History 122-650 (Honors)  
Western Civilization Since the 1500 to the Present  
Dr. Phyllis Soybel  
Spring 2013

History is indeed little more than the register of the crimes, follies, and misfortunes of mankind. **Edward Gibbon, British historian and author of The Decline and Fall of the Roman Empire.**

History balances the frustration of "how far we have to go" with the satisfaction of "how far we have come." It teaches us tolerance for the human shortcomings and imperfections, which are not uniquely of our generation, but of all time. **Lewis F. Powell, Jr.. Associate Justice of the U.S. Supreme Court and former Army Intelligence Officer, WWII.**

**Course Description:** This course will explore the development of the west from the age of the Reformation to the present. We will examine the rise of the Western countries and its impact on the world. In doing so, we will explore the development of modern political, economic, social and intellectual ideas which make up the world in which we live.

**Instructor Information:** My office is A142 and the direct line is (847) 543-2543. My Email is psoybel@clcillinois.edu.

My office hours are below:
- Monday 9:00-11:30 pm
- Tuesday: 12:30-1:45 pm; 3:30-4:45 pm
- Wednesday: 1:30-4:00 pm
- Thursday: 12:30-1:45 pm; 3:30-4:45 pm

**Books:**
Frankforter, and Spellman, The West: A Narrative History ((Pearson) with MyHistoryLab. If you bought your copy at the CLC bookstore, you already have MyHistoryLab. However, if you bought your used through Amazon or whatever, MyHistoryLab can be purchased separately for $30 through Pearson’s site.

There will be online readings as well for which you will be responsible. These will be available on the Blackboard page or through the Pearson MyHistoryLab website for this class. The URL for Blackboard, [http://clc.blackboard.com](http://clc.blackboard.com). In addition, the PowerPoints, many of which will be shown in class, are available on Blackboard as well. These PowerPoints are really outlines will pictures and as such cannot substitute for class lecture or the textbook. They will however allow you to see what the topic is for the day’s lecture.

**Course Work:**
- Two Exams. 20% each (40% of final grade)
- Two Papers. 20% each (40% of final grade)
- Participation/attendance. (20% of final grade). This will also include any in class writing or activities, as well as Blackboard based occasional assignments. Some of those activities will include a class presentation, quizzes, as well as others.
Before you dismiss this, keep in mind that 20% equals two letter grades. Thus, a zero will bring your grade down one letter. While I understand that life can interrupt school, it is an expectation that you will be in class unless you are sick (no use getting other people sick as well), you’ve been stopped by a cop (speeding to get to class is admirable, but can get you into trouble), there’s a death in the family (sorry for your loss…. And it includes the immediate death of a pet), or you are stuck in an airport in Missoula, Montana. (Why did you ever think that this would be a Spring Break hotspot?). On the other hand, consider that if you are at a 88% for your exams and papers, 10% could be the difference between a B and an A going the good way.

Course Expectations:

The expectations I have are really very simple. You should take seriously every subject you study. Besides, you never know when you might be on Jeopardy. Seriously, the following are expectations concerning conduct and behavior, as well as late policy and plagiarism. While the bulk of material is delivered through lecture, I expect discussion and a lively exchange of ideas. Occasionally, we will go off on tangents, but even tangents can bring about learning. I truly believe in the notion that active participation promotes learning.

Attendance: You are expected to come to class and to participate in class discussions and to ask questions.

Discussion: This is an honors class. You are taking it because you want to be challenged and to go beyond a regular class. Thus, I want (and require) that you participate. In addition, I also hope that you challenge me; not in the sense of trying to appear more knowledgeable than I (you are in a number of areas, but in history at this stage, I think I have you), but to ask why historians interpret things the way we do or have there been differing opinions. There are very few interpretations about historical events that go unchallenged. The fact are the facts, but how we see those facts, events or the actions of people will always be subject to interpretation, even 400 years on.

I hope that you will engage not only yourself in the material, but to hopefully engage your fellow students. In order to do so, I expect that you will come to class prepared, having read the material for the week. Perhaps, after reading the text or the secondary readings, you will prepare some questions or comments which the reading has fostered. Contrary to popular opinion, history is not a spectator sport. We are all participating in its making. If we think in this mode, then hopefully reading the primary source documents of the previous civilizations in whose footsteps we follow will make greater sense.

Keep up with assignments: Trying to accomplish all of the work the night before a paper is due or the test is to be taken will only guarantee a sleepless night, headaches; it will not guarantee you a good grade. Instead, keeping up with the reading will give you a basis for understanding the lectures and the broader picture. In addition, one could apply the old adage: slow and steady wins the race; or, in this case, gets a better grade. Studies show that cramming is an ineffective way of learning. Just ask any Psychology professor about short term memory and its limitations.

If you will be absent due to illness or family emergency, particularly the day a paper is due, you are still expected to pass the paper in on time via email or fax. My fax information and
Email is listed above under Professor Information. Should you not have access to email, you must inform me the day a paper is due that you are absent due to illness and when you expect to have the paper in. A penalty will still be assessed. Late papers will be accepted only to the next scheduled class period and will be assessed a full letter grade penalty. Exams and Pop quizzes cannot be made up unless you have a doctor’s note, a traffic ticket, or other suitable documentation.

**Cell Phones and Pagers:** As we become more connected to the world around us and increasingly informal with each other, it has become easier to forget basic common courtesy, cell phones and pagers must be silenced and placed in book bags/backpacks, purses, or coat pockets before you come into class. With no exception, answering your cell phone during class is disruptive to both your instructor and to your classmates. Such behavior is also disrespectful. However, should you be expecting a phone call which is addressing a serious situation (i.e. waiting on a doctor’s phone call), please notify me prior to class, place your phone on vibrate, sit close to the door and step out of the classroom to take the call should you receive it during the class period. Arriving late to class or leaving before class is over is equally disturbing and respectful. This should not have to be said, but unfortunately this has happened. Thus, such tardiness, etc will be noted and will go into your attendance and participation grade. Don’t assume that because I don’t talk to you about it that I do not care about it. My exams are often based on my lectures with the book as supplement in some cases. However, there may be book-only questions. Thus, attending class is essential as is reading the textbook.

**Laptops:** this is a new one. I believe that we all take notes is a fashion which suits our study needs. If you were to look at my notes, I tend to develop abbreviations for many things. I don’t have an issue when students are using laptops to make their note taking more efficient. I DO have a problem when students use their laptops to Instant Message friends, surf the internet or do homework from other classes. I would remind you that using a laptop is not a given right, but a privilege. Many instructors prohibit its use. Thus my policy is that laptops are allowed as long as you are taking notes for this class. Occasionally, students have also looked for a date or name I have forgotten. This too is acceptable as it is related to the work we are doing in class. However, should you be discovered using the laptop for non-history purposes, you will no longer be allowed to use a laptop in this class. In other words, you will lose the privilege of its use. You may wonder why this is such an issue with me; I feel that your attention should be squarely placed on the subject matter at hand during class. We all occasionally disappear into our heads, but when you text on your cell phone, surf the internet, do homework for another class you are cheating yourself out of an education that you are paying for. In addition, it is, as said above, incredibly disrespectful to the instructor (me in this case) AND to your fellow classmates. I try and make history come alive and make it interesting to learn, but, as a student, you must be willing to learn, to pay attention, and to participate. None of which you can do if you are IMing your BFF about the cute guy/girl you saw in Lancers that morning. You can also think of it as a life skill. Imagine that you are at work and you are texting your significant other as your boss is trying to talk to you about a project, etc&. I wonder how long you will have that job.

**Cheating and plagiarism** will not be tolerated in this class, and work which is plagiarized or not of your own doing will receive a failing grade and may involve further action on the part of the college, up to and including reporting the infraction to the Vice-President of
Student Affairs. **Cheating** should need no explanation. My exams are essay driven, whether short paragraph or long essay. While it is not easy to cheat, you may be tempted to take short cuts. Don’t! Any student caught cheating on an exam or quiz will receive an F for the first violation. Should you be tempted to try it again and do, it will be reported to the Vice President of Student Development. **Plagiarism** is the intentional use of someone else’s words, thoughts, or ideas without giving the source proper and due credit, such as through the use of citation or footnote, as well as bibliographic notation. I will do my best to make you aware of how to avoid **plagiarizing**, but it is up to you to actually make the commitment. The rule on **plagiarism** is applicable to **ALL** written work you hand in. One way to avoid **plagiarism** is to footnote (or use parenthetical citations) in all your written work for this or any social science class. Failure to provide such will result in an F on the first assignment and failure in the class if it happens again as well as a report to the Vice-President for Student Development.

There is a method of citation used in all historical work. Called Turabian, it was developed out of the *University of Chicago Manual of Style*. It is this method you will utilize in all written work submitted for grade. We will discuss this within the first two weeks of classes so that you are aware of how it is done. Before you start to complain, I want you to think about how important adaptability is for both school and for the work place. As you go on to any four year college or University, each discipline has its own method of citation or accountability; learning to adapt now will save you immeasurable headache down the road.

**College Information:**

*The Last Day to Withdraw* is April 10, 2013. The instructor strictly adheres to the college’s policy concerning requests to withdraw from classes after the deadline. Unless there is a medical emergency which arises after the date to withdraw, please make sure you follow all the steps and withdraw from the class, as failure to do so will result in a failing grade on the final grade rosters. An incomplete is an option only under extenuating circumstances; and, if the student is passing the course at the time of the request. It would only be done after consultation between the instructor and the student. Do not assume that it is not a given.

**Students with disabilities:** If you are a student with a documented disability and may need academic accommodations, such as extended time for exams and/or an in-class note taker, please present documentation to the Office for Students with Disabilities in L112 at the Grayslake Campus. To schedule an appointment, please call (847) 543-2474. If you have already contacted the Office for Students with Disabilities and have completed the **Instructor Notification Form**, please schedule a time to meet with me.

**FYI:** During the term, the OSD needs one or more weeks to complete the turnaround for exams to be taken in the testing center. However, for the final exam, please make sure that you request accommodation from the OSD three or more weeks ahead of time. As soon as I have the specific date by which you need to request accommodation, I will inform the class as a whole.

**Important Dates to Remember:**

- First Day of Class: January 22, 2013
- Last Day to Withdraw without penalty and with refund: February 7, 2009
- Last day to Withdraw with a grade of W: April 10, 2013
- Final Exam: May 14, 2009 at 10:00-11:50 p.m.
Schedule of Readings and Discussion: It is my intention to keep to this schedule, but we may fall behind due to good class discussion. Therefore, this schedule may be subject to change as we progress through the semester. In addition, the readings list is incomplete. I will be adding to it as the semester progresses.

January 22: The Reformation
   Text: Frankforter and Spellman, Chapter 12 (recommended) and 13 (required)

January 29: France as Standard: Absolutism
   Text: Frankforter and Spellman, Chapter 14

February 5: England as Exception: The Development of Constitutionalism

February 12: The Scientific Revolution and the Enlightenment
   Text: Frankforter and Spellman, Chapter 15, 16

February 19: The French Revolution
   Text: Frankforter and Spellman, Chapter 17

February 26: Napoleon

March 5: The Industrial Revolution
   Text: Frankforter and Spellman, Chapter18

March 12: Reaction, Romance and Revolution
   Text: Frankforter and Spellman, Chapter19

March 19: The Unification of Italy and Germany
   Text: Frankforter and Spellman, Chapter20
   External Link: TBP

March 25-29: Spring Break

April 2: The Late 19th Century
   Text: Frankforter and Spellman, Chapter21

April 9: World War I and the Russian Revolution
   Text: Frankforter and Spellman, Chapter22

April 16: The Interwar Period
   Text: Frankforter and Spellman, Chapter23

April 23: The Rise of the Dictators

April 30: WWII
Text: Frankforter and Spellman, Chapter 24

May 6: 1950-Present
Text: Frankforter and Spellman, Chapter 25-26

May 13-17: Final Exam, May 14 at 10:00-11:50 a.m.