

**SYLLABUS FOR HISTORY-2**  
**INTRODUCTION TO WESTERN CIVILIZATION II**  
*West Los Angeles College, Spring 2015*

**TIME:** 6:45 -10.00 p.m., Tuesdays (section 4206)

**PLACE:** Building GC, Room 470

**Instructor:** Dr. Ali Parsa

**Office hours:** By appointment

**Tel:** cell (310)650-1022   **E-mail:** parsaa@wlaac.edu

**Course Description, Goals, and Objectives:**

This course is a survey of the cultural aspects of Western civilization, within its historical context, from the 15<sup>th</sup> century to the present. It explores the arts, architecture, literature, philosophy, and religion of the past in an integrated way. It focuses on the interrelationship among these human creative activities.

**Required Text:**

McKay, *A History of Western Society: Volume II*,  
Houghton Mifflin, 1999 (8<sup>th</sup> Edition)

**IMPORTANT NOTES:**

The lectured material is extremely important and should be focused on for the exams. Therefore, the students are expected to attend class regularly and take good notes. Lecture notes and PowerPoint presentation are all on the class website. Print them and read them very carefully. Also, the study questions for each exam are given on the "Segment Handouts." Coming to class is critical and having the reading assignment done ahead of time makes it easier to follow the lectures. You must come on time and stay for the whole class to qualify for the participation credit.

**No cell-phone rings please. No make-up exam unless due to extreme circumstances with proper written evidence. No computers or texting during lecture please.**

**Course Goals, Objectives, and Student Learning Outcomes:**

In Accordance with WLAC Institutional and the Division "Student Learning Outcomes" the following goals and objectives are pursued through this course.

- A. **Critical Thinking:** Analyze problems by differentiating fact from opinions, using evidence, and using sound reasoning to specify multiple solutions and their consequences.
- B. **Communication:** Effectively communicate thought in a clear, well-organized manner to persuade, inform, and convey ideas in academic, work, family and community settings.
- C. **Quantitative Reasoning:** Identify, analyze, and solve problems that are quantitative in nature.
- D. **Cultural Diversity:** Respectfully engage with other cultures in an effort to understand them.
- E. **Ethics:** Practice and demonstrate standards of personal and professional integrity, honesty and fairness; apply ethical principles in submission of all college work.
- F. **Interdisciplinary Awareness:** Cultivate relationship to other disciplines
- G. **Creativity:** Develop individual creative process and practice creative routine
- H. **Self-Awareness & Growth:** Learn self-assessment for personal fulfillment and growth

**GRADING:** Submit 3 clean (no names on them!) **886-E** scantrons for exams by the 2<sup>nd</sup> week. If you miss an exam for an emergency reason, you need a written documentation, but your grade will be lowered one point. Exams break down as follow:

15 multiple choice questions.....	15 points
1 essay question.....	5 points
<u>5 IDs.....</u>	<u>10 points</u>
Each exam total.....	30 points
<b>Total 3 Exams .....</b>	<b>90 points</b>
Attendance & participation.....	10 points
<b>TOTAL POSSIBLE COURSE POINTS ....(100%)</b>	<b>100 points</b>

## ***Lecture Outline & Reading Assignments***

- **Feb. 10** Introduction/ Review of Late Middle Ages & Renaissance/  
Crises of Late Middle Ages/
- **Feb. 17** Italian & Northern Renaissance/ Protestant Reformation/  
Read: pp. xxix-xxxii
- **Feb. 24** Religious Wars/ Absolutism in France & Constitutionalism in England/  
Read: pp. 531-554
- **Mar. 3** 16<sup>th</sup> -17<sup>th</sup> Century Scientific Revolution/ Birth of Modern Philosophy/  
Read: pp. 594-604
- **Mar. 10** **Exam 1:**
- **Mar. 17** Social Contract Theory/ The 18<sup>th</sup> Century Enlightenment/  
Read: pp. 604-623
- **Mar. 24** The French Revolution/ and the Napoleonic Era/  
Read: pp. 690-718

-----**March 30: No Class, Spring Recess**-----

- **Apr. 7** Industrial Revolution & Social Problems/  
Read: pp. 724-741
- **Apr. 14** Industrial Revolution & Social Problems/ Socialism/  
Read: pp. 761-769
- **Apr. 21** **Exam 2:**

- **Apr. 28** Romanticism/ 2<sup>nd</sup> Industrial Revolution/ New Optimism/ Social Darwinism/  
Read: pp. 788-805
- **May 5** The Age of Anxiety/ Quantum Physics/ Freud/ Nietzsche/ Kierkegaard/  
Read: pp. 921-938
- **May 12** World War I/ Aftermath of the War/ Middle East/ Russian Revolution/  
Read: pp. 887-904
- **May 19** Rise of Fascism/ Nazism/ Soviet in Stalin Era/  
Read: pp. 963-971
- **May 26** World War II/ Course of the War/ “Cold War” Era, U.S. vs U.S.S.R.  
Read: pp. 971-1002 & 1028-1060
- **June 2** Exam 3: (final)