

UCONN COURSE SYLLABUS

- Modern Western Traditions
- HIST 1400-803
Western Civilizations Since 1300
Ira Caplan
Crosby High School, Waterbury, CT
2018-19 School Year

COURSE DESCRIPTION: The history of Modern Europe shall concentrate on the key social, political, cultural economic and philosophical issues in European History from the ‘Scientific Revolution’ of the seventeenth century to the present. As an introductory history course, this course is designed to develop not only specific knowledge of history of the period in question, but also to refine skills in dealing with history and to impart a recognition that every member of a society (including yourself) helps to ‘make’ history. In addition, we shall discover that there is not one, but a multitude of roots to western culture, from the everyday life of peasant women to powerful thinkers, politicians and aristocrats of the times, Indeed, we shall see that culture has been constructed not by inanimate economic, technological or rational systems, but by ‘regular’ people living ‘normal’ lives.

REQUIRED TEXT: The Western Heritage (to be provided)

LEARNING OBJECTIVES:

1. To identify the major events, persons and ideas of the history of 16th through 21st century Europe and the West.
2. To develop concepts and methods which give an understanding of what influenced the attitudes and behavior of major participants in political situations.
3. To read modern editions of primary sources and explain their significance to relevant and historical problems.
4. To practice critical and analytical skills in historical problems.
5. To identify and analyze significant problems and situations as they relate to the current issues and the investigation of history.

GRADING:

Numeric Value; Crosby Grade	UCONN Grade
93-100	A
90-92	A-
87-89	B+
83-86	B
80-82	B-
77-79	C+
75-76	C

UCONN CREDIT WILL NOT BE AWARDED FOR ANY GRADE BELOW A 75
65-74 ; passing for Crosby High School credit only
64 and below; failing

ASSIGNMENT SUMMARY:

Each Chapter has a set of review questions after the chapter summary. A due date for the questions will be given by the instructor at the beginning of each chapter. Late assignments will not be accepted.

COURSE POLICIES:

Policies concerning attendance and academic misconduct will follow the rules and guidelines in the Crosby Student Handbook.

Late work will only be accepted under the policy of an excused absence.

PLAGIARISM: (to steal language, ideas or thoughts from another and representing them as your own work) or CHEATING. Your work must be your own.

COURSE CALENDAR:

Section I: The Ancient Regime

Explaining Modern Man

Roots of Western History – A very brief overview of The Fall of Rome and the Middle Ages. The power of the Church will be discussed as well as the roots of the Renaissance and the Enlightenment.

The Early Modern World System

Section II: Scientific Revolution and Enlightenment

The Scientific Revolution

Origins of the Scientific Revolution

The Scientific Revolution in the Seventeenth Century

The Enlightenment

The Rebirth of Philosophy

Structures of Politics – Absolutism

The Rise of Absolutism

Another Way: England, Holland and America

Petition of Right, 1628

Declaration of Rights, February 1689

English Bill of Rights, 1689

John Locke (1632-1704): The Second Treatise of Government

Section III: French Revolutions

American Independence

Liberal and Radical Revolution in France

The French Revolution: Origins

What is the Third Estate?

The Tennis Court Oath, June 20, 1789
Declaration of the Rights of Man, August 26, 1789
Decree Abolishing Feudalism, 1789

The Radical Revolution

Maximillian Robespierre (1758-1794): On the Festival of the Supreme Being

Maximillian Robespierre (1758-1794): Terror and Virtue, 1794

Responses to Revolution

Edmund Burke (1729-1797): Reflections on the Revolution in France, 1791

Reaction and the Rise of Napoleon

TENTATIVE END DATE OF SECTIONS I THROUGH III IS THE END OF THE SECOND MARKING PERIOD (MID-TERM)

Section IV: The Industrial Revolution

Events

Causes of the Industrial Revolution – Debate

The Agricultural Revolution of the 17th-18th Centuries

The Industrial Revolution: Technology and Social Effects

The Lives of Workers

Observations on the Loss of Woolen Spinning, 1794

Life of 19th Century Workers In England

Edwin Chadwick (1803-1890): Report on Sanitary Conditions, 1842

Texts on the Physical Effects of Factory Work

Harriet Robinson: Lowell Mill Girls, 1834-1848

Urban Life: New Social Classes

Friedrich Engels: Industrial Manchester, 1844

From the Condition of the Working Class in England in 1844

Andrew Ure (1778-1857): The Philosophy of the Manufacturers, 1835

Section V: The Century of Ideology and Power

Responses to Economic Growth

Socialism and Marxism, Trade Unionism

Early Socialism

Marxism

Karl Marx (1818-1883) and Friedrich Engels: Communist Manifesto

Versions of Socialism

Responses to Economic Growth

Imperialism

China and the West

India under the British

Africa

Stephen Wooten: The French in West Africa

Darwin, Freud, Einstein and Modern Art

Biology: The Red Tooth and the Claw

Charles Darwin: Origin of the Species, 1859
Charles Darwin (1809-1882): The Descent of Man, 1871
Social Darwinism by its founder
Sigmund Freud: The Interpretation of Dreams, 1900

Section VI: The End of European Hegemony

World War I
The War
Literary Response
World War I Poetry, Poems by Siegfried Sasson
The Aftermath
Woodrow Wilson: The Fourteen Points, January 8, 1918
The Versailles Treaty, 1919
The Russian Revolution
Lenin
Stalinism
Nazism and World War II
Italy
Benito Mussolini (1883-1945): What is Fascism?, 1932
National Socialism
The 25 Points, 1920 An early Nazi program
Lead up to war
Neville Chamberlain: Peace in Our Time, 1938
War in Asia
Hiroshima Survivor Accounts
The Holocaust
Anti-Semitism
Religious Anti-Semitism
Martin Luther (1483-1546) : The Jews and Their Lies
Adolf Hitler, First Anti-Semitic Writing, September 16, 1919
Adolf Hitler, On Anti-Semitism in Vienna, 1925 (from Mein Kampf)
The “Final Solution”
The Handicapped
Adolf Hitler: Order Authorizing Involuntary Euthanasia in Germany, October, 1939

DISCLAIMER:

The instructor has the right to change this syllabus at any time.