

Course Title: The Rise of the Modern Western World (Spring Semester)

Course Description: The course begins with a brief survey of the foundations of modern Western Civilization. The rise of individualism, humanism and science, the growth of the state, the emergence of the middle class, the conflict between Protestantism and Catholicism, and the beginnings of the age of liberal revolutions are discussed as ingredients in the birth of the modern world. Next, the historical forces and events that shaped the world in the 19th, 20th, and 21st centuries are reviewed and prospects for the future are postulated. Semester Weekly Topics: (Each topic is explored by means of a PowerPoint)

1. Course Orientation; Background Leading to the Renaissance
2. Renaissance Period; Renaissance Art and Architecture
3. Elizabeth; Shakespeare, Shakespeare's Globe; Mannerism
4. The Four Bodily Humors and Reintroduction of Aristotle; the Scientific Revolution; Baroque Music & Baroque art; Rococo Period
5. The Enlightenment (Hobbes, Locke, Rousseau, Montesquieu, Adam Smith); The American Enlightenment; Classical Music and Neo-classical Art
6. The French Revolution; the Age of Revolutions Overview; Romanticism
7. Victorian England; Industrialization Overview
8. América in the 19th Century
- 9/10. 20th Century America
11. 21st Century America, What's Next