

Kenneth P. Dietrich School of Arts and Sciences
College in High School

2024-2025
Western Civilization 2
HIST 0101--3 Credits

Description: This is an introductory-level course in Western European History that handles topics from the Scientific Revolution to the Cold War. This course provides a framework for those who will continue in the study of History, and it provides an overview for those seeking to fulfill “General Education” requirements. There are no prerequisites. This course will introduce major questions of historical process, and it will emphasize chronological, comparative, and contextual reasoning and the construction of original arguments grounded in historical evidence. Each student will encounter and engage with secondary and primary sources, assigned regularly throughout the course. They will participate in detailed discussions and debates about these sources. They should conduct independent research and develop original arguments to present verbally and/or in written form. Formal evaluations consist mainly of essay-based quizzes, midterms, and a final exam. In all cases, students work to assimilate the different types of historical evidence and to develop their own interpretive analyses.

Prerequisites: None.

Grading: The grade in this course is based on verbal participation in discussions and debates, presentations, research papers, quizzes, and examinations.

Textbook: The course should utilize a college-level textbook (one example is Lynn Hunt’s *Making of the West, Vol II*, or another textbook approved by the AP board) plus carefully selected scholarly articles. It should also provide students with a large and varied collection of primary sources. Many of these are available, excerpted online, but a few strategically selected sources should be full-length texts.

The following is a list of topics covered in Western Civilization 2:

1. Introduction

- What are primary and secondary sources?
 - How do we read them?
 - How do we use them?
- What is History?
- What is “civilization”?

2. The Old Regime: Ideal and the Reality

- Divine Right
- Absolutism

3. Scientific Revolution and Enlightenment

- The Shift to Empiricism
- Rise of Systemic Thinking
- Deism

- Shifts in the Concepts of Society and the Individual
- The idea of progress in History

4. England in the Seventeenth Century

- Constitutionalism
- Civil War
- Glorious Revolution
- Agricultural Revolution

5. French Revolution

- Ideals
- Elites vs. People
- Monarchy, Terror, Reaction

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6. Napoleon

- Congress of Vienna and Re-ordering of Europe

7. Rise of Liberalism

- The Growth of Democracy
- Industrialism in England
- Development of Liberal Political Economy in England
- Liberal Internationalism
- Darwin
- Nineteenth-Century Revolutions in France

8. Unifications of Italy and Germany

- Nationalism
- Shifts in European Balance of Power

9. New Imperialism

- Global Industrialism

- Arms Race
- Hypernationalism

10. World War I

- Russian Revolution
- Peace of Paris, 1919
- Modernism

11. Weimar and Inter-War Period

- Rise of Hitler
- Development of European and Soviet Totalitarianism

12. World War II

- Military History
- Social Impact
- Holocaust

13. Cold War

Academic Integrity: All College in High School teachers, students, and their parents/guardians are required to review and be familiar with the University of Pittsburgh's Academic Integrity Policy located online at <https://www.as.pitt.edu/faculty/policies-and-procedures/academic-integrity-code>.

Grades: Grade criteria in the high school course may differ slightly from University of Pittsburgh standards. A CHS student could receive two course grades: one for high school and one for the University transcript. In most cases the grades are the same. These grading standards are explained at the beginning of each course.

Transfer Credit: University of Pittsburgh grades earned in CHS courses appear on an official University of Pittsburgh transcript, and the course credits are likely to be eligible for transfer to other colleges and universities. Students are encouraged to contact potential colleges and universities in advance to ensure their CHS credits would be accepted. If students decide to attend any University of Pittsburgh campuses, the University of Pittsburgh grade earned in the course will count toward the student grade point average at the University. At the University of Pittsburgh, the CHS course supersedes any equivalent AP credit.

Drops and Withdrawals: Students should monitor progress in a course. CHS teacher can obtain a Course Drop/Withdrawal Request form from the CHS office or Aspire. The form must be completed by the student, teacher and parent/guardian and returned to teacher by deadlines listed. Dropping and withdrawing from the CHS course has no effect on enrollment in the high school credits for the course.