

Department of History,
University of Manitoba
Fall 2015
Hist. 1360

**INTRODUCTION TO THE HISTORY OF
WESTERN CIVILIZATION, FROM 1500**

Instructor:

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Office Hours:

Monday, 12:00-1:00 pm, or by appointment

Time:

M/W/F: 10:30-11:20 am

Location:

201, St. John's College

Course Description: This course surveys the broad themes and developments in the history of Europe, and its interactions with the rest of the world, from the religious Reformations of the sixteenth century to the Present. It covers a dynamic period defined by a series of religious, political, intellectual, and social revolutions that created the modern world, providing a valuable foundation for further study in history. Through the combination of lectures, readings, discussions, and written assignments you will be introduced to the ways in which historians think and work, while also developing valuable critical and analytical reading and writing skills.

Readings: The assigned readings are an essential part of this course. They are intended to complement the lectures and written assignments, as well as help you develop critical reading skills. On examinations you are responsible for all the material covered in the readings and lectures. The required books are available in the University Book Store.

Books:

John P. McKay, Hill, Buckler, Crowston, Wiesner-Hanks, Perry, *Understanding Western Society, Volume 2, From the Age of Exploration to the Present*.

Craig Koslofsky, *Evening's Empire: A History of the Night in Early Modern Europe*.

Assignments and Evaluation

Participation and Scholarly Contribution (10%): This portion of your grade is a cumulative one made by your participation in class discussions, as well as the way you

engage with the course material and help drive the wider class discussion in productive and thoughtful ways.

Article Assignment, due September 30th (10%): Scholarly journals are a major resource used by historians. Journal articles are a type of “secondary source” that often contain the latest findings, interpretive arguments, and theses advanced by historians. Like all written material there is a knack to reading them effectively. Find three recent scholarly articles (not a book or a book review) published in the last 5 years from a scholarly journal on any **one topic** relevant to this course. Compile these articles into a bibliography in the Chicago Style – precise format matters. See http://www.chicagomanualofstyle.org/tools_citationguide.html for guidance. Next, select **one** of your three articles, read it, and in approximately 500 words identify the author’s thesis and outline his/her argument and the type of evidence used in its support.

You can find articles through the “Databases A-Z” link, under the “Find” tab on the University Library’s main page. You are encouraged to play around on the library website to familiarize yourself with the tools and resources it offers. You are also encouraged to consult with the library staff. They are an excellent resource. If you have any problems do not hesitate to ask for help from a librarian, classmate, or myself.

***Evening’s Empire* Assignment, 1500 words, due November 9th (25%):** This assignment is based on Craig Koslofsky’s book, *Evening’s Empire: A History of the Night in Early Modern Europe*. Its purpose is to help you recognize how the broad historical developments and ideas examined in this course shaped the culture and experience of daily life in Early Modern Europe, as well as how that experience changed and/or adapted over time.

Based on your reading of Koslofsky, what do the conceptions and attitudes towards the night tell us about life and culture in Early Modern Europe (e.g. its priorities, values, fears, anxieties, hopes)? And how did these cultural attitudes change or adapt between c.1500-c.1750? In what ways did they stay the same? Relate your answer to broad developments and themes discussed in the lectures and textbook, such as the Reformations, urbanization, empirical science and reason, the Enlightenment.

Research Essay, 1500-2000 words, due December 7th (25%): Detailed explanation of this assignment will be provided in class.

Final Exam, TBA (30%)

Students are responsible for completing assignments on time. Extensions will only be granted 48 hours prior to the due date, except in exceptional circumstances. Late papers will be penalized 2% per day, including weekends. No allowance will be given for technical difficulties. Back up your work often.

Evaluative feedback will be provided before the last Voluntary Withdrawal date, which is **November 18**.

The essay assignments and format of the final examination will be clearly explained in class. Since this is a course that meets the University Senate's "W" requirement, students must complete all essay assignments with a passing grade to pass the course.

If you wish to appeal a grade given for term work must do so within 10 working days after the term work has been made available to them. Uncollected term work will become the property of the Faculty of Arts and will be subject to confidential destruction.

Grade Scale:

A+	85-100%, Outstanding	C+	65-69%, Satisfactory
A	80-84%, Excellent	C	60-64%, Adequate
B+	75-79%, Very Good	D	50-59%, Marginal
B	70-74%, Good	F	49% or below, Failing

A note on plagiarism: The common penalty in Arts for plagiarism on a written assignment is a grade of F on the paper and a final grade of F (DISC) (for Disciplinary Action) for the course. For the most serious acts of plagiarism, such as purchase of an essay and repeat violations, this penalty can also include suspension for a period of up to five (5) years from registration in courses taught in a particular department/program in Arts or from all courses taught in this Faculty. The Faculty also reserves the right to submit student work that is suspected of being plagiarized to Internet sites designed to detect plagiarism or to other experts for authentication.

The common penalty in Arts for academic dishonesty on a test or examination is F for the paper, F (DISC) for the course, and a one-year suspension from courses acceptable for credit in the Faculty. For more serious acts of academic dishonesty on a test or examination, such as repeat violations, this penalty can also include suspension for a period of up to five years from registration in courses taught in a particular department or program in Arts or from all courses taught in or accepted for credit by this Faculty.

A note on technology: Technology can be a powerful tool, but it can also be distracting. I allow the use of computers to take notes during class, though studies show that this practice actually tends to hinder success for both users and nearby peers. Obviously, use of a Laptop or Tablet is not license to surf the Internet or chat with your friends on social media. Also, cell phones, iPods, and other such personal devices must be turned off or silenced and stowed for the duration of the class.

Student resources:

You have access to several important resources to help you navigate your classes and

Readings: McKay, Ch. 15
Koslofsky, Ch. 4

Week 5

Oct 5-9 **Lectures:** - Absolutism & Constitutionalism: the Case of Britain
 - The Scientific Revolution
 - Impact of the Scientific Revolution
Readings: McKay, Ch. 16
 Koslofsky, Ch. 5

Week 6

Oct 12-16 **Lectures:** - Monday Oct. 12 – Thanksgiving – No Class
 - The Enlightenment I
 - The Enlightenment II
Readings: McKay, Ch. 17
 Koslofsky, Ch. 6

Week 7

Oct 19-23 **Lectures:** - Economy & Empire
 - Destruction of the Ancient Regime
 - Radical Revolution
Readings: McKay, Ch. 19
 Koslofsky, Ch. 7

Week 8

Oct 26-30 **Lectures:** - The Napoleonic Era
 - “Restoration” Europe: Political Clash & Conflict, 1815-50
 - Industrial Revolution
Readings: McKay, Ch. 20
 Koslofsky, Ch. 8 & 9

Week 9

Nov 2-6 **Lectures:** - Industrialization & Its Discontents
 - Ideologies and Upheavals
 - Urban Society
Readings: McKay, Ch. 21 & 22

Week 10

Nov 9-13 ***Evening's Empire* Essay Due – Monday November 9th**
Lectures: - Nationalism & Identity

- The New Imperialism: “The White Man’s Burden” & the Great Land Grab
- The Great Break: World War & Revolution

Readings: McKay, Ch. 23 & 24

Week 11

Nov 16-20

- Lectures:**
- Age of Anxiety, 1880-1940
 - Dictatorship & WWII
 - Discussion

Readings: McKay, Ch. 26 & 27

Week 12

Nov 23-27

- Lectures:**
- Cold War: Decolonization & Conflict
 - Rock ‘n’ Roll Rebellion: Social Transformation
 - Discussion

Readings: McKay, Ch. 28 & 29

Week 13

**Nov 30-
Dec 4**

- Lectures:**
- Something to Believe In: Religion in the post-War West
 - Global Warnings: Geo-Politics, 1985-2001
 - Global Warming: The West and the Environment

Readings: McKay, Ch. 30

Week 14

Dec 7 & 9

- Lectures:**
- Discussion: “Why Do They Hate Us”: New Challenges in the 21st Century
 - Review