



SYLLABUS FOR HUMANITIES-31 (Online)
CIVILIZATION FROM 15TH CENTURY TO THE PRESENT

West Los Angeles College, Fall 2015

Section 8087: from 10/5/2014 to 12/20/2014 (10 weeks)

Instructor: Dr. Ali Parsa

Office hours: By appointment (Either in WLAC or my Brentwood office)

Contacting me: PLEASE: Contact me ONLY through the website's "private messages," to prevent confusion. DO NOT email. I will not answer (unless it is urgent!)

Course Description, Goals, and Objectives:

This course is a survey of the cultural aspects of Western civilization, within its historical context, from the 15th 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.

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. **Ethics:** Practice and demonstrate standards of personal and professional integrity, honesty and fairness; apply ethical principles in submission of all college work
- E. **Interdisciplinary Awareness:** Cultivate relationship to other disciplines
- F. **Creativity:** Develop individual creative process and practice creative routine
- G. **Self-Awareness and Growth:** Learn self-assessment for personal fulfillment and growth

Required Text:

Gloria Fiero, *The Humanistic Tradition: Volume II*, (of the 2 volume series--not the 6 volume series, ISBN: 978-0-07-734623-2)

McGraw-Hill 2011 (6th Edition)

IMPORTANT NOTES:

The text reading assignment covers only a portion of the material you need to know for the tests. **Website materials (on the Modules) are essential** and **participation in the "Weekly Discussions" is also very important** for doing well on the exams.

GRADING & EXAMS:

10 multiple choice questions are given on every week's test.. 10 points

1 Essay question is given on every week's test 5 points

Total possible points on each week's exam..... 15 points

Total possible points for the exams (15 x 10 weeks)..... 150 points

Participation in weekly discussions (total for the course)30 points

TOTAL POSSIBLE POINTS FOR THE COURSE..... 180 points

You will have total of 10 exams (one for every week of the course). The exams will always open on **Thursdays morning at 6:00 a.m.** and you have **till 6:00 p.m. on Sunday** to finish it. However, as soon as you open the exam, you only have 50 minutes to finish it. Each exam contains 10 multiple choices and one 200-words essay. Please do not wait until the last day or last minute to take it. It is risky! The first exam does not require the book. It is based on the Modules readings only. Next ones will require both. (click on "assignment, test, and..." on the left). The essay questions will be given ahead of time (look at the end of each Module). You can work on them and write them before the exam. You can even copy-and-paste them on the exam, but **they should be in your own words.**

In addition, you have to **participate in the "Weekly Discussions."** (go to "Discussion and Private Messages" on the class web). There is no right or wrong answer. One participation per week is minimum required. Read others and respond to them. You need to use your own words. No credit will be given for Cut-N-Paste. Do not ignore this "Weekly Discussion," they worth 30 points total! You have Monday to Sunday to participate. Participation points are given at the end of the semester based on your overall performance. There is **no make up exam**, since you have 3 ½ days to choose your convenient time. However, there is only one chance. You will be given an optional 11th exam, which could work as a make up. It will be 20 multiple-choice questions only from all previous 10 exams. Use reliable Internet connection. Interruption during the exam will end that exam and you cannot take it again. (Better use more reliable connection at home than one in a coffee shop!). Please remember, each student gets a different set of questions.

Lecture Outline & Reading Assignments

Week-One

- **Oct. 5** Introduction/ Review of the Past/ Crises of Late Middle Ages/
Art and Music of the Late Middle Ages/

Italian Renaissance/ Northern Renaissance/ Art and Music of Renaissance/

Read: Only readings are from the website "Modules"

50-minutes quiz can be taken from Thursday to Sunday

Participate in the “Weekly Discussion” online

Week-Two

- **Oct. 12** Protestant Reformation/ Calvinism/ English Reformation/ Anabaptists/
Read: From Web “Modules.” Also, Chapter 19: pp. 1-19

Catholic Reformation/ Mannerism/ Baroque Style/
Read: From Web “Modules.” Also, Chapter 20: pp. 37-40; pp. 42-59

50-minutes quiz can be taken from Thursday to Sunday
Participate in the “Weekly Discussion” online

Week-Three

- **Oct. 19** Baroque Architecture/ Aristocratic Style in France/
Read: From Web “Modules.” Also, Chapter 21: pp. 60-70

Baroque in Protestant North/ Arts and Music/
Read: From Web “Modules.” Also, Chapter 22: pp. 97-99; pp.106-111

50-minutes quiz can be taken from Thursday to Sunday
Participate in the “Weekly Discussion” online

Week-Four

- **Oct. 26** Scientific Revolution/ New World View/ Philosophy during Scientific/
Revolution/ Impact of the Scientific Revolution on Art
Read: From Web “Modules.” Also, Chapter 23: pp. 112-131

Social Contract Theory/ John Locke and Thomas Hobbes/
Read: From Web “Modules.” Also, Chapter 24: pp. 134-138

50-minutes quiz can be taken from Thursday to Sunday
Participate in the “Weekly Discussion” online

Week-Five

- **Nov. 2** 18th Century European Enlightenment/ *Philosophes* and Their Views/
Read: From Web “Modules.” Also, Chapter 24: pp. 138-142

18th Century Art, Music, and Society/ Rococo Style and Neo-classicism/
Read: From Web “Modules.” Also, Chapter 26: pp. 175-205

50-minutes quiz can be taken from Thursday to Sunday
Participate in the “Weekly Discussion” online

Week-Six

- **Nov. 9** Late 18th Century French Revolution/
Read: From Web “Modules.” Also, Chapter 25: pp. 171-174

Early 19th Century Napoleon/ Romanticism/ Hegel/ Art and Music/
Read: From Web “Modules.” Also, Chapter 28: pp. 237-239

Chapter 27: pp. 210-211; Chapter 29: pp. 258-265; pp. 267-272
50-minutes quiz can be taken from Thursday to Sunday

Participate in the “Weekly Discussion” online

Week-Seven

- **Nov. 16** Late 18th Century Industrial Revolution/ Leadership of Britain/
Read: From Web “Modules.” Also, Chapter 25: p. 153

Mid-19th Century Industrial Society’s Problems and Responses/
Utopian Socialism/ Marxism/ Nationalism/

Read: From Web “Modules.” Also, Chapter 30: pp. 283-288

50-minutes quiz can be taken from Thursday to Sunday
Participate in the “Weekly Discussion” online

Week of Nov. 19: Thanksgiving Break (No Work!)

Week-Eight

- **Nov. 23** Late 19th Century 2nd Industrial Revolution/ New Optimism & Confidence/
Colonialism and Imperialism/ New Faith in Science/ August Comte’s Positivism/
Darwin and Social Darwinism/
Read: From Web “Modules.” Also, Chapter 27: pp. 211-212

Realism/ Dickens and Tolstoy/

Read: From Web “Modules.” Also, Chapter 31: pp. 289-295

50-minutes quiz can be taken from Thursday to Sunday
Participate in the “Weekly Discussion” online

Week-Nine

- **Nov. 30** Turn of the 20th Century/ Age of Anxiety/ New Physics/
Relativity and Quantum Physics: Impact on Social Science/ Freud/
Read: From Web “Modules.” Also, Chapter 32: pp. 354-55; Chapter 33: pp. 381-84

Existential Philosophy/ Nietzsche and Kierkegaard/

Read: From Web “Modules.” Also, Chapter 31: pp. 320-321;
Chapter 35: p. 429

50-minutes quiz can be taken from Thursday to Sunday
Participate in the “Weekly Discussion” online

Week-Ten

- **Dec. 7** Turn of the 20th Century/ Age of Anxiety/ New Physics/
Relativity and Quantum Physics: Impact on Art/ Modern Art/
Impact on Modern Art/ Impressionism/ Cubism/ Abstract Painting/

Read: From Web “Modules.” Also, Chapter 31: pp. 324-328 & 342-348
Chapter 32: pp. 358-360; pp. 368-372

50-minutes quiz can be taken from Thursday to Sunday (No Final!)
Participate in the “Weekly Discussion” online

College Policies:

Academic Integrity (Plagiarism)

In accordance with code 9803.28, **academic dishonesty is prohibited and will not be tolerated in this class.** Violations of academic integrity include, but are not limited to, the following actions: cheating on an exam, plagiarism, working together on an assignment, paper or project when the instructor has specifically stated students should not do so, submitting the same term paper to more than one instructor, or allowing another individual to assume one's identity for the purpose of enhancing one's grade. Academic dishonesty of any type, such as cheating or knowingly furnishing false information, by a student provides grounds for disciplinary action by the instructor or college. In written work, no material may be copied from another without proper quotation marks, footnotes, or appropriate documentation.

- **Plagiarism will result in a zero for the assignment, possible dismissal from the class and disciplinary action from the college. You will not receive credit for any essay missing previous drafts, citations and/or a Works Cited page.**

Campus Resources

Office of Disabled Student Programs and Services (DSP&S)

Student Services Building (SSB) 320 | (310) 287-4450.

West Los Angeles College recognizes and welcomes its responsibility to provide an equal educational opportunity to all disabled individuals. The Office of Disabled Students Programs and Services (DSP&S) has been established to provide support services for all verified disabled students pursuing a college education. DSP&S students may qualify for: priority registration, registration assistance, special parking permits, sign language interpreters and assistive technology (WLAC College Catalog).

Instructional Support (Tutoring) & Learning Skills Center

Heldman Learning Resources Center (HLRC) | (310) 287-4486

Improve your reading, language, vocabulary, spelling, math fundamentals and chemistry knowledge with convenient, self-paced computer-aided courses in the Learning Skills Center. Increase your knowledge and learning success: sign up for tutoring in various college subjects (WLAC College Catalog).

Library Services

Heldman Learning Resources Center (HLRC) | (310) 287-4269 & (310) 287-4486

The WLAC Library provides instruction on how to use the online catalog, periodical and research databases. In addition to a large collection of books, periodicals and videos the WLAC Library has course textbooks which students may use while in the Library. Web access is available in LIRL as well as meeting rooms. The upper floors provide a beautiful view ideal for study (WLAC College Catalog).

For more information refer to attached link:

http://www.wlac.edu/academics/pdf/WLAC_Catalog_Policies.pdf

Student Acknowledgment
(Please return this sheet to the instructor)

“I _____, have completely read this syllabus and understand and agree to the course requirements.”

Please indicate below, any special needs or circumstances that may have some impact on your work in this class, and for which you may require special accommodations, including but not limited to physical or mental disabilities, inability to arrive in class on time or need to leave class early, observance of religious holidays, etc.

Special needs or circumstances:
