

## CIV102 | Western Civilization II

### Course Texts

No need to track down a textbook; these texts are provided digitally as part of the course enrollment:

Sherman, Dennis and Salisbury, Joyce. *The West in the World*, 5th edition, McGraw-Hill, 2014.

Wilson, Julianna. *Western Civilization I*, Achieving the Dream, 2020.

Wilson, Julianna. *Western Civilization II*, Achieving the Dream, 2020.

### Course Description

Beginning with the Scientific Revolution, this course walks students through major developments of the early modern era to the present, including various revolutions, moments of key reform, and global wars. Western Civilization II is a broad overview of key events, people, and ideas that shaped Western society as we know it today. Students will explore these topics through readings, videos, and direct engagement with primary sources.

### Learning Outcomes

After completing this course, students will be able to:

1. Identify key moments in the development of Western society since the Scientific Revolution.
2. Describe the social, economic, and political impact of the Enlightenment on society and science.
3. Analyze original historical materials.
4. Interpret primary sources within their appropriate historical context.
5. Organize historical events into chronological order.
6. Justify your thinking with well-organized and well-supported thoughts.
7. Compare and contrast early modern Western societies.
8. Examine the secularization of religious authority to develop a deeper understanding of the political underpinnings of the Renaissance and Enlightenment eras.
9. Explain how fascism impacted society and politics in the 20th and 21st centuries.
10. Consider how historical events shaped our current moment.

### Course Prerequisites

While there are no prerequisites to take Western Civilization II, it is recommended that students complete Western Civilization I before enrolling in Western Civilization II.

### Academic Integrity Statement

Academic integrity is the pursuit of scholarly activity in an honest, truthful and responsible manner. Violations of academic integrity include, but are not limited to, plagiarism, cheating, fabrication and academic misconduct. Failure to comply with the Academic Integrity Policy can result in a failure and/or zero on the attempted assignment/examination, a removal from the course, disqualification to enroll in future courses, and/or revocation of an academic transcript.

## Course Completion Policy

In order for a course to be considered complete, **all required coursework must be attempted, submitted, and graded.** Required coursework consists of graded assignments. Any Academic Integrity Policy violations may prevent a course from being considered complete.

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## Assessment Types

StraighterLine courses may include any combination of the assessment types described below. Review the descriptions to learn about each type, then review the Course Evaluation Criteria to understand how your learning will be measured in this course.

### Benchmarks

Benchmarks test your mastery of course concepts. You have 3 attempts, and your highest score counts.

**Note:** Cumulative Benchmarks (final exams) only allow 1 attempt.

### Capstones

Capstones are project-based assessments that help you apply concepts to real-world scenarios. You have 2 attempts, and your highest score counts.

### Checkpoints

Checkpoints are quick knowledge checks on important course concepts. All are open-book, and most have 1-3 attempts.

## AI Use-Case Policies

StraighterLine Capstone assessments operate under one of three AI Use-Case Policies. These designations are selected intentionally to support learners in developing digital literacy, ethical reasoning, and authentic communication skills. Each model requires students to engage meaningfully with the course outcomes while adhering to academic standards.

**Independent Work Requirement:** Capstones with this designation must be completed independently without using AI tools. The goal is for learners to showcase their own understanding and skills without AI assistance. Students are expected to generate and submit original work developed solely through their own reasoning and effort.

**AI-Assisted Planning Option:** Capstones with this designation may allow AI tools to support brainstorming and assessment planning. If allowed, students will be asked to document any AI assistance by noting how it informed their work. Documentation must be included within the assignment or in a designated reflection field. Examples include describing how an AI tool helped organize an outline, generate ideas, or surface sources for further exploration.

**AI-Integration Requirement:** Capstones with this designation require AI tools as part of the learning process. Students will be asked to reflect upon their AI interactions and AI contributions to the assessment. Reflections must include which tools were used, how they were used, and what insights students gained from the process. This promotes transparency, ethical use, and metacognitive skill-building.

## Course Evaluation Criteria

Your score provides a percentage score and letter grade for each course. A passing percentage is 70% or higher.

There are a total of 1000 points in the course:

Assessment	Points	Learning Outcomes
Checkpoint 1: The Scientific Revolution and Enlightenment, 1600-1800	0	N/a
Benchmark 1: Introduction to Western Civilization	15	5, 7, 9, 10
Checkpoint 2: The Old Regime, 1715-1789	0	N/a
Checkpoint 3: The French Revolution and Napoleon, 1789-1815	0	N/a
Checkpoint 4: The Industrial Revolution	0	N/a
Checkpoint 5: Ideology, Politics, and Revolution, 1815-1850	0	N/a
Benchmark 2: Checkpoints 1-5	150	1, 2, 5, 8
Checkpoint 6: Unifying Nations, 1850-1870	0	N/a
Checkpoint 7: Democracy and the New Imperialism	0	N/a
Capstone 1: Virtual Field Trip and Artifact Analysis	250	3, 4, 6
Checkpoint 8: Western Society, 1850-1914	0	N/a
Benchmark 3: Revolutions	15	5, 7, 9, 10
Checkpoint 9: World War and Revolution, 1914-1920	0	N/a
Checkpoint 10: Recovery, Dictators, and Depression, 1920-1939	0	N/a
Benchmark 4: Checkpoints 6-10	150	1, 7, 9
Checkpoint 11: World War II, 1939-1945	0	N/a
Checkpoint 12: The Cold War, 1945-1980s	0	N/a
Capstone 2: Primary Source Analysis	250	3, 4, 6
Checkpoint 13: The Present in Perspective	0	N/a
Benchmark 5: Looking Back and Looking Forward	20	5, 7, 9, 10
Benchmark 6: Checkpoints 11-13	150	1, 5, 7, 9, 10
Total	1000	

## Course Roadmap

This roadmap provides an overview of the checkpoints and lessons covered in this course.

### Checkpoint 1: The Scientific Revolution and the Enlightenment, 1600-1800

- Introduction
- Textbook: Reading Assignment: Chapter 14
- The Age of Revolution
- Reading: Wilson: Global Networks of Exchange

### Checkpoint 2: The Old Regime, 1715-1789

- Textbook: Reading Assignment: Chapter 15
- Political Order and the Old Regime: 1715-1789
- Enlightened Society

### Checkpoint 3: The French Revolution and Napoleon, 1789-1815

- Textbook: Reading Assignment: Chapter 16
- France and the Age of Revolution
- Napoleon Bonaparte
- Video: Wilson: Rise of Napoleon

### Checkpoint 4: The Industrial Revolution

- Textbook: Reading Assignment: Chapter 17
- The Industrial Revolution
- Supplemental Video: Industrial Revolution (Optional)
- Pathfinder: From Scientific Inquiry to Industrial Innovation

### Checkpoint 5: Ideology, Politics, and Revolution, 1815-1850

- Textbook Reading Assignment: Chapter 18
- Living with Change

### Checkpoint 6: Unifying Nations, 1850-1870

- Textbook Reading Assignment: Chapter 19
- Nationalism and the Unification of the Nation-State

### Checkpoint 7: Democracy and the New Imperialism, 1870-1914

- Textbook Reading Assignment: Chapter 20
- Imperialism and World Domination

### Checkpoint 8: Western Society, 1850-1914

- Textbook Reading Assignment: Chapter 21
- The Culture of Progress

### Checkpoint 9: World War and Revolution, 1914-1920

- Textbook: Reading Assignment: Chapter 22
- The Great War
- Video: Wilson: Leading Up to World War I
- Pathfinder: Key Events of the 19th and Early 20th Centuries

### Checkpoint 10: Recovery, Dictators, and Depression, 1920-1939

- Textbook: Reading Assignment: Chapter 23
- Recovery, Depression, and Fascism
- Video: Wilson: Meet the Dictators

### Checkpoint 11: World War II, 1939-1945

- Textbook: Reading Assignment: Chapter 24
- World War II
- Videos: Wilson: World War II and the New World Order
- Reading: Wilson: The Cold War and Decolonization

### Checkpoint 12: The Cold War, 1945-1980s

- Textbook: Reading Assignment: Chapter 25
- The Cold War
- Pathfinder: Political Shifts and Wars of the 20th Century

### Checkpoint 13: The Present in Perspective

- Textbook Reading Assignment: Chapter 26
- The Twenty-First Century in Perspective
- Video: Wilson: Global Society in a Post-Cold War World

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## Related Courses

### USHIST102

United States History II

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### MAT101

College Algebra

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### REL101

Introduction to Religious  
Studies

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