



## HIS 211: Western Civilization II

### I. Instructor: Dr. Mark Evans

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Please feel free to contact me as needed. I make it a point of responding to all emails within 24 hours (and usually respond within just a few hours). If you do not hear from me after 24 hours, I likely did not receive your message. Please send a follow-up email.

### II. Course Overview

HIS 211: Western Civilization II is a survey of western history from 1600 to the present. The course emphasizes the intellectual development of the western world and an introduction to the historical method.

No prerequisite knowledge of History is necessary for this course.

### III. Objectives

By the end of this course, the successful student will:

- 1) Demonstrate understanding of the general sweep of western history since 1600, including dominant cultural trends and political movements, and challenges to those trends and movements.
- 2) Employ conceptual and analytical terms such as *race*, *consumer society*, *communism*, *existentialism*, and many others. Students should understand these words as concepts, and be able to place those concepts within the context of western

history.

- 3) Develop skills of historical literacy – to go beyond the “who” and the “what” to consider the “why” – in connection with assigned texts, and demonstrate this literacy in class discussion and assigned essays.
- 4) Write persuasive, thesis-driven arguments which unite critical thinking, historical understanding, and quality prose.

## IV. Materials

This course employs two materials. 1) A textbook, which will serve as the students' primary reference and 2) primary source documents, which are posted to Blackboard. The textbook is required and will be used weekly. Students must have this book when class begins.

The textbook:

*A History of Western Society, Vol 2*, McKay, Crowston, et al.

For this course, we will be using the above book as an e-book via RedShelf

Note: There is a \$32 class fee attached to your tuition. You do have the ability to opt out once you click on the class material link and choose that you wish to purchase the book and course materials on their own. You can opt out and back in as many times as you wish. The deadline to opt out is X. When you opt out, the class fee is removed from your student account. If you opt back in, it is added back to your account. There is a tutorial for opting out [here](#).

## V. Requirements

Regular Review of Email: The instructor will communicate via email, and it is the student will be responsible for all information communicated this way. The student should check email every day.

Lectures & Commentary: The instructor will post lectures, brief commentaries, and various multimedia sources (e.g. documentaries). The student is responsible for all of this material. Good exam responses will draw from the full breath of information provided in this course.

Textbook Reading: Each week, the student will be expected to read at least one chapter from the textbook.

Reading Notes: Students will turn in reading notes for every textbook chapter read. This will help guide reading and ensure understanding. These will be graded on a satisfactory/unsatisfactory basis.

Primary Source Reading: Most weeks, there will be a primary source reading. While short in length, these readings can be difficult and may require multiple, close readings. Students will be expected to reference these documents on the exams.

Reflections & Discussions: There will usually be a weekly discussion board (see the final page of this syllabus for a schedule). All students are required to make an initial post of 200-250 words reflecting on the material covered that week. What was new to you? Did something not make sense? What struck you as interesting? Do you see any connections between this material and what we have studied previously? Do you have any questions?

These posts must be made by **Thursday of each week**. This means you will need to work ahead and have read and reviewed the supplemental materials before the end of the day Thursday.

These reflections will serve as the starting point for discussion, which I expect to take place over **Thursday, Friday, and Saturday of each week**.

These discussions are an open forum, and you should think of them like the discussions we would have if we were in a traditional classroom. You should use the forum to ask questions about material that is not clear, but you should also use these as a means of furthering our understanding of the content. Challenge your classmates (and instructor) to think about how material fits together, how it relates to current events, etc.

Grading for the discussions is based on a 3-point scale:

3 - initial reflection posted on time, meets minimum requirements, and demonstrates considerable engagement with the material. Student engages meaningfully in discussion (2 or more responsive posts over the *course of the week*—not all posts made on Saturday).

2 – all post minimum requirements are met and demonstrate good—but not great—quality

1—Work is late, incomplete, sloppy, superficial

Term Paper: Students will write a 5-page account of the history of a country from approximately 1600 to the present. Further directions will be posted to Blackboard.

Midterm Exam: The midterm exam is an essay exam. Students will be provided with a list of possible questions a week before the exam.

Final Exam: The final exam is an essay exam. Students will be provided with a list of possible questions a week before the exam.

## VI. Technology Requirements and Technical Skills

This is an online course; as such, students must have access to the required technologies:

- A functioning computer
- Access to the internet and internet bandwidth capable of streaming videos and audio files
- A word processor capable of saving in .doc or .pdf format
- A webcam and microphone if you wish to videoconference. I am also willing to speak by telephone.

Students may use these resources at a library if you do not own the technologies. Lack of access to the necessary technology is not an acceptable reason for missed assignments.

Students must know how to navigate a webpage and use a word processing program. I am willing to help students with questions. Coker also offers assistance through Learning Support Services.

## VII. Policies

Due dates/late work: All assignments, exams, etc. are due by Saturday at 8:00 PM EST. Students will have a 24 hour grace period, so work turned in by 8:00PM EST on Sunday will be accepted without penalty. Please note that emergencies arising on Sunday will never be acceptable excuses for late work since the work is due on Saturday. If you put off your work until Sunday, you do so at your own risk. There will be NO MAKE UP OPPORTUNITIES.

Incomplete Grades: A grade of I (incomplete) may be recorded when the instructor feels the course work is incomplete for reasons beyond the student's control. It may not be employed as an extension of the term to provide an opportunity for the student to raise a grade already earned. If the course work is not successfully completed in the following semester (excluding summer session), the grade automatically becomes an F or No Credit. For students in the Evening and Extended Studies Program, the I recorded in Term I or II must be removed by the end of Term IV in the following spring semester; the I recorded in Term III, IV or V must be removed by the end of Term II during the following fall semester.

This does NOT mean the instructor must give the student to the end of the dates stated above; it means that if the work is not completed by this term, it becomes an F. The instructor's policy on due dates varies from student to student. It depends on the circumstance. THIS IS NOT A RIGHT and it is up to the instructor. To receive an Incomplete, the student MUST provide verifiable, written documentation. Excuses may be verified.

Plagiarism and Academic Integrity:

Taken directly from the [Coker College catalog](#):

Academic dishonesty includes cheating, plagiarism, or failing to appropriately cite sources. Any form of academic dishonesty is wholly incompatible with the Coker College Student Covenant, the Mission of the College, and generally understood standards of ethical academic behavior. Academic dishonesty is among the most serious of violations that might be committed at the College; for that reason, penalties for academic dishonesty may include suspension or expulsion from the College.

- Cheating: A student is guilty of cheating when he/she wrongfully gives, takes, or receives unauthorized assistance or information in the preparation of academic work to be submitted for course credit, or in fulfillment of a College regulation.
- Plagiarism: A student is guilty of plagiarism when he/she submits work purporting to be his/her own, but which in fact, borrows ideas, organization, wording, or anything else from other sources — a published article, a chapter of a book, a friend's paper, etc. — without appropriate source acknowledgement. Plagiarism, as a form of cheating, also includes employing or allowing another person to alter or revise the academic work the student submits as his/her own. Any assigned work will be given an automatic zero and the student will be turned in to the College.

Students may generally discuss assignments among themselves or with an instructor or tutor, but the actual work must be done by the student alone. When an assignment involves research with outside sources of information, the student must carefully acknowledge exactly what they are, and where and how he/she has employed them.

Source Acknowledgement: All members of the Coker College community are expected to adhere to the strictest standards regarding acknowledgement of the use of another person's words, ideas, opinions or theories. Individual instructors and disciplines may employ different methods of citation and acceptable sources (e.g., Sources taken from the Internet may not be acceptable in some classes). It is the student's responsibility to be familiar with the guidelines for citation in their various courses.

- Direct Quotation. All verbatim quotations, regardless of length, must be appropriately footnoted or otherwise attributed to the original source.
- Paraphrase. To avoid using extremely long quotations, paraphrasing is recommended. Any paraphrased ideas or phrases must be appropriately footnoted or otherwise cited.
- General Acknowledgement. If a piece of academic work has been generally or specifically influenced by the words or ideas of another person, that source must be cited, even if quotation or paraphrasing of text is not employed.
- Collaboration. Only when permitted by the instructor are students allowed to collaborate with others in their work. If collaboration is permitted, the use of another student's ideas or work must be properly cited.

Students should contact their instructors for the specific standards and methods that might apply to individual academic assignments or courses. The information above should serve only as a general guideline for acknowledgment of sources at the College.

#### Students with Disabilities

Reasonable accommodations will be provided for qualified students with documented physical, sensory, learning or psychiatric disabilities that require assistance to fully participate in this class. If a student has a disability that will likely need some accommodation by the instructor, the student should contact Robin Richardson in the Learning Support Services Office (ext. 8021, [rrichardson@coker.edu](mailto:rrichardson@coker.edu)) to provide the necessary documentation.

No accommodations can be made without documentation from LSS. The student is solely responsible for contacting Robin Richardson.

## VIII. Grading

Grading Procedure

Reading Notes	20%
Term Paper	20%
Discussion	15%
Midterm Exam	20%
Final Exam	25%

Final Grade Determination

90%-100%	A
80%-89%	B
70%-79%	C
60%-69%	D
0%-59%	F

No late work will be accepted, no extra credit will be given, and no second attempts are permitted.

## IX. Attendance

This course takes place during a very short (8 week) term. To be counted as “present” in a given week, the student must complete the reading notes. Failure to complete any of the work will be very difficult to overcome given the condensed timeline of the course.

## X. Course Schedule

Please see the Course Schedule on Blackboard