



# WORLD HISTORY AND THE WEST

## Western Civilization from the Renaissance to the 21st

# Course Summary

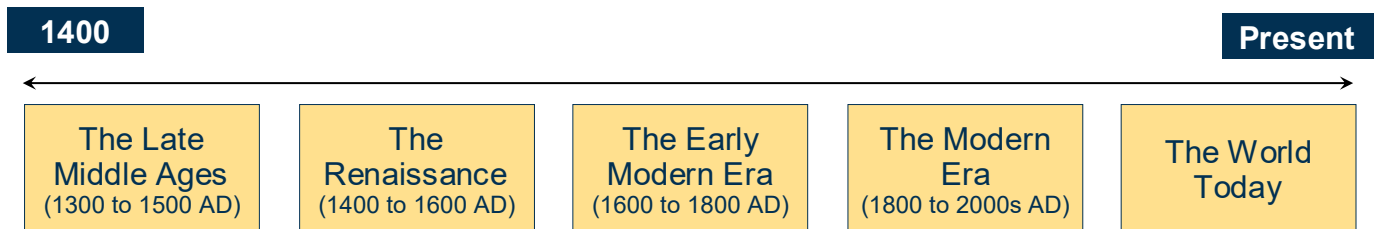
### Course Goal Summary

This course will explore the development of the West as a world power from the 15th century to the present. In this journey, you will learn about how the West grew from a small group of Western European nations and people groups to a powerful entity that influenced/controlled much of the world territorially, economically, politically, and culturally. The Renaissance, the Reformation, the Enlightenment, and the World Wars are just a few of the events and developments that contributed to the expansion and growth of the West. Through this evaluation, you will also analyze the relationship between Christianity and the West. Was the Christianity represented an authentic reflection of the gospel, or merely a cultural and political variant used to acquire further power?

### Course Overview

| # | Unit Title                                           | Time (hrs) |
|---|------------------------------------------------------|------------|
| 1 | The Renaissance to Napoleon (Pre-midterm)            | 50         |
| 2 | Post-Napoleonic Europe to the Present (Post-midterm) | 50         |
| 3 | Research Essay                                       | 10         |

### Timeline Overview



### Assessment & Evaluation Considerations

A variety of assessment and evaluation tools will be used over the course of the semester. Throughout each unit, you will be provided with more detailed assignment descriptions, and evaluation summaries (rubrics) for most assignments. The following mark breakdown is a tentative approximation of how your course mark will be determined:



### Evaluations

|                      |     |
|----------------------|-----|
| Thematic Packages    | 15% |
| Evaluations (O/C)    | 15% |
| Final Research Essay | 15% |
| Midterm              | 25% |
| Exam                 | 30% |

### Schedule

Each week a new topic will be evaluated (eg. Renaissance). We will focus on knowledge acquisition early in the week and work our way towards application of knowledge towards the end of the week.

**Weekly Schedule**

| # | Topics and Central Questions                                                                                                                                             |
|---|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| 1 | <b>Exploration and Encounter</b><br>→ Was the West the perpetrator and the peoples they conquered simply their victims?                                                  |
| 2 | <b>The Renaissance</b><br>→ Did the Renaissance reject Christianity or reaffirm its principles?                                                                          |
| 3 | <b>The Reformation</b><br>→ Was the Reformation a quest for authentic spiritual truth or simply an effort to overthrow the traditional powers of society?                |
| 4 | <b>The Establishment of European Empires</b><br>→ Should slavery be considered the greatest contributing factor to the rise of the West from the 15th to 17th centuries? |
| 5 | <b>Absolutism and the Enlightenment</b><br>→ Was the Enlightenment solely the product of Absolutism or the result of the freedoms gained from the Reformation?           |
| 6 | <b>Revolution</b><br>→ Did the French Revolution truly reflect Enlightened ideas or were these ideals simply used by the leaders of the movement to gain further power?  |

**MIDTERM**

|    |                                                                                                                                                                      |
|----|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| 7  | <b>The Napoleonic Era</b><br>→ Was the authoritarian rule of Napoleon justified in order to stabilize France following the chaos of the French Revolution?           |
| 8  | <b>Restoration and Revolution</b><br>→ How did the preservation of existing ideologies and the introduction of new ideologies contribute towards both war and peace? |
| 9  | <b>The Victorian Era</b><br>→ Did the developments and advancements of the Victorian Era lay the groundwork for future conflict or contribute to positive progress?  |
| 10 | <b>The Great War</b><br>→ Was the Great War the final conflict between the new progressive Europe and the remnants of absolutist Europe?                             |
| 11 | <b>Interwar Ideologies</b><br>→ Why did democracy fail to prevent the growth of communism and fascism during the interwar period?                                    |
| 12 | <b>World War Two</b><br>→ Did World War Two represent the preservation of western democracy or the emergence of a new world order?                                   |
| 13 | <b>The Post-Modern Era</b><br>→ Was the substantial economic growth of the West the most essential factor in defeating communism?                                    |



## End of Course Goals

By the end of the course, it is our goal to be able to effectively respond to the questions listed below.

| # | Central Questions                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                       |
|---|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| 1 | What have been the greatest contributing factors to the rise of the West and its continued dominance?                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                   |
| 2 | What have the been the most common instigators of change throughout the history of the West?                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                            |
| 3 | How has Christianity been used authentically for the betterment the West and how has it also been manipulated as an instrument to gain further power?                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                   |
| 4 | "Great nations rise and fall. The people go from bondage to spiritual truth, to great courage, from courage to liberty, from liberty to abundance, from abundance to selfishness, from selfishness to complacency, from complacency to apathy, from apathy to dependence, from dependence back again to bondage ( <i>author unknown</i> )."<br>Does the quote accurately reflect the story of the West? |