and Grades:

The final grade will be determined by the weighting of the following components:

Four Examinations.....	80%
Writing Assignments	20%

Writing Assignments:

In our culture, thanks to Hollywood and the television entertainment industry, viewing film or videos has become a rather passive, non-thinking (non-critical) activity of relaxation. The goal of asking you to write about them is designed to encourage you to view them in a wide-awake, critical, or theoretical manner and to reflect on them actively. At the same time, videos are fun and I have tried to choose videos for viewing in this course that not only illustrate important representational tendencies but are also entertaining. My hope is that this will be both enlightening and enjoyable. (So, be prepared to write and bring the popcorn!)

I will ask you to provide written, 3 to 5 page critiques of each of the videos we view as part of your course assignments. In your reviews, please summarize briefly the content of the video and critically evaluate its accomplishments including especially its representation of Western Civilization. In doing so, for instance you may wish to comment upon the videos impact on you; its artistic quality or its historical accuracy; its connection to other video, reading assignments, and class discussions on the same topic; its biases (what it presents and doesn't show); and, in general, its contributions to the understanding/misunderstanding of the Western Civilization experience.

The grading scale for the class will consist of the following:

93-100	A
92-86	B
85-77	C
76-70	D
Below 70	F

Academic Integrity: The policy adopted by the MCC Board of Trustees and contained in Student Code of Conduct reads: "Students are expected to perform honest academic work and follow established College policies and procedures." By enrolling at MCC, you agreed to abide by this code, and you are held to this high standard in Western Civilization. Thus, students may not give or receive help during tests; may not submit papers or reports (that are supposed to be original work) which are not entirely their own and may not cite source materials improperly. Sanctions may include receipt of a failing grade in applicable coursework.