Northern Virginia Community College  
Annandale Campus  
Western Civilization – HIS 102  
Syllabus

Instructor: Dr. J. P. LaBeouf  
Course: HIS 102  
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Office Hours: After class/by appointment  
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Notices:
1. NVCC is a place for learning and growing. You should feel safe and comfortable anywhere on this campus. In order to meet this objective, you should: a) let your instructor, his/her supervisor, the Dean of Students or Provost know if any unsafe, unwelcome or uncomfortable situation arises that interferes with the learning process; b) if you wish, you may inform the instructor within the first two weeks of classes if you have special needs or a disability that may affect your performance in this course.”
2. Students are expected to follow Information Technology Student/Patrol Ethics Agreement as posted in computer areas and academic integrity standards as set down in the Student Handbook.
3. In case of emergency, please follow the emergency as discussed on the first day of class and as posted in the classroom.

I. COURSE DESCRIPTION
A study of Western Civilization from 1715 to 1980s.

II. COURSE MATERIALS:
B. Sources of Western Tradition Vol. II, by Perry (check the bookstore – not always required every semester).
B. Handouts as distributed.

III. COURSE OBJECTIVES
To better understand the people, ideas and forces that have shaped the character and institutions of the world in which we live.

IV. COURSE CONTENT:
Refer to attached course schedule for a listing of topics and allocated time of discussion.

V. ATTENDANCE AND IN CLASS POLICIES:
• Participation in group discussions is part of your grade and to
participate, attendance is required. Attendance is not only required, but promptness 
expected. You must advise the instructor in advance if you anticipate you will be 
absent/late.

- **Late** students MUST sit by the door because walking across a room after class begins is 
distracting for the class and other students.
- **Absence** does not excuse a student from fulfilling his course assignment. A student can 
be marked “excused” if he/she contacts the instructor; otherwise it is marked as an 
unexplained absence. If absent, a student is expected to come to the next class prepared.
- **Classroom courtesy** requires students to **TURN OFF all cell phones** (unless there is an 
anticipated emergency call; this must be conveyed to the instructor in advance). In 
addition, all cell phones are to be put away (watching a student engaged in text 
messaging during classroom time is 
distracting to the instructor). If caught 
text messaging, you will be asked to 
leave the classroom. Instructor prefers 
that no caps be worn in class, especially 
ball caps with front visors. When worn 
down low on the eyes, instructor cannot 
make eye contact with the student which 
detracts from the instructor’s ability to 
encourage participation by all in the class 
and to gain a sense of a student’s 
understanding of presented material.

VI. **TESTING AND GRADING: VALUES**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Test</th>
<th>Percentage</th>
<th>Grade Range</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Test 1</td>
<td>20%</td>
<td>A = 90 to 100</td>
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<tr>
<td>Test 2</td>
<td>20%</td>
<td>B = 80 to 89</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Test 3</td>
<td>20%</td>
<td>C = 70 to 79</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Class Participation</td>
<td>10%</td>
<td>D = 60 to 69</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Essays</td>
<td>20%</td>
<td>F = 59 to 0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Instructor discretion</td>
<td>5%</td>
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</table>

**Note:** Class Participation means that a student is a group leader at times, and at other 
times **actively** provides input into the conversation of his/her group.

VII. **STUDENT STRATEGIES:**

**Recommended Strategies for Student Success:**

- **Buddy System:** Each student will select or be 
  assigned a class mate as a buddy. You will 
  exchange phone numbers and use each other as a 
sounding board, study partner and project helper 
as needed.

- **Group Meetings Outside of Classroom:** 
  Students often achieve a higher level of 
  understanding if they meet as groups on their 
  own time to study.
VIII. CLASSROOM STRATEGIES:

- **Group Discussions**: During the course of a lecture you will be asked to break out into small groups to discuss the day’s assignment (assigned readings and lecture information). The group set-up is an opportunity for students to experience a team approach to problem solving. Expectations to be further discussed in class.

- **Handouts**: Handouts may be provided to the class that consolidates information in such a way as to make more manageable the understanding of events or concepts.

- **Transparencies**: Transparencies will be used and will compliment lectures.

- **Terms to Study**: A list of terms called a guideline for study for each test will be distributed with the intent to increase student success in this course. Students who take the time to look up and study the terms, increase the likelihood of passing all tests.

IX. EXAMINATION INFORMATION:

- **Test Dates**: See attached calendar for specific dates (including final).

- **Exam Components**: Exams include a combination of multiple choice, cross match, fill in the blank, true/false, identification and an essay questions. Further discussion will follow in advance of the test.

- **Make-Up Exams**: Make-up exams are allowed only in an extreme situation as determined by the instructor. Prior scheduled vacation is not a valid excuse. Such exceptions will include death (immediate family); personal hospitalization, or official college business. Please discuss with instructor in ADVANCE of the test.

X. Essay guidelines: Each student will be responsible for completing essays, the number of which to be announced early in the semester.

- **Due Dates**: Paper due date: TBA. Exact date announced on the first night of class. Be advised that late essays will not be accepted barring a situation as noted under make-up exams. If there are extenuating circumstances, please advise instructor.

- **Mechanics of Paper**: Each essay must be typed, double spaced, 12 point font, 2 pages in length (if this changes, students will be advised in advance), and in acceptable academic paper form. Each essay must include a front page, the essay, and a reference page. Any quoting or paraphrasing from the Spielvogel book must be noted with page number; any article used in this book must be stated separately in appropriate format.

- **Reference page** must include use of the textbook, and articles within the textbook; use of web sites on essays to be discussed in class.

- **Plagiarism** is grounds for failure of the entire course.

**SEMESTER CALENDAR**
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Week of:</th>
<th>Text Assignment/Chapter and Title</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>#1</td>
<td>Introduction. Review Syllabus</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Why study history?</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Background Information leading up to 17th Century</td>
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<td>#2</td>
<td><strong>Part I. Early Modern Europe,</strong> State Building and the Search for Order in the 17th C.</td>
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<td>The Rise of Modernity:</td>
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<td>Break with Medieval Political Theory;</td>
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<td>Justification of Absolute Monarchy by Divine Right</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Secular Defense of Absolutism, and</td>
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<td>The Triumph of Constitutional Monarchy in England: The Glorious Revolution</td>
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<td>#3</td>
<td>Ch. 16. Scientific Revolution - Modern Science</td>
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<td>#4</td>
<td>Ch. 17. Enlightenment</td>
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<td>#5</td>
<td>Ch. 18 Eighteenth Century (States/Wars/Change)</td>
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<td>#6</td>
<td><strong>Test #1 - Ch. 15- 18</strong></td>
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<td>Begin: <strong>Part II: Modern Europe</strong></td>
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<td>Ch. 19 French Revolution and Napoleon</td>
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<td>Liberalism and Nationalism</td>
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<td>#7</td>
<td>Ch. 20, Industrial Revolution</td>
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<td>#8</td>
<td>Ch. 21, Reaction, Revolution, Romanticism 1815 -1850,</td>
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<tr>
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<td><strong>Break</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>#9</td>
<td>Ch. 22- Nationalism and Realism - 1850-1871</td>
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<td>Thought &amp; Culture in an Age of Science &amp; Industry</td>
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NOTE: Last day to withdraw without penalty or change to audit.

#10
Ch. 23 Mass Society - Age of Progress, 1871 - 1894, Politics and Society, 1845-1914 Consumerism

#11
Ch. 24 Age of Modernity and Anxiety, 1894 - 1914, 512 - 523 European Imperialism,

#12
Test 2 - Ch. 19-24 Modern Europe Part III: Western Civilization in Crisis
Ch. 25 Twentieth Century (War & Revolution)
Ch. 26 Europe Between the Wars, 1919 -1 939

#13
Ch. 27 European Crisis - W.W.II
Lenin, Stalin and Khrushchev.
Mussolini, Hitler, Chamberlain and Churchill

#14
Ch. 28 Cold War - New Western World, 1945 - 1970
The Cold War and The Collapse of Communism.

#15
Chapter 29. Contemporary Western World (Since 1970)
Feminism, Reaffirmation of Western Values and Toward the Twenty-First Century.

Final -
Test #3 Ch. 25 - 29 - Part III. Modern Europe