

## **History 100-B02: Western Civilization**

*George Mason University, Summer 2008*

Mon. & Wed, 7:20–10:00 p.m., Science and Technology I 122

Instructor: Dr. Mark Stoneman

Mason username: mstonema

*office hours by appointment*

### **Description**

This course offers an overview of the history of Western Civilization. Rather than attempt to cover many centuries chronologically, however, it focuses on key themes in seven different units. These are Historical Thinking, Religion and Society, Economic Life, State-Building, Politics and Human Rights, Imperialism, and War and Society. The course also emphasizes critical reading, critical thinking, writing, and civil discourse.

### **Website**

This course has a website that contains more detailed information than this syllabus. You are expected to study it closely, bookmark it, and consult it regularly.

<http://homepage.mac.com/markstoneman/hist100B02summer2008/>

### **Grading**

Grades for the course will be determined by the following five components, each of which is explained in detail on the course website:

Class Participation	20%
Source Analysis	30%
Movies	5%
First Short Paper	20%
Second Short Paper	25%

### **Email**

You are expected to check your Mason email regularly, in case the university or your professors sends you an important announcement. I will, for my part, try to keep such notices to a minimum, but sometimes they are unavoidable. Also, when you email me, please use your Mason account, so that I can give your message higher priority.

### **Policies**

**ATTENDANCE** in class is mandatory and will count towards your class participation grade. If you are sick or are participating in a school-sponsored sporting event, please present me with documentation so that you do not get penalized for your absence. Make sure you also get notes from someone in class for the material you missed. Please note that your work or training schedule is not a legitimate reason for missing class.

**LATE WORK** submitted during the semester will be marked down by as much as five points per day; however, no late work will be accepted after classes are over.

**ACADEMIC HONESTY** is essential not only to the success of the course, but also to your academic and professional careers. Hence, you are expected to know and abide by the GMU Honor System at

<http://www.gmu.edu/catalog/9798/honorcod.html>. Further resources are available on the course website.

STUDENTS WITH DISABILITIES or requiring an academic accommodation, should see me immediately and also contact the Office of Disability Services in SUB 1, room 222. All academic accommodations must be arranged through this office. For more information, visit <http://ods.gmu.edu> or call 703-993-2474.

## Books

There are six required books for this course. You can find them in the Mason bookstore or online via links on the course website. If you order any books online, please take into account availability and delivery time.

Lualdi, Katherine J. *Sources of The Making of the West: Peoples and Cultures*. 3rd ed. Boston and New York: Bedford/St. Martin's, 2009. [ISBN 0312465181]

Miller, Maureen C. *Power and the Holy in the Age of the Investiture Conflict: A Brief History with Documents*. Boston and New York: Bedford/St. Martin's, 2005. [ISBN 0312404689]

*The Song of Roland*, translated by Glyn S. Burgess. Penguin Classics, 1990. [ISBN 0140445323]

Hunt, Lynn. *The French Revolution and Human Rights: A Brief Documentary History*. Boston and New York: Bedford/St. Martin's, 1996. [ISBN 0312108028]

Orwell, George. *Burmese Days*. [ISBN 0156148501]

Palmer, Svetlana and Sarah Wallis. *Intimate Voices from the First World War*. Perennial, 2005. [ISBN 0060584203]

You will also need a good dictionary, a style manual, and possibly a textbook for reference. You probably have the first two things from your English class. Any relatively recent textbook will do, so you can borrow one from the library.

## Class Format

The course follows a mixed format of regular classes for the full period and *book discussions* for half the period. On scheduled book discussion days, half the class will attend from 7:20 to 8:35 and the other half will meet from 8:45 to 10:00.

Most lectures will also include some discussion of the assigned sources.

See the course website for further details on all reading (□) and writing (✍) assignments.

- M 6/2 Historical Thinking: Lecture
  - Reading: online articles
- W 6/4 Historical Thinking: Discussion
  - Reading: online article and Lualdi, *Sources*
  - ✍ Source analysis homework
- M 6/9 Economic Thought and Practice: Lecture
  - Reading: online sources and Lualdi, *Sources*
  - ✍ Source analysis homework
- W 6/11 Economic Thought and Practice: Movie Clips
  - Reading: Lualdi, *Sources*
  - ✍ Source analysis homework

- M 6/16 State-Building in Early Modern Europe: Book Discussion (*class meets in two groups*)  
 Reading: *Song of Roland* and online articles  
 Source analysis homework
- W 6/18 State-Building in Early Modern Europe: Lecture  
 Reading: online sources and Lualdi, *Sources*  
 Source analysis homework
- F 6/20  First short paper is due by midnight
- M 6/23 Religion and Society: Book Discussion (*class meets in two groups*)  
 Reading: Miller, *Power and the Holy*  
 Source analysis homework  
 Course is half-way done. Have you submitted one of your movie assignments yet?
- W 6/25 Religion and Society: Lecture  
 Reading: Lualdi, *Sources*  
 Source analysis homework
- M 6/30 The State and the Individual in Modern Europe: Book Discussion (*class meets in two groups*)  
 Reading: Hunt, *French Revolution and Human Rights*  
 Reading: Lualdi, *Sources*  
 Source analysis homework
- W 7/2 The State and the Individual in Modern Europe: Lecture  
 Reading: Lualdi, *Sources*  
 Source analysis homework
- M 7/7 Imperialism: Book Discussion (*class meets in two groups*)  
 Reading: George Orwell, *Burmese Days*  
 Source analysis homework
- W 7/9 Imperialism: Lecture  
 Reading: Lualdi, *Sources*  
 Source analysis homework
- M 7/14 War and Society: Lecture  
 Reading: Online source; Lualdi, *Sources*; optional articles  
 Source analysis homework
- W 7/16 War and Society: Book Discussion (*class meets in two groups*)  
 Reading: Palmer and Wallis, *Intimate Voices*  
 Last day to submit analysis of movies
- F 7/18  Second short paper is due my midnight