

**Common Course Outline**  
**HIST 102**  
**Western Civilization I: Modern History**  
**3 Credits**

**Community College of Baltimore County**

**Description**

**HIST 102 – 3 credits – Western Civilization II: Modern History** is a survey course that examines the major literary, religious, scientific, artistic, political, social, and economic developments that constitute Western civilization in the modern era (since about CE 1500); examines the development of the modern state system, the Scientific Revolution, the Enlightenment, and the Age of Revolution.

**3 credits**

**Prerequisites:** ACLT 052 or ACLT 053

**Course Objectives**

Upon successful completion this course, students will be able to:

1. explain the role of institutions, individuals, ideas and inventions, in shaping the economic, social and political structure of the regions and times covered by the course;
2. characterize the capacity to characterize the various periods of the early modern and modern West according to what is distinctive about each era;
3. compare and contrast the characteristics of historical cultures and their relationship to preceding and succeeding eras;
4. discuss modern culture and society as it relates to the past;
5. identify the relevant antecedent events and ideologies that have shaped the present;
6. analyze modern domestic and international political institutions and ideologies as they relate to the past, and be able to identify the relevant antecedent events and ideologies that have shaped the present situation;
7. analyze the relationship between ideas and the social structures and forces which they shape and by which they are shaped;
8. explain the way individual and cultural values infuse inquiry;
9. examine the evolution of human ideas about nature, man, the state, and the role of religion in society;
10. describe the cultural diversity that exists within the traditions that constitute Western civilization;
11. identify the place and significance of Western art, thought, and technology in their contemporary social, political, ethical and economic contexts;

12. analyze the role and condition of marginalized peoples (women, the underclasses, and ethnic and religious minorities) within Europe and the cultures impacted by European expansion;
13. identify a variety of historical methods, sources and interpretations and areas of potential bias;
14. find, evaluate, use and cite academic resources in historical research and analysis;
15. explain the historical concepts in the course through identification of objective facts, and
16. distinguish between primary and secondary sources for evaluation and analysis.

## **Major Topics**

Course topics are arranged chronologically and geographically, with certain themes being emphasized within each section.

- I. Methods of historical analysis
- II. The Reformation and the Age of Discovery
- III. Wars of Religion
- IV. Absolutism
- V. The Enlightenment
- VI. The American and French Revolutions
- VII. First Industrial Revolution
- VIII. Revolutions of 1848/Romanticism, Socialism
- IX. Nationalism, National Unifications
- X. Second Industrial Revolution, Modernism, Imperialism
- XI. World War I, Revolutions in Mexico and Russia
- XII. The Great Depression and Political Reactions in Europe and America
- XIII. World War II and the Cold War
- XIV. The Radical Sixties and the Post-Cold War World

## **Course Requirements**

Grading procedures will be determined by the individual faculty member and specific assignments and procedures for evaluating student performance will be described in the individual class syllabus, but will include the following:

- Attendance is a critical part of this course and active participation is expected of all students.
- A minimum of 3 reading assignments, normally consisting of 450 pages or more.
- Exams (minimum of 3) and quizzes (minimum of 3) consisting of a combination of objective and critical thinking/analysis components.
- At least one individual or group oral presentation of relevant materials.
- **Written Assignments:** Multiple assignments (a minimum of 600 words written in class and 2000 words, out of class) will infuse CCBC General Education Program objectives; at least one assignment worth a minimum of 10% of the total course grade will allow students to demonstrate at least 5 of the 7 General Education Program outcomes.

Students are required to utilize appropriate academic resources.

**Other Course Information**

This course is an approved General Education course in the Social and Behavioral Sciences category.

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