

INTRODUCTION TO THE HISTORY OF WESTERN CIVILIZATION
HIST 1200

Fall/Winter 2020–21

Instructor:	Dr. Jason A. Brown ('Dr. Brown')	Sept 9 – Apr 16	exam period Apr 19 – May 1
Office:	409 Fletcher Argue	Section:	A03
Hours:	W 10:30 am – 12:00 noon	Lecture time:	TR 11:30 am – 12:45 pm
Email:	Jason.Brown@umanitoba.ca	Venue:	remote learning

Course website on UMLearn: <http://umanitoba.ca/umlearn>

The course website on UMLearn is your information centre for the course. Course materials will be posted there, and you will connect to live course lectures through UMLearn. Check UMLearn regularly.

COURSE DESCRIPTION

This course is an introductory survey of the history of the Western world from ancient Mediterranean civilizations to the twenty-first century.

The goals of the course are for the student to:

- 1) master a basic constellation of 'facts' about Western civilization
- 2) be able to place these facts in the context of a larger historical narrative, while becoming acquainted with different interpretations
- 3) understand important actors, developments, and events that shaped the modern world
- 4) approach all of this by means of the tools of the historical discipline, i.e. careful reading, critical analysis, accuracy in explaining and making use of evidence, and quality writing.

The course material will be delivered through both lectures and discussions of readings. Assessment will be based on tests, participation, written assignments, and a final exam.

It is imperative that students attend class consistently and keep up with the material. Each day you should expect to spend, outside of class time, at least one hour reading and studying. You can set yourself up for success right now by reading this syllabus and beginning to plan your term!

REQUIRED BOOKS

Wiesner-Hanks, Merry E., Clare Haru Crowston, Joe Perry, and John P. MacKay. *A History of Western Society*. 13th ed. Value edition, combined edition. Boston: Bedford St. Martin's, 2020.

This is your textbook. It available through the UM Bookstore (\$57). Purchasing the textbook automatically gives you access to the publisher's online Achieve website. There is also the alternative option of purchasing 12-month access to the e-book and Achieve system (\$39).

RECOMMENDED BOOKS

Backman, Clifford R., ed. *Sources for Cultures of the West*. 3rd ed. 2 volumes: vol. 1, *To 1750*; vol. 2, *Since 1350*. Oxford: Oxford University Press, 2019.

The sources in the two volumes of this book can be used when you write your research essay. It is useful but not required.

Additional resources will be supplied by the instructor on UMLearn.

REMOTE LEARNING INFORMATION

There will be two primary modes for delivering the course material: lectures and discussions. Both of these will take place online, in real time (synchronously), through video meetings on Cisco WebEx, which you access through UMLearn. These will take place during scheduled class time, 11:30 am to 12:45 pm on Tues/Thurs.

Lectures: lectures will be recorded and will be available on UMLearn until the end of the following week. Slides will also be posted on UMLearn after the lecture has been delivered. I will take questions periodically during the lectures: you can either type in the chat or raise your hand. Note: one of the easiest steps you can take towards succeeding is consistently attending the lectures *when they are delivered*.

Discussions: discussions of assigned readings will take place regularly during class time. Students will sign up for readings in advance and will receive a participation grade based on contributing to these discussions. All students are encouraged to participate.

Assignments, readings, and course materials will be made available on UMLearn. To complete your assignments, you must have access to Microsoft Word or an equivalent word processor, such as Google Docs, OpenWord, etc. Readings will be distributed in PDF format.

Tests and the final exam will be written online through UMLearn. Specific instructions will be provided.

I will hold online office hours regularly on Weds, 10:30 am to 12 noon. You can connect on WebEx through UMLearn. I am also happy to talk with you at another time if need be. You are welcome to e-mail me with any questions, concerns, or to check in about the course: jason.brown@umanitoba.ca. I am happy to hear from you and like to help students succeed in the course.

EVALUATION AND ASSIGNMENTS

TESTS AND EXAMS:

45% of final mark

Map Test 1	Thurs 17 Sept	1.5% of final mark	
Map Test 2	Tues 26 Jan	1.5% of final mark	
Test 1	Tues 27 Oct	* 6% of final mark	*one test dropped
Test 2	Thurs 10 Dec	* 6% of final mark	from final mark
Test 3	Tues 9 Mar	* 6% of final mark	= 12% for tests
Final Exam	TBA	30% of final mark	

Map Tests will available on UMLearn for three days. You will be allowed several attempts to write them.

Test 1, 2, and 3 will be written during class time. Students will write the test on UMLearn during the first half of class (approx. 11:30 am to 12:05 pm). After the tests have been completed, there will be a shortened lecture or discussion (approx. 12:10 to 12:45 pm). Each test will be based on the material covered during the previous six weeks of the course.

Your lowest test mark will be dropped from your final grade.

The Final Exam will be 3 hours long. The final examination will consist of both short-answer and essay questions. It will cover the entire course. A detailed explanation will be provided in March.

PARTICIPATION

12.5% of final mark

Online quizzes: Achieve Read & Practice

5% of final mark

Achieve Read & Practice is an online quiz system combined with an e-book version of the course textbook: <https://www.macmillanlearning.com/college/us/digital/achieve-read-and-practice>. For each chapter, there is a quiz to test students' comprehension and knowledge. Students will receive up to 5% of their final mark from completion of these quizzes throughout the term.

In-class discussions

7.5% of final mark

Students will receive up to 7.5% for contributing to discussions of readings.

First reading response	1% of final mark
Discussion of first reading	1% of final mark
Second reading response	1% of final mark
Discussion of second reading	1% of final mark
Third reading response	1% of final mark
Discussion of third reading	1% of final mark
Overall participation during the term	1.5% of final mark

Discussion sessions will be held during regular class time. For each discussion there are several readings provided through UMLearn. In the first week of term, a sign-up sheet will be available. You should choose three different discussion sessions and sign up for one reading from each.

You are expected to do the readings you have signed up for and post a response to each reading on the UMLearn forum at least 2 days before the scheduled discussion. Your response could be a typed write-up, handwritten notes, or a video or audio recording. You are also expected to attend the discussion during class time and give the class a brief introduction to what you read, answer questions from the instructor, and discuss it with the rest of the class. All students can participate in the discussions.

WRITTEN ASSIGNMENTS

42.5% of final mark

Introductory Statement	Tues 29 Sept	2.5% of final mark
Essay 1	Tues 20 Oct	10% of final mark
Research Assignment	Tues 17 Nov	5% of final mark
Essay 2	Tues 2 Feb	10% of final mark
Essay 3	Thurs 8 Apr	15% of final mark

Essay and bibliographical assignments will be explained in class and instructions will be on UMLearn.

Assignments must be submitted electronically through UMLearn (in a Word format, .docx or .doc). The file name for the document should be as follows: SURNAME Given name Assign #. I will not accept emailed submissions, nor will I mark assignments submitted in .pdf or .pages formats.

Course-based writing tutor program:

Every student in this course is required to meet with a writing tutor twice to discuss their essays while they are in progress. The Academic Learning Centre (ALC) has hired writing tutors specifically to meet with students in this course, to give them advice and support them in writing and revising their assignments. Make appointments and learn more here: <http://umanitoba.ca/student/academiclearning/>

Essay revision period:

Students who meet with a writing tutor to discuss an essay before the essay deadline will have the option to revise their essay. Students will still need to submit the completed essay on time. However, if you met with a writing tutor before the official due date for that essay and submitted the essay on time, you will be granted several extra days of *revision time*. You can then submit a *revised paper* by the new deadline, and it is your *revised paper* that will be marked.

General guidelines for essays:

Essays must be fully footnoted, providing references to page numbers in the assigned texts wherever you quote, paraphrase, indicate, or make use of something in the text. Footnotes must permit me to find the exact location necessary to verify the accuracy of what you are saying. Notes and bibliography shall follow the Chicago Manual of Style (https://www.chicagomanualofstyle.org/tools_citationguide/citation-guide-1.html). Essays must be a minimum of 1000 words and a maximum of 2000 words, not counting footnotes and bibliography. They must be prepared in 12-point font on one side of the page and double spaced with proper margins. Include page numbers on all pages except the title page.

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.

Introductory statement

2.5% of final mark

This is a 250–500 word introduction of yourself as a student to let me know a little about you. How long have you been at U of M? What are your strengths as a student? What areas do you need to improve on? Do you have any concerns about online learning? What topics that we plan to cover seem most interesting to you? Do you have any initial thoughts on the assignments and readings for the course?

Essay 1: reading historical evidence

10% of final mark

In this essay, you are asked to answer a question on the basis of two to four assigned readings. A list of topics will be provided in the essay instructions. You must choose one of these topics. Each topic has a list of texts associated with it. No other texts or sources are to be used or cited in the essay.

Research assignment: practicum in historical research

5% of final mark

The bibliography assignment is an exercise intended to send you to the library and to help you learn how to discover, locate, and cite sources for historical research. It is a practicum in research methods, and can be applied to fields beyond history. Your task is to prepare an annotated bibliography of ten sources which could be used to write an essay on your chosen subject. You must hand in a bibliography providing ten references and following Chicago Manual of Style guidelines.

Essay 2: historical research essay (to 1500)

10% of final mark

In this essay, you are asked to carry out research into a historical topic of your choice relevant to the history of Western civilization to 1500. You will use both modern scholarship (secondary sources) and surviving written evidence from the past (primary sources) to write an essay on the topic you choose.

Essay 3: historical research essay (from 1500)

15% of final mark

In this essay, you are asked to carry out research into a historical topic of your choice relevant to the history of Western civilization from 1500. You will use both modern scholarship (secondary sources) and surviving written evidence from the past (primary sources) to write an essay on the topic you choose.

GRADE DISTRIBUTION

A+	93–100%	exceptional work	C+	64–70%	satisfactory
A	85–92%	excellent	C	57–63%	adequate
B+	78–84%	very good	D	50–56%	marginal
B	71–77%	good	F	0–49%	failing

REGULATIONS AND ACADEMIC INTEGRITY

Students are expected to submit assignments on time, and extensions will be granted only if discussed in advance of the due date. I reserve the right to deduct up to 4% for every day after the assigned deadline. No papers will be accepted after the last day of class without a signed and approved request for extension.

Students who wish to appeal a grade given for term work must do so within 10 working days after the grade for 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.

The Voluntary Withdrawal date for this course is Fri 29 Jan 2021. Students will receive evaluation and feedback for a portion of their term work before that date.

Academic Integrity

The fundamental meaning of ‘academic integrity’ is doing your own work. There are many circumstances which can make a student tempted to cheat: stress, lack of confidence, anxiety about success or marks, difficulty managing time, etc. Do not fall for the temptation!

If you are struggling to get the work done, finding an assignment challenging, or are particularly stressed, *talk to the instructor*. I am happy to hear from you and I want to help you succeed.

There are real and lasting penalties for academic dishonesty.

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.

These regulations may be found in the section on “Academic Integrity” of the General Academic Regulations in the online Academic Calendar, and Catalog and the Faculty of Arts regulation at: http://umanitoba.ca/faculties/arts/student_resources/student_responsibilities_integrity.html

STUDENT RESOURCES

History Subject Librarian

History students can also take advantage of the huge range of academic materials (including primary and secondary sources, as well as pages to help with writing and referencing) made available by the History subject librarian, tailored just for you! They are available on the Libraries page at this link: <http://libguides.lib.umanitoba.ca/history>. Students who need research assistance can also schedule an appointment with a librarian through the website.

UM History Student Association (UMHiSA)

UMHiSA is a history undergraduate student run organization that seeks to establish a sense of community for students studying all facets of history, and provide support for them in their academic career. Students interested in fun times, spirited debate, new opportunities, a community of like-minded students, or all of the above, check out UMHiSA on our twitter account @UMH_Undergrad, our instagram account @UMHISA_Undergrad, or emailing umhisau@gmail.com.

IMPORTANT DATES

Thurs	10 Sept	CLASS BEGINS
Mon	12 Oct	THANKSGIVING university closed
Mon–Fri	9–13 Nov	FALL BREAK
Weds	11 Nov	REMEMBRANCE DAY university closed
Thurs	10 Dec	LAST CLASS OF FALL TERM
	12–23 Dec	FALL TERM EXAM PERIOD (none for this course)
	24 Dec – 4 Jan	HOLIDAY CLOSURE university closed
	5–15 Jan	FALL TERM IN-PERSON LEARNING (none for this course)
Tues	19 Jan	FIRST CLASS OF WINTER TERM
Fri	29 Jan	VOLUNTARY WITHDRAWAL DEADLINE
Mon–Fri	15–19 Feb	MID-TERM BREAK
Mon	15 Feb	LOUIS RIEL DAY university closed
Fri	2 Apr	GOOD FRIDAY university closed

Thurs 15 Apr

FINAL CLASS

19 Apr – 1 May

EXAM PERIOD

SCHEDULE OF LECTURES

Week	Subject
1: 9–11 Sept THURS	Introduction Introduction to the Course. What is Western Civilization?
2: 14–18 Sept TUES THURS	Societies of the Middle East The Dawn of Recorded History: Sumerians, Babylonians, Egyptians. –MAP TEST 1– The Hebrews and the Persians.
3: 21–25 Sept TUES THURS	The Greeks Ancient and Classical Greece. Greek Philosophy. Alexander the Great and the Hellenistic World.
4: 28 Sept–2 Oct TUES THURS	The Romans –INTRODUCTORY STATEMENT– The Rise of Rome. The Roman Empire.
5: 5–9 Oct TUES THURS	The Christian Church and the Roman Empire Jesus and the Christian Church. Late Antiquity: the Empire and the Church.
6: 12–16 Oct TUES THURS	The Fall of Rome and the Dark Age The Fall of Rome: the Barbarian Invasions. The Dark Age in Western Europe.
7: 19–23 Oct TUES THURS	The Three Civilizations of the Medieval Mediterranean –ESSAY 1– The Eastern Mediterranean: the Byzantine Empire and the Rise of Islam. Charlemagne and Christendom.
8: 26–30 Oct TUES THURS	The Transformation of Medieval Europe –TEST 1– The Viking Age and the Origins of Feudalism. The Reform of the Church. The Rise of the Papacy.
9: 2–6 Nov TUES THURS	Crusades and Kingdoms The Crusades. High Medieval Kingdoms.

9–13 Nov	Fall Break
10: 16–20 Nov TUES THURS	The High Middle Ages –RESEARCH ASSIGNMENT– The Commercial Revolution and Representative Government. The Twelfth-Century Renaissance. The Universities and Learning.
11: 23–27 Nov TUES THURS	The End of the High Middle Ages Daily Life and Religion in the High Middle Ages. Problems of Late-Medieval Society: the Black Death, Uprisings, and Warfare.
12: 30 Nov–4 Dec TUES THURS	From Medieval to Renaissance Problems of Late-Medieval Religion: the Babylonian Captivity and the Great Schism. Renaissance Society: the Italian City-States and Humanism.
13: 7–11 Dec TUES THURS	Transition Renaissance Art, Science, and Exploration. The Idea of the Renaissance. –TEST 2– Conclusion: Western Civilization to 1500.
12–23 Dec	Fall Term Exam Period (none for this course)
24 Dec – 4 Jan	Holiday Closure
5–15 Jan	Fall Term In-Person Learning (none for this course)
14: 18–22 Jan TUES THURS	New Frontiers Introduction: Western Civilization from 1500. Spanish and Portuguese in the New World.
15: 25–29 Jan TUES THURS	Revolutions in Science and Religion –MAP TEST 2– The Scientific Revolution. The Reformation in Germany, Switzerland, and England. –VOLUNTARY WITHDRAWAL DEADLINE–
16: 1–5 Feb TUES THURS	Religious and Political Conflicts –ESSAY 2– The Counter-Reformation. Protestants vs Catholics. The Wars of Religion. England: The Reign of Elizabeth.
17: 8–12 Feb TUES THURS	Constitutionalism vs Absolutism The English Civil War, the Glorious Revolution, and England’s Constitutional Monarchy. Absolutism and France under Louis XIV.
15–19 Feb	Mid-Term Break
18: 22–26 Feb TUES	The Dawn of the Age of Revolution The Enlightenment.

THURS	The American Revolution.
19: 1–5 Mar TUES THURS	The French Revolution and Its Aftermath The French Revolution. Napoleon’s Empire and the Congress of Vienna.
20: 8–12 Mar TUES THURS	The Industrial Revolution –TEST 3– The Industrial Revolution and the Social Question. The Victorian Age: Domesticity and Feminism.
21: 15–19 Mar TUES THURS	The Age of Empire The Awakening of Nationalism. The New Imperialism.
22: 22–26 Mar TUES THURS	The First World War The First World War. The Inter-War Years.
23: 29 Mar – 2 Apr TUES THURS	The Second World War and the Cold War The Second World War and Its Outcomes. The Cold War.
24: 5–9 Apr TUES THURS	The End of History? The New Left and the New Right. –ESSAY 3– New World Order: the 1990s and 2000s.
25: 12–16 Apr TUES THURS	Conclusion and Review State of the West in the 2010s. Conclusion and Exam Review.
19 Apr – 1 May	Exam Period