

**History 141**  
**History of Modern Civilizations**  
**Fall 2009**

Section #2340

T. and TH. 7:45-9:10; Room: SOCS 206

Instructor: Dr. Florence M. Baker

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Office Hours: M. and W. 1:00-3:00; T. 2:00-3:00

and by appointment

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Course web site: [www.elcamino.edu/Faculty/fbaker/History4/](http://www.elcamino.edu/Faculty/fbaker/History4/)

Not to know is bad.  
Not to want to know is worse.  
Not to hope is unthinkable.  
Not to dare is unforgivable.  
(Ibo proverb)

A goal is a vision whispered to the heart.

### **1. Course Description**

The History of Modern Civilization is a survey of the political, economic and social development of modern world civilizations from the rise of the West in the mid-fifteenth century to the advent of the global age in the present day. Part one deals with the rise and expansion of the West in the early modern period, increasing global trade and contacts, and the formation of new empires. Part two examines the political development and industrialization of the West and its consequences; the development and global impact of nationalism and imperialism; and the establishment of Western global hegemony. Part three concerns the twentieth century with an analysis of international conflicts, resolved and unresolved; state building; the decline of western dominance; and the evolution of global relations. The course concludes with an evaluation of the challenges confronting us as we enter the 21<sup>st</sup> century.

### **2. Course Overview**

The purpose of this course is to assist you in acquiring the resources and analytical skills necessary to better understand, appreciate and evaluate the development of world civilizations and their impact in shaping contemporary life. Class materials include lectures, presentations, videos and assigned readings that will provide you with a basic framework of information. We will analyze these secondary sources as well as primary sources such as documents and cultural artifacts through class and group discussion and the writing of essay

exams. In examining the past we will strive to identify and understand the broad patterns of human behavior and experience that comprise world history.

### 3. Required Texts

Bentley and Ziegler. *Traditions and Encounters: A Global Perspective on the Past*. Vol. II: *From 1500 to the Present*. Fourth Edition (2008).

A Study Guide for this text is available online at: [www.mhhe.com/bentley4](http://www.mhhe.com/bentley4) and additional resources can be found at [www.mhhe.com/psi](http://www.mhhe.com/psi)

### 4. Course Objectives

Upon completion of the course students will be able to:

1. Analyze the reasons for the European explorations and methods of expansion in the fifteenth and sixteenth centuries.
2. Compare and contrast the Iberian conquest, colonization, and exploitation of Latin America with that of the English, French, and Dutch experience in North America.
3. Explain the origins and expansion of the transatlantic slave trade and assess its impact on the political, economic, demographic, and social development of Africa.
4. Evaluate the impact of the Protestant Reformation and scientific revolution on the religious, political, and intellectual development of Europe.
5. Analyze the development of absolutism in continental Europe and constitutional monarchy in Great Britain.
6. Discuss the political, economic, social, and cultural development of China under the Ming and Qing dynasties and evaluate the impact of early interaction with European traders and missionaries.
7. Analyze the impact of European traders and missionaries on the political development of Japan and the transformation of Japan under the Tokugawa Shogunate.
8. Compare and contrast the political, economic, social, and cultural development of the Islamic empires of the early modern era as well as their relations with the European states.
9. Discuss the long and short term causes of the French Revolution and assess its role in the political, social, and cultural development of Europe.
10. Analyze the impact of the French Revolution on the political and economic development of the colonial Americas.
11. Explain the origins, development, and expansion of the industrial revolution and analyze its political, economic, and social consequences.
12. Compare and contrast the political, economic, and social development of the United States, Canada, and Latin American in the nineteenth century.
13. Analyze the factors that contributed to the decline of the Ottoman empire, Russian empire, China, and Japan in the nineteenth century and explain the reasons for the differing responses of China and Japan to European incursions.
14. Evaluate the motives for New Imperialism, assess its impact on Africa and Asia, and discuss the anti-colonial movements that emerged in response.
15. Analyze the factors that contributed to the outbreak of World War I and the reasons for the failure of the peace settlements.
16. Analyze the causes of the Russian revolution and examine the establishment of communism in the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics.
17. Discuss the factors that contributed to the rise of totalitarian regimes in the interwar period.
18. Explain the Asian and European origins of World War II as well as the course of the war

and its peace settlements.

19. Compare and contrast the Russian and Chinese communist revolutions and the evolution of communism in the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics and the People's Republic of China.

20. Trace the origin and course of the Cold War and analyze the reasons for the collapse of communist regimes in Eastern and Central Europe and the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics.

21. Explain the process of post-World War II decolonization and evaluate the colonial legacy of the newly independent states of Asia and Africa.

22. Discuss the regional and global integration of national economies and the social, cultural, and environmental impact of globalization.

### **5. Student Learning Outcomes**

1. Upon completion of History 141, students will identify and explain major social, economic, political and cultural themes in the History of Modern Civilizations in a course exam or written assignment.

2. Given a primary or secondary source relating to the history of the Modern Civilizations, students will accurately identify the source and apply appropriate historical methods to explain what the source reveals about its historical context.

3. Given primary and/or secondary source(s) pertaining to a significant aspect of economic, political, social or cultural life in the history of Modern Civilizations, students will develop and persuasively argue an historical thesis in a written or oral assignment that effectively uses the sources as evidence.

### **6. Course Requirements and Evaluations**

You are required to complete all reading, writing and exam assignments. Your course grade will be determined in the following ways:

1) Class participation that includes small group discussions and projects. Your participation

in these activities is required and assignments will be assessed to determine your understanding

of course material and your progress towards achieving course goals, but a grade will not be given to each assignment.

2) Three take home written essay exams of about 4 to 5 pages each, typed and double-spaced.

These assignments require an analysis of course material including secondary and primary

source documents. They will be evaluated and graded according to the following criteria:

Answer ----- Did you answer the question assigned? All parts?

Evidence ---- Are your statements supported with evidence from class materials such as

readings and lectures?

Analysis ---- To what extent does your essay demonstrate your use of critical thinking?

Is there depth to your analysis? Is your argument presented logically and convincingly? Does it show your ability to synthesize diverse material and concepts?

Expression - Is your essay coherent, well-organized and written with clarity? Is your use of grammar and spelling correct?

### 3) Online Quizzes for Chapters 23 through 33

When you have finished reading a chapter, complete the Multiple Choice Quiz for the chapter.

These quizzes are found in the online Study Guide for your textbook. Go to: [www.mhhe.com/bentley4](http://www.mhhe.com/bentley4) - click Student Edition; select chapter, click Multiple Choice Quiz.

When you have achieved a grade of 100% for the quiz, e-mail the results to me using your El

Camino College e-mail account. To do this copy the quiz results and first question of the quiz

into an e-mail message. Send the e-mail message to [fbaker@elcamino.edu](mailto:fbaker@elcamino.edu) and show in the

subject field History 141.

Note: These quizzes are meant to be completed and the results submitted to me over the course of the term as you read the chapters assigned each week. Keep a record of the quizzes you have completed.

Grades are based on the letter system as follows:

A - Excellent > indicates that assignment/course requirements have been met and a mastery of assignment/course objectives

B - Good > indicates that assignment/course requirements have been met and an above average proficiency of assignment/course objectives

C - Satisfactory > indicates that assignment/course requirements have been met and an average proficiency of assignment/course objectives

D - Less than satisfactory > indicates that not all assignment/course requirements have

been met and only a partial proficiency of assignment/course objectives

F - Fail > indicates that few assignment/course requirements have been met and little or no proficiency of assignment/course objectives

## 7. Distribution of Grades

Class Participation -----15% (attendance, discussions and short assignments)\*

Midterm Exam #1 ----- 25%

Midterm Exam #2 ----- 25%

Final Exam ----- 25%

Online chapter quizzes -----10%

\* Participation grade is based on attendance as follows: 1-2 absences = A; 3-4 absences = B; 5 absences = C; 6 absences = D. Also note: two late arrivals to class = one absence.

## 8. Student Presentations

If you have a special interest in or experience with a subject related to this course and would like to present a short presentation to the class, please let me know. Also let me know if you have any materials or artifacts related to course material that you would like to share.

## 9. Course Policies

- ▶ In accordance with the college's policy on attendance you are expected to attend class regularly, to arrive in class on time and to remain for the duration of the class. You may be dropped from the class if you miss more than three class meetings.
- ▶ **Cell phones, pagers, etc. are to be turned off and put away during class meetings.**
- ▶ Only course related materials are to be on your desk during class meetings.
- ▶ Disruptive behavior, such as habitually arriving to class late or leaving class early, or talking during class will not be tolerated and will result in being suspended from class.
- ▶ Dishonest behavior, such as cheating and plagiarism, will not be tolerated and will result in being suspended from class and a written report will be made to the appropriate College authorities requesting further disciplinary action. Please see the El Camino College Catalog which gives examples of cheating and plagiarism that include:

- Representing the words, ideas or work of another as one's own in any academic exercise (plagiarism), including the use of commercial term paper companies [and such study aids as Cliff Notes and Spark Notes].
- Copying or allowing another student to copy from one's paper or answer sheet during an examination [this includes for credit and graded assignments completed outside of the classroom].
- Falsifying or attempting to falsify attendance records and/or grade rosters.

### History 141: History of Modern Civilization

#### Schedule of lecture topics, assignments and exams (Fall 2009)

## Week

1

2

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12

13

14

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16

**Date**

8/31

9/7

9/14

9/21

9/28

10/5

10/12

10/19

10/26

11/2

11/9

11/16

11/23

11/30

12/7

12/14

**Topic**

Introduction to the Age of Discovery

**Monday: Labor Day - No Classes**

Early Explorations and Expansion in the East

**Friday: Last Day to Add Classes**

European Conquest of the Americas

Africa in the Age of the Atlantic Slave Trade

Reformation and Counter-Reformation

Absolutism and Constitutionalism in the West; Scientific Revolution

**Thursday: Midterm Exam #1 due**

China: Ming and Qing Dynasties; Japan

Introduction to Islam; Ottoman Empire

**Friday: Ch. 23-28 Online Quizzes due**

Iran: Safavid Empire

India: Mughal Empire

Enlightenment; French Revolution

**Thursday: Midterm Exam #2 due**

**Friday: Veterans Day - No Classes**

Nationalism: Unification and Disruption;  
Revolt and Independence in Latin America

**Friday: Last Day to Drop with a "W"**

Industrial Revolution

**Thursday/Friday: Thanksgiving - Non Classes**

Reactions to the Industrial Revolution

Women's Suffrage Movement;

The New Imperialism

**Friday: Ch. 29-33 Online Quizzes due**

World War I and Its Legacy

**Thursday: Final Exam due**

**Readings**

Pp. 594-595;

Ch. 23, pp. 596-609

Ch. 23, pp. 609-626

Ch. 25

Ch. 26

Ch. 24, pp. 630-636

Ch. 24, pp. 637-662

Ch. 27

Ch. 28

Ch. 29

Ch. 31

Ch. 30, pp. 814-825

Ch. 30, pp. 825-843

Ch. 32 and Ch. 33

Ch. 34

