



## Syllabus

### **HIS 101 Modern Western Civilization: Enlightenment to the Cold War**

#### General Information

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**Date** May 10th, 2019

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**Department** Social Science

**Course Prefix** HIS

**Course Number** 101

**Course Title** Modern Western Civilization: Enlightenment to the Cold War

#### Course Information

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**Catalog Description** This course examines the social, political, intellectual and cultural development of modern Western civilization, from the 18th century Enlightenment, through the French Revolution, Napoleon, Industrial Revolution, Imperialism, and the tumultuous events of the 20th century: WWI and WW2 and the Cold War.

**Credit Hours** 3

**Lecture Contact Hours** 3

**Lab Contact Hours** 0

**Other Contact Hours** 0

**Grading Scheme** Letter

#### Prerequisites

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None

#### Co-requisites

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None

#### First Year Experience/Capstone Designation

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**This course DOES NOT satisfy the outcomes applicable for status as a FYE or Capstone.**

# SUNY General Education

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This course is designated as satisfying a requirement in the following SUNY Gen Ed category

Western Civilization

## FLCC Values

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### Institutional Learning Outcomes Addressed by the Course

Vitality, Inquiry, and Interconnectedness

## Course Learning Outcomes

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### Course Learning Outcomes

1. Students will identify some of the distinctive features of modern Western civilization; its history, institutions, geography, economy, religion, society, and/or culture.
2. Students will connect developments in modern Western civilization to those of other regions of the world.
3. Students will identify some of the major events and themes of modern Western history, including rationalism, human rights, democracy, industrialization, imperialism, total war etc.

## Outline of Topics Covered

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Legacy of the Middle Ages

Scientific Revolution, 16<sup>th</sup>– 17<sup>th</sup>centuries

- **Empiricism: From the “Age of Faith” to the “Age of Reason”**
- **New Technology: Microscope, Telescope & Printing Press**
- **The New Science: Astronomy, Physics, Medicine & Chemistry**

18<sup>th</sup>Century Enlightenment

- **Voltaire & Religious Toleration**
- **Locke, Montesquieu & Constitutional/Representative Government**
- **Adam Smith & Economic Science**
- **Warfare in the Age of Reason**
- **The Information Revolution**
- **Neoclassicism**

French Revolution

- **The Ancien Regime, the Third Estate & the Origins of the Revolution**

- **The Spark: Administrative Paralysis & Financial Crisis**
- **The Moderate Phase: National Assembly Applies the Enlightenment**
- **The Radical Phase: Robespierre & the Terror**
- **Legacy of the French Revolution**

Napoleon: Tyrant & Reformer

- **Napoleonic Art of Warfare**
- **Conquest & Repression**
- **Napoleon's Downfall: Britain, Spain, Russia**
- **Napoleon's Enlightened Reforms**

Industrial Revolution: Blessing & Curse for Humanity

- **From Traditional to Modern Society**
- **Mass Production & the Consumer Revolution**
- **The Machine Age: Technological Innovations**
- **Transport & Communications Revolution**
- **The Human Cost of Industrialization**
- **Urban Problems**
- **Industrial Revolution in Warfare**

Imperialism: Motivations and Means, 1870-1914

- **Economic, Strategic, National & Ideological Motives**
- **Technology, Repression & Collaboration**
- **Legacy of Imperialism**

World War I: Origins and Causes

- **Origins (Long-Term Factors)**
- **The Alliance System Forms**
- **Causes (Short-Term Factors)**
- **The July Crisis**
- **Apportioning Blame**

World War I: Total War and the Making of the Modern World

- **Opening Phase: Schlieffen Plan**
- **Deadlock on the Western Front: Trench Warfare**
- **Total War: Verdun and the Somme**
- **Technological Developments**
- **War in Three Dimensions**
- **The War Goes Global**
- **Total War on the Home Front: Rise of the Modern Interventionist State**

Versailles and the Failure to Make a Durable Peace, 1919

- **1918: Year of Victory**
- **The Armistice Terms**
- **The Flawed Paris Peace Treaties of 1919**
- **German Reaction to the Versailles *Diktat***
- **Treaty of Sevres & the Making of the Modern Middle East**

#### Russian Revolution

- **Lenin & the Bolshevik Revolution of 1917**
- **Civil War & the Emergence of the Soviet Union**

#### Troubled Times: Great Depression, Stalinism and Fascism

- **Peace, Prosperity & Conciliation: The Roaring Twenties, 1920-9**
- **The Great Depression & the End of International Cooperation**
- **Mussolini & Italian Fascism**
- **Hitler and the Rise of Nazism**
- **Stalinism & “Socialism in One Country”**

#### World War II

- **Italian and Soviet Revisionism, 1935-40**
- **Hitler Dismantles the Versailles System, 1933-39**
- **The Appeasement Controversy**
- **Blitzkrieg in the West, 1939-40**
- **Eastern Front, 1941-43**
- **Total War & the Home Front**
- **Hitler’s Europe: Collaboration & Resistance**
- **The Tide Turns, 1944-45**
- **The Holocaust**
- **Birth of the Atomic Age**

#### Cold War

- **Communist Takeover of Eastern Europe**
- **NATO & Warsaw Pact**
- **Containment, 1947-53**
- **Escalation & Crisis, 1953-71**
- **European Integration**
- **Détente, 1972-79**
- **Decolonization**
- **“Second Cold War”: 1979-85**
- **Collapse of the Soviet Union**

### Program Affiliation

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**This course is not required as a core course in any programs.**