

HIST 122: HISTORY OF WESTERN CIVILIZATION II



Gustave Caillebotte, *Paris Street in the Rain* (1877)

Instructor: Prof. Steven E. Harris

University of Mary Washington – Fall Semester 2018

This class meets Tu/Th, 11:00am-12:15pm, Monroe 346

Office hours: T, 3:30pm-6pm; TR, 10am-11am; R, 1:30pm-2pm and by appointment

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Description

This course examines the history of Western Civilization from the French Revolution of the late 18th century and the long shadow it cast over 19th century states and societies to the World Wars and dramatic dismantling of European global empires in the 20th century. Our main sources for understanding this history are the statements and reflections that contemporaries made on the radical changes and surprising continuities of their times. In reading and discussing them, we will make sense of the ideas and questions that informed and arose from the politics, social organization, warfare, and economies of modern European history.

Course assignments

Class participation:	15%
Paper #1:	15%
Midterm exam:	20%
Paper #2:	20%
Final Exam:	30%

Course readings

John Merriman, *A History of Modern Europe*, volume 2, third edition (New York: W. W. Norton & Company, 2009).

University of Chicago Readings in Western Civilization, Volume 7: The Old Regime and the French Revolution (Chicago: University of Chicago Press, 1987).

University of Chicago Readings in Western Civilization, Volume 8: Liberalism and Its Critics (Chicago: University of Chicago Press, 1989).

University of Chicago Readings in Western Civilization, Volume 9: Twentieth-Century Europe (Chicago: University of Chicago Press, 1987).

Course schedule

August 28: Introduction to the course

The Ancien Régime

August 30: * Loyseau, *A Treatise on Orders* (RWC 7, 13-31)

Sept. 4: * Bossuet, *Politics Derived from the Words of Holy Scripture* (RWC 7, 31-47)

Sept. 6: * Diderot, *The Definition of an Encyclopedia* (RWC 7, 71-89)
* Equiano, *The Interesting Narrative of the Life of Olaudah Equiniao or Gustavus Vassa the African* (blog)

The French Revolution

Sept. 11: * Merriman, Ch. 12: “The French Revolution” (435-478)

Sept. 13: * A Royal Tongue-Lashing (RWC 7, 47-50)
* Protests of the Parlement of Paris (RWC 7, 118-123)

Sept. 18: * Sieyès, *What is the Third Estate?* (RWC 7, 154-179)

Sept. 20: * Decrees of the National Assembly (10-11 August 1789) (RWC 7, 226-231)
* Declaration of the Rights of Man and of the Citizen (RWC 7, 237-239)
* Burke, *Reflections on the Revolution in France* (RWC 7, 428-445)

Sept. 25: * The Constitution of 1791 (RWC 7, 249-261)
* Gouges, *Declaration of the Rights of Women* (RWC 7, 261-268)

Sept. 26 (Wednesday): Paper #1 due today

Sept. 27: * Documents of the Sans-Culottes (RWC 7, 330-340)
* Robespierre, Report on the Principles (RWC 7, 368-384)

Conservatism, Bonapartism, and Liberalism

October 2: * Al-Jabarti, *Chronicle of the French Occupation, 1798* (blog)
* Maistre, *Considerations on France* (RWC 7, 445-452)
* Constant, *Ancient and Modern Liberty Compared* (RWC 7, 452-461)

October 4: Midterm exam

Industrialization as Revolution

October 9: * Merriman, Ch. 14, “The Industrial Revolution” (513-568)
* Two Articles from *The Economist* (RWC 8, 92-100)

October 11: * Samuel Smiles, *William Fairbairn* (RWC 8, 82-92)

October 13-16: Fall Break

October 18: * Charles Fourier, on the Phalanstery (RWC 8, 159-174)

October 23: * Tristan, *The Workers' Union* (1843) (RWC 8, 188-201)

The Revolutions of 1848 and Marxism

October 25: * Merriman, Ch. 16, "The Revolutions of 1848" (613-643)

October 30: * Marx, *The Eighteenth Brumaire* (RWC 8, 242-266)

Nationalism

November 1: * Merriman, Ch. 17, "The Era of National Unification" (649-683)
* Giuseppe Mazzini, *Duties to Country* (RWC 8, 282-287)

November 6: * Theodor Herzl, *The Jewish State* (RWC 8, 483-492)

Imperialism

November 8: * Merriman, Ch. 21, "The Age of European Imperialism" (819-859)

November 13: * Rudyard Kipling, *The White Man's Burden* (RWC 8, 544-546)
* The Earl of Cromer, *Modern Egypt* (RWC 8, 546-554)

November 14 (Wednesday): Paper #2 due today

Totalitarianism and World Wars

November 15: * Merriman, Ch. 22, "The Great War" (863-872; 881-888; 892-899)
* Freud, *Thoughts for the Times on War and Death* (RWC 9, 155-175)

November 20: * Adolf Hitler, *Mein Kampf* (RWC 9, 191-218)

November 22: Thanksgiving

November 27: * Merriman, Ch. 26, "World War II" (1049-1059; 1065-1069; 1073-1082)
* Bettelheim, *Experience of the Concentration Camps* (RWC 9, 466-482)

Postwar Europe and Decolonization

November 29: * Merriman, Ch. 27 (1109-1119)

* Hannah Arendt, *On Humanity in Dark Times* (RWC 9, 560-583)

December 4: * Merriman, Ch. 28 (1160-1175)
* Aimé Césaire, *Discourse on Colonialism* (course blog)
* Frantz Fanon, *The Wretched of the Earth* (course blog)

December 6: * Michel Foucault, *The Subject and Power* (RWC 9, 583-593)

Final exam: Tuesday, December 11, 12:00pm-2:30pm