History 1901E: King’s Foundations in the Humanities

History, we can confidently assert, is useful in the sense that art and music, poetry and flowers, religion and philosophy are useful. Without it -- as with these -- life would be poorer and meaner.
- Henry Steele Commager

Course Description

This course is one of three core units in the first-year Foundation in the Humanities program at King’s University College, to be completed in tandem with units in English and Philosophy. History 1901E will introduce students to major processes, personalities, and events in the historical development of the modern world, and in particular the development of what we describe as “the West.” The course also aims to develop and refine fundamental skills in historical method and interpretation, including the history of historical writing (hagiography).

While purposefully focused on the development of the modern Western world, this course will invite students to think of History in relational and human terms, as a study of peoples, groups, beliefs, values, and practices in diverse regional, cultural and geo-political contexts. Our chronological and thematic approach will feature lectures, seminar discussions and research projects in which students will study how interaction and exchange, conflict and accommodation between people and groups throughout the world has shaped the contours of historical development.

In a similar vein, we will consider the dynamics of social change in the West, and introduce students to historical methods that aim to give voice to historically under-represented and disadvantaged groups in Western society.

Our basic chronology of historical development will be organized around five central themes in historical study:
1. Historical Methods and Interpretation
2. The Human Person and Society
3. Ideas and Consequences
4. Change over Time: Relations and Interactions
5. Uses and Abuses of History

Above: The Coliseum in Rome.
**Reading**

"Give me seven hours per week and I’ll make a philosopher and a scholar out of you."

*Will Durant.*

By "seven hours per week" Durant meant *reading* an hour per day. He recognized that there is nothing more important to an education than time spent in solitary reading. Through reading, we can encounter great minds and great ideas, absorbing in the space of a few hours material that the authors spent years producing. In History 1901E, you should be prepared to spend approximately two hours of reading, writing, and reviewing for every hour you spend in class - or about seven hours per week.

*Right: Auguste Rodin’s “The Thinker” (1902)*

**Prerequisites and Antirequisites**

Antirequisite: History 1801E  
Prerequisite: None

The course must be taken in conjunction with English 1901E and Philosophy 1901E.

Students are responsible for ensuring that their selection of courses is appropriate and accurately recorded, that all course prerequisites have been successfully completed, and that they are aware of any anti-requisite course(s) that they have taken. Unless you have either the requisites for this course or written special permission from your Dean to enroll in it, you may be removed from this course and it will be deleted from your record. This decision may not be appealed. You will receive no adjustment to your fees in the event that you are dropped from a course for failing to have the necessary prerequisites.

**Course Work Descriptions**

There are six distinct but interrelated venues of study in this course: lectures, history seminars, written assignments, the Foundations seminar, tests and exams, and extracurricular events.

Each of these will be discussed in detail in class and in separate handouts available on OWL.

**Web CT**

We maintain a course website at [http://webct.uwo.ca](http://webct.uwo.ca). Log onto the site using your UWO username and password. Here you’ll find the course syllabus, handouts, our PowerPoint presentations, links to reliable Internet sources, a discussion board, and so on. Finally, we will use the board to make class announcements, so please check in at least once per week.

**Electronic Etiquette**

Using the Internet and texting will not be permitted in class except where expressly indicated by the instructor.

Above all, bear in mind that you always are being evaluated. It is obvious to your professors when you are surfing the web during lectures. Consider whether it really is worth it to you to convey this sort of impression of yourself to your instructors.
King's University College at the University of Western Ontario
HISTORY DEPARTMENT
Policy Regarding Essay Submission, Late Essays, and Written Work Not Submitted

1. A penalty of five (5) marks will be assessed for essays submitted the first day after the deadline.

2. A penalty of one (1) mark will be assessed for each subsequent day, including weekends.

3. No essays will be accepted after the 7th day beyond the deadline, including weekends.

4. Exceptions to the above provisions will be granted only on the basis of
   (a) humanitarian grounds (Note: In fairness to all students, documented evidence will be required when a death or serious illness in the family has occurred);
   (b) medical grounds for which written proof must be provided (Note: This may be submitted to the Dean's Office).

5. Computer breakdowns will not be considered under provision 4 (a).

6. Essays are due in class on the date specified. Essays placed in the late-essay drop box (The Annex (SA) – main floor) will be subject to the late penalties stated above.

7. A student who fails to submit all the required written assignments which together make up the "Essay" component of the course will not receive credit for the course.

Prerequisites and Antirequisites: Unless you have either the requisites for this course or written special permission from your Dean to enroll in it, you may be removed from this course and it will be deleted from your record. This decision may not be appealed. You will receive no adjustment to your fees in the event that you are dropped from a course for failing to have the necessary prerequisites.
Preamble: Any written text (and supporting materials), whether printed (e.g. a book, an article, a pamphlet) or "manuscript" (e.g. ms. for a scholarly paper or a dissertation), is the property of its author[s]. Therefore, any use of any part of such materials must be acknowledged. When the use is "indirect", as in a summary of information and/or ideas, the "borrowing" is acknowledged with a footnote. When the "borrowing" is "direct", that is when a portion of the text or of the supporting material is quoted verbatim, the "borrowing" is acknowledged in two ways: (1) quotation marks around the material quoted, and (2) a footnote. It is worth repeating that both forms of acknowledgement are mandatory when the material is copied directly. Use of on-line sources, if permitted by your instructor, must be acknowledged as to specific source, date of access, etc.

Definition: Plagiarism, simply defined, is a form of theft. Were the plagiarised material to be subsequently published it could well lead to legal action against the culprit. Plagiarism generally takes one of two forms (with infinite variations). "Flagrant plagiarism" occurs when portions of one or more written texts are copied, but no quotation marks are used to indicate the borrowing ... although a footnote may appear, which, as indicated above, is not sufficient. "Disguised plagiarism" occurs when the original text is paraphrased in such a way as to "disguise" the theft ... changing a word here and there, etc., even if a footnote is provided. Example: The original text says "The Cabinet met three times in an effort to resolve the issue"; the "paraphrased" text says "The Cabinet met on three occasions in an effort to resolve the problem".

Plagiarism checking: The University of Western Ontario uses software for plagiarism checking. Students may be required to submit their written work in electronic form for checking. Plagiarism is a major academic offence. For further information see the section on Scholastic Offences in the Academic Calendar.

Penalties: The Department Chair will determine the appropriate penalty in consultation with the student's course instructor. Penalties may include the following:

A. Inadvertent plagiarism by a beginning student will result in a warning to the student.
B. "Flagrant plagiarism" results in a "0" for the assignment.
C. "Disguised plagiarism" results in a "0" for the assignment.
D. Submission of an assignment which is also being submitted in another course (or has been submitted in another course in a previous year), results in a "0" for the assignment.
E. Submission of an assignment prepared by someone other than the alleged author results in a "0" FOR THE COURSE.
F. Instances of plagiarism will be reported to the Dean.
Statement on Academic Offences

King’s is committed to Academic Integrity.

“Scholastic offences are taken seriously and students are directed to read the appropriate policy, specifically, the definition of what constitutes a Scholastic Offence, at the following Web site:

All required papers may be subject to submission for textual similarity review to the commercial plagiarism detection software under license to the University for the detection of plagiarism. All papers submitted for such checking will be included as source documents in the reference database for the purpose of detecting plagiarism of papers subsequently submitted to the system. Use of the service is subject to the licensing agreement, currently between The University of Western Ontario and Turnitin.com http://www.turnitin.com.

Computer-marked multiple-choice tests and/or exams may be subject to submission for similarity review by software that will check for unusual coincidences in answer patterns that may indicate cheating.

Unless otherwise noted by your Professor, the following policies are in effect:

Statement on Use of Electronic Devices

Use of Electronic Devices:

You are not allowed to have a cell phone, or any other electronic device, with you during tests or examinations.

Use of Laptops in the Classroom

“King’s University College at The University of Western Ontario acknowledges the integration of new technologies and learning methods into the curriculum. The use of laptop computers can contribute to student engagement and effective learning. At the same time, King’s recognizes that instructors and students share jointly the responsibility to establish and maintain a respectful classroom environment conducive to learning.

The use of laptops by students during lectures, seminars, labs, etc., shall be for matters related to the course at hand only. Students found to be using laptops for purposes not directly related to the class may be subject to sanctions under the Student Code of Conduct. See http://www.kings.uwo.ca/kings/assets/File/currentStudents/studentLife/conduct/code_of_conduct_2003.pdf. Inappropriate use of laptops during lectures, seminars, labs, etc., creates a significant disruption. As a consequence, instructors may choose to limit the use of electronic devices in these settings. In addition, in order to provide a safe classroom environment, students are strongly advised to operate laptops with batteries rather than power cords.”
Mailbox  re Submission of Late Essays/Assignments ONLY
Only late essays/assignments not handed in at class may be dropped off in the green mailbox, located on the main floor of The (south) Annex. Essays dropped into the mailbox will be picked-up twice per day: once in the morning (9:30 a.m.) and in the afternoon (4:00 p.m.). All essays dropped off after 4:00 p.m. on a Friday will be date-stamped the following Monday.

Policy on Accommodation for Medical Illness:
(http://www.uwo.ca/univsec/handbook/appeals/accommodation_medical.pdf)
Student Medical Certificate (SMC): http://www.uwo.ca/univsec/handbook/appeals/medicalform.pdf

Tests/Examinations
Students are responsible for seeking accommodation with appropriate documentation, prior to writing tests/examinations, if they are of the view that their performance may be affected by extenuating circumstances.

Faculty Office Hours: Faculty office hours can be found on King’s homepage under the menu heading Academics and are also posted on the bulletin board across from the Faculty Secretaries’ Office on The 2nd floor of Dante Lenardon Hall.

Support Services
Students who are in emotional/mental health distress should refer to Mental Health@Western: http://www.uwo.ca/uwocom/mentalhealth/ for a complete list of options about how to obtain help.

University Students Council provides many valuable support services for students (including the health insurance plan) http://westernusc.ca/services/.

Information about Counselling and Student Development Services at King’s is available at http://www.kings.uwo.ca/current-students/academic-support/;

for emotional/mental health assistance see specifically: http://www.kings.uwo.ca/current-students/campus-services/student-support-services/personal-counselling/

The web site for Academic Services at King’s University College is:
http://www.kings.uwo.ca/current-students/courses-enrolment/program-and-course-planning/academic-advising/