

## Western Civilization Syllabus

**Instructor:** Mr. Brenden Page

**Contact Info:** [bpage@jajags.com](mailto:bpage@jajags.com) 720-887-1992 ext. 7680

**Meeting Times:** Every Day during A block in room 238

**Office Hours:** 7:30am- 8:15am (drop in) and 3:30pm-4:00pm (by appointment only)

### Course Description

Western Civilization is an academically rigorous course that will help students continue to practice the skills necessary to succeed in high school and also college level history courses. We will be looking at mostly European history from the Renaissance all the way through to the start of the Cold War. Students will also be delving into some cause and effect topics of modern history and contemporary current events. Assignments will involve reading, analysis, synthesis, writing, public speaking, simulations, and group discussions, all of which will be used to track the modern historical developments. Lecture, discussion, art, music and video technology will also be used to enhance learning and incorporate student interest.

**Course Textbook:** *World History and Geography: Modern Times*

Students will be provided digital access to the textbook for the semester as well as some of the online modules provided through the textbook platform. Please make sure to have

**Course Tagline:** Find your passion; stay the course

**Mission Statement:** History is as human as it gets

### Course Requirements/Expectations

Students in my classes are all expected to:

- Respect the rights and opinions of others
- Participate in all class activities to the best of their ability and with a positive attitude
- Come to class prepared, every day, on time
- Complete assignments thoughtfully and on time
- Follow directions the first time, please!
- Be responsible for themselves and their own needs
- Follow the rules and procedures outlined in the syllabus and in the school handbook
- Create, organize and store notes, materials, etc., relating to class and keep them until they have received a course grade

### Student Responsibilities & Behavior During Class:

- a. Be prepared, seated, and ready to work on the warm up when the bell rings
- b. Teacher's desk and storage areas are off limits unless given permission
- c. One person speaks at a time during class
- d. During a test, make sure all materials are out of sight. Do not get out of your seat, if you have a question raise your hand and the teacher will come to you
- e. During appropriate times in class participate in discussions and ask questions

- f. Student electronic devices will be allowed at times during class to help enhance the learning experience with technology. Teacher will prompt students when the time is appropriate to bring them out and use them.

**Student Responsibilities for Work:**

- a. Pencils or pen work fine. Use the utensil that allows you to write most legibly!
- b. Typing will also be an option frequently via devices that students bring
- c. Assignments are due when the bell rings to start class, unless otherwise specified. If work is not being turned in on time consistently, or if the work is not up to standards, students may be assigned to access.

**Food/Drink Policy:**

- a. Food and drink items will be allowed in my classroom until the first spill/mess is made by any class. Once that occurs the privilege will be revoked and must be earned back. Clean up after yourself, it helps out our custodians tremendously!

**In Case of Absence:**

- a. Excused absences have two days per day you were absent to make up missing assignments after returning to school.
- b. It is your responsibility to see the teacher when you return. You should come in before or after school the day you return to collect missing work. Also, before coming in to ask questions please check the class website.
- c. Students have the responsibility to arrange taking make up tests and quizzes. Make-ups will be administered during access and lunch periods.

**Tardy Policy:**

- a. Students are expected to attend class daily and on time. If the amount of unexcused tardies exceeds 3, a Friday school detention may be served by the student. Any further issues will be handled per JA policy

**Cheating/Plagiarism Policy:**

- a. Students are expected to avoid cheating or plagiarizing any work that has been previously created. Any research, image, or thought that is not your original thought must have come from somewhere and therefore needs to be cited properly. You should also always be doing your own work when it comes to assignments, not copying off another student. This policy is taken very seriously and offenders will get no warnings. The assignment in question will be given an automatic zero and further action will be taken per JA policy.

**Discipline Policy:**

- a. Students in my class will engage in a three step discipline plan if the need arises. Step one is just a basic verbal warning/discussion. Step two is a consequence determined by myself (i.e. lunch detention, Friday school, loss of privilege, etc.). If any issues persist after that or something happens that is egregious enough we go to step 3 which is you go visit the Dean for further consequences.

**Homework Policy:**

- a. Homework will be given 2-3 days per week on average and will always be given with the goal in mind of expanding student knowledge or practice of certain skills. It will supplement what we do in class. Oftentimes students will get time to work on it in class and depending on how focused they are that will determine how much more they need to do at home!

- b. Homework will be collected right at the start of class. You will pass it up when prompted to the front of your rows or have submitted it digitally on time if that applies

**Grading Policies:**

- a. Scores will be recorded as numerical grades. The total number of points earned by the student will be divided by the total points possible in the class to determine the percentage. On report cards the percentage grade will be converted to a letter grade using Jefferson Academy's usual scale.
- b. The breakdown of grading categories:
  - Homework/Classwork/- 30%
  - Papers/Projects- 40%
  - Tests/Quizzes- 17%
  - Final Exam/Project- 10%
  - Community Passion/School Spirit- 3%

\*Community Passion/ School Spirit: During the course of the semester students will attend at least 5 events here at the school that they do not already participate in. Each event will count as 1 point toward the category for a total of 5 points. Verification will be required in order to receive credit. The goal of this is to increase school spirit overall and to introduce students to some activities they may not have known existed here at JA.

**Late Work Policy:** Per Social Studies Department policy, we do not accept any late work at all. Teaching of time management, the importance of deadlines, and non-procrastination are all valuable life skills we want to foster in our students. Excused absences still retain the grace period as noted above.

**What Each Grade Means:**

If you earn an A in this course it means that you put forth maximum effort on each and every task assigned, activity in class, project given, and overall had a positive attitude in class. Very high level of self advocacy.

If you earn a B in this course it means that you put forth good effort on each and every task assigned, activity in class, project given, and had a good attitude the majority of the time in class. Self advocacy is a priority for the student.

If you earn a C in this course it means that you put forth average effort on each task assigned, activity, project, and had a mostly positive attitude in class. Some attempt made to get extra help. Average level of self advocacy.

If you earn a D in this course it means that you put forth very little effort on each task assigned, activity, project, and had a somewhat negative attitude in class. Little effort put into getting extra help.

If you earn an F in this course it means that you put forth no effort on each task assigned, activity, project, and had a negative attitude in class. No effort to receive extra help either.

**Permission and contact form**

**By signing below I affirm that I have read and understand all policies outlined in the syllabus:**

-I have read and understand Mr. Page’s class policies and procedures and will do my best to help my student succeed.

- I understand that in the study of history students will occasionally watch full films or clips of films and that some of these movie clips may be from movies rated R. At no point will Mr. Page show scenes involving unnecessary gore or anything of a sexual nature. These clips will only be used to highlight historical material. I also understand that if I do not allow my student to see these movie clips that the student will be given an alternative activity that they will complete independently.

\_\_\_\_\_yes my student may view the clips      \_\_\_\_\_no my student may not view the clips

Parent/Guardian Printed Name:\_\_\_\_\_

Parent/Guardian Signature:\_\_\_\_\_

Student Printed Name:\_\_\_\_\_

Student Signature:\_\_\_\_\_

Fill out the info below to ensure I have your correct contact information

Parent/Guardian Name:\_\_\_\_\_Parent/Guardian Name:\_\_\_\_\_

Phone #\_\_\_\_\_Phone #:\_\_\_\_\_

Email\_\_\_\_\_Email:\_\_\_\_\_

Thank you in advance for contributing to a great school year that I know we will all have! Feel free to contact me at any time if you have questions.