

History 106

European Civilization, 1648 to the Present

Dr. Paul Werth

T Th 10.00 – 11.15 CBC C-216

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<http://www.unlv.edu/faculty/pwerth/106.html>

Course Goals

This course has a number of interrelated goals. The first is to provide students with a basic outline of western civilization and its history—the major ideas, processes, and concepts that have created the modern world in which we live and which increasingly influence other (non-Western) people throughout the world. Another goal is to develop a set of important skills that are needed wherever students' futures may take them: above all, critical thinking and clear expression, in both written and spoken form.

Requirements

The course requires above all that you keep up on the readings, attend class promptly and regularly, and participate in discussions. *I regard absences as a personal affront and will react accordingly.*

PARTICIPATION (10%): In this course you are required to participate actively. This means that you attend the class sessions, listen attentively to both the instructor and your student colleagues, and that you raise your voice, in the form of either a question or an observation, at least occasionally.

BRIEF TRIAD ESSAYS (30%): Details will follow on "triads," but the essence of the exercise is that you will write three very brief essays analyzing the relationships between sets of historical persons, places, and concepts. I will provide you with more guidelines and advice subsequently.

GEOGRAPHY QUIZZES (15%): There will be three quizzes on basic geography, about which details will follow. Because my goal is to make sure that you know your geography, I allow you to take each geography quiz a second time (outside of class), counting the higher grade as 2/3 of the final grade. *Please note that 1) if you miss the quiz in class you receive a zero and LOSE the right to re-take it; 2) you must re-take a quiz within one week of the session at which I hand back the original quiz to students.*

EXAMS (45%): Aside from a larger final exam at the end of the term, there will be a single mid-term examination. Please note that if you are absent on the day of any exam you will **not** be given the opportunity to re-take it, but will instead receive a zero. The mid-term counts 20% and the final 25%. All exams are guaranteed to be fun, although the instructor's notion of "fun" may differ substantially from yours.

Written assignments are due at class time on the day indicated in the syllabus. Late submissions will be downgraded seven points (on a 100-point scale) for each day that they are late and will be accepted only with an accompanying one-page explanation for why they are late and why the instructor should accept them. Any written assignment submitted electronically, without prior consultation with the instructor, will be downgraded ten points (on a 100-point scale). All written submissions must be typed, using a 12-point font, double space,

and one-inch margins. Each submission must also have a title. Papers that exhibit a complete absence of proofreading may be returned to the author as unacceptable. Any submission not conforming to these guidelines may be rejected entirely. A full description of my guidelines is available on the web site. Unless prior arrangements have been made with the instructor, students will not be permitted to make up any missed exam.

Plagiarism

The question of *plagiarism* is frequently a source of confusion, but the basic definition is the use of other peoples' ideas and words without proper attribution or acknowledgement. We all use others' ideas to develop our own thinking, but in such cases we need to acknowledge the source from which those ideas came and to be sure that we have represented them accurately and fairly. The most egregious cases of plagiarism involve presenting entire papers written by others as one's own work, and such cases are often much *easier* to detect than students realize (so beware!) The instructor of this course takes the issue of plagiarism *very seriously* and will address violations of academic honesty with the utmost severity. If you are not sure about plagiarism, then ask me *before* you turn in your work; afterwards is too late.

Disabilities and Religious Holidays

As regards religious holidays, I am sympathetic to students' religious needs and will make every effort to accommodate them. Students **MUST**, however, inform me of such needs at the beginning of the term so that we can work our way around them judiciously. Please do not expect sympathy if you come to me only "after the fact." If you have a documented disability that may condition your performance in this course, you should contact me as soon as possible to make special arrangements. Please do not assume that I am aware of any such condition or that I have automatically granted any special dispensation. If you have a documented disability that may require assistance, you should contact the Disability Resource Center in the Student Services Complex, Room 137 (895-0866 or TTY 895-0652), or at <<http://studentlife.unlv.edu/disability/>>.

Required Texts

Lynn Hunt, et al., The Making of the West: Peoples and Cultures, vol. 2: Since 1340: A Concise History (Bedford / St. Martin's, 2003). ISBN = 0-312-40208-2

Marvin Perry, ed. Sources of the Western Tradition, vol. 2: From the Renaissance to the Present, 6th ed. (Houghton Mifflin, 2006). ISBN =0-618-473874

SCHEDULE OF TOPICS AND READINGS

(Readings should be completed *prior* to class on the given date)

TOPIC I: INTRODUCTIONS

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| AUGUST 29 | Introduction: Why bother with Western Civ, and why 1648? |
| AUGUST 31 | The Political and Social Contexts of Early-Modern Europe Reading: Hunt, <u>Making of the West</u> , 473-504, 509-521 |

TOPIC II: INTELLECTUAL TRENDS UNDER OLD REGIME

- SEPTEMBER 5 Absolutism & Constitutionalism
 Reading: Hunt, pp. 523-552
 Perry, Sources of the Western Tradition, pp. 20-27
- SEPTEMBER 7 The Scientific Revolution
 Reading: Hunt, pp. 552-565
 Perry, pp. 30-41, 50-52
- SEPTEMBER 12 Contexts of the Enlightenment
 Reading: Hunt, pp. 567-607
 Perry, pp. 68-69
- SEPTEMBER 14 The Mature Enlightenment
 Reading: Hunt, pp. 609-640
 Perry, pp. 55-56, 60-63, 74-79, 82-83

TOPIC III: REVOLUTIONS & THEIR CONSEQUENCES

- SEPTEMBER 19 The American Revolution & Constitution
 Reading: Hunt, pp. 640-648
 Perry, pp. 57-60, 64-65
 FIRST TRIAD ESSAY DUE
- SEPTEMBER 21 The French Revolution
 Reading: Hunt, pp. 651-674
 Perry, pp. 96-119
- SEPTEMBER 26 Outcomes & Reactions
 Reading: Hunt, pp. 674-696, 699-707
 Perry, 119-123, 152-156
 GEOGRAPHY QUIZ #1
- SEPTEMBER 28 The Industrial Revolution
 Reading: Hunt, pp. 707-713
 Perry, pp. 125-144
- OCTOBER 3 Ideologies: Liberalism & Socialism
 Reading: Hunt, pp. 714-745
 Perry, pp. 157-59, 163-168, 181-192, 198-200
- OCTOBER 5 The National Idea and the Problem of National Inclusion
 Reading: Hunt, pp. 747-795
 Perry, pp. 160-163, 227-237
- OCTOBER 10 **MID-TERM EXAMINATION**

NOVEMBER 16 **NO CLASS: CONFERENCE FOR THE INSTRUCTOR**
No reading (work on triad essays)

NOVEMBER 21 World War II
Reading: Hunt, pp. 927-942
Perry, pp. 412-427, 429-435, 440-447
THIRD TRIAD ESSAY DUE

NOVEMBER 23 **NO CLASS: THANKSGIVING**

TOPIC VI: THE WEST AND THE WORLD SINCE WWII

NOVEMBER 28 From World War to Cold War
Reading: Hunt, pp. 945-984
Perry, pp. 451-466

NOVEMBER 30 The End of the Communist Alternative
Reading: Hunt, pp. 987-1026
Perry, pp. 466, 471, 480-484
GEOGRAPHY QUIZ #3

DECEMBER 5 The Problem of "Globalization"
Reading: Hunt, pp. 1029-1068
Perry, pp. 484-503, 508-519

DECEMBER 7 Review session

FINAL EXAM: TUESDAY 12 DECEMBER 10.10 AM