

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excessive and in the instructor's opinion, minimum course objectives cannot be met due to absences, the student will be withdrawn from the course.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: 806-716-2463 (Lubbock); 806-716-2903 (Reese); shunt@southplainscollege.edu  
 Office hours: 1:45-3:45 PM Monday & Wednesday & 11:00-12:00 Noon Friday or by appointment.  
 Room: RC 318F

**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]

One 4 gigabyte USB flash drive (aka “jump drive” or “stick drive”)

**Course Description:** This course examines the development and interrelationship of civilizations, societies, and states in the Western Hemisphere roughly from the end of the so-called Dark Ages up until relatively recent times. The course will focus on the development of the nation-state<sup>3</sup>, relations between nation-states, and major conflicts. It will include, then, the effects of religion, commerce, war, race, technology, and environment. The course will also carry the student a step further in understanding of historical research and analysis and mastering the skills needed to separate fact from fiction in terms of recorded history.

**Expected Learning Outcomes:** At the end of the term, you should be able to do the following:

- ✓ interpret documents from the past and differentiate between primary and secondary sources;
- ✓ trace the pattern of reciprocal influences between the world’s various cultures and regions;
- ✓ relate technological, political, and sociological developments to their respective time frames;
- ✓ chronicle the evolution of modern nation states and global socio-economic systems;
- ✓ present observations, ideas, and analyses orally and on paper in a coherent and organized manner.

**Methods for assessing this expected learning outcome:** written examinations (3 in-terms and a comprehensive final), in-class discussion and challenge, *muddiest point* classroom assessment techniques, graded quizzes, in-class writing, and a brief analytical essay.

**GRADING**

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:	15%	(Overall quiz average: scheduled & spot quizzes et al)
Exams:	65%	
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** are responsible for finding out what you missed from a classmate. I do not repeat lectures in office hours. **More than two unexcused absences can result in a reduction of the final grade by five points per absence; more than 5 absences will result in an automatic F.** A student arriving late or leaving early is subject to being counted absent. 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) “in-class” or reading 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.

## 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 above only in an emergency). **If you send an e-mail, put your name and class number in the subject line.**

## **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 grade on 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: 6 April (no later than 11:30 PM)

**SCHEDULE OF CLASSES:** This schedule is provided as a general guide to the course and its requirements. I will attempt to adhere to the schedule, but it is subject to modification. Any changes will be announced in class well in advance.

Week	Lectures & Readings	Assignments	Text
13 Jan	The World in 1500	Introduction, Vocabulary & Maps	
20 Jan	<b>MLK</b> Families & Dynasties in control. Christian dissent	Book adoption deadline: 21 Jan	
27 Jan	Development of the body politique & the Emergence of the Atlantic World – a shift west	TBD	
3 Feb	The Enlightenment in Science and Political Philosophy and its effects on colonial empire	TBD	
10 Feb	Two Revolutions	TBD	
17 Feb	<b>Exam I [17 Feb]</b> The Post-Napoleonic World; Concepts of balance & citizenship; politics & economics of slavery	TBD	
24 Feb	End of an Empire; growth of a democracy; imperialism versus colonialism	TBD	
2 Mar	19 <sup>th</sup> Century Revolutions and the Birth of Two “Old” Nations	TBD	
9 Mar	<b>SPRING BREAK</b>		
16 Mar	World War I and the Interbellum	TBD	
23 Mar	World War II	TBD	
30 Mar	<b>Exam II [4 Apr]</b>		
6 Apr	The Relationship between Democracy, the Death of Colonialism and the Cold War	Submission of analytical essay: 6 April	
13 Apr	<b>Easter</b>		
20 Apr	End of the Cold War; The New Globalism Non-State Global War	TBD	
27 Apr			
6 May	<b>Final Exam</b>		