



McCreary School

Semester 1 – 2025/2026

Miss. Dunning

Western Civilization

40S:

1A & 1B

COURSE DETAILS

Course Code: 1136

Course Name: Western Civilization 40S

Credit Value: 1.0

Prerequisite: None

CONTACT INFORMATION

Room 08, McCreary School

MS Teams: Gr 12 Western Civilization

Email: ldunning@trsd.ca

School phone: 835-2083

COURSE TECHNOLOGY

Office 365

MS Teams: Gr 12 Western Civilization

COURSE TEXTBOOK

World History

SUPPLIES

2" – 3 ring binder

Notebook

Pens, Pencils, Erasers

Highlighters

School Laptop

HISTORICAL THINKING SKILLS

- Evaluating primary sources
- Establishing historical significance
- Identifying continuity and change
- Taking a historical perspective

COURSE DESCRIPTION

Western Civilization helps students understand how Canadian and Western societies developed through key movements and events.

The course focuses on six main ideas and builds on historical thinking skills:

1. **Secularism**
2. **Ideology**
3. **Religion**
4. **Humanism**
5. **Individualism**
6. **Skepticism**

By the end of the course, students will:

- Understand how and why Western societies evolved.
 - See how the six main ideas influenced different time periods.
 - Explore the impact of Greece, Rome, Judeo-Christian thought, and medieval institutions.
 - Examine the Renaissance, Reformation, absolutism, and representative government.
 - Learn how the Age of Reason and major revolutions (political, agricultural, industrial) shaped society.
 - Analyze the 19th-century reform movements, Congress of Vienna, and 1848 revolutions.
 - Study how WWI, WWII, the Cold War, and the fall of the USSR changed global power.
 - Consider the influence of technology and the importance of sustainable development for the future.
- Considering the ethical dimensions of history
 - Analyzing & interpreting cause and consequence.

COURSE OUTLINE

Unit 1: Introduction to Western Civilization

- Understand the study of history, its sources, and its writing
- Develop awareness of early Western Civilization influences
- Understand the formation and structure of Ancient civilizations

Unit 2: Ancient Greece and Rome to Medieval Times

- Life and ideals of Greece and Rome
- Development and comparison of Christianity, Judaism, and Islam
- Medieval religious and social institutions including feudalism

Unit 3: Renaissance, Reformation and Absolutism

- Causes, people, and impact of the Renaissance
- Reformation causes, key individuals, and effects
- Absolutism versus representative government

Unit 4: The Age of Reason and Revolution

- Scientific Revolution and its effects
- The Enlightenment and its significance
- American and French Revolutions
- Political, Agricultural, and Industrial Revolutions

Unit 5: Reaction vs. Reform, Nationalism and Imperialism

- Reactionaries versus reformers
- Congress of Vienna 1815 and Revolutions of 1848
- Nationalism and Imperialism up to 1914

Unit 6: World Wars I & II and Major Developments

- Effects of World War I & II
- League of Nations and United Nations
- Ideological responses to global conflicts
- Realignment of power in the 1990s
- Technology and sustainable development

RULES & EXPECTATIONS

- Textbook Assignments/Activities:
 - Expected to be completed in a coiled scribbler. This ensures the work is kept together and organized in a chronological order.
 - Work recorded in the coiled scribbler is evidence of learning (or lack thereof) and will be used to help hold students accountable for their progress in this course.
- Homework:
 - You will not have homework every night, but when it is assigned, it is expected to be completed on time.
 - To get the greatest benefit from scheduled direct instruction, students need to be prepared, which means having assigned work completed.
- Incomplete and Late Work
 - Work is to be completed on time and to the best of the student's ability.
 - Late or missing assignments will be penalized as outlined in the school student handbook, "Upon teacher discretion a maximum of 5% may be deducted for every day the assignment is not turned in. If the assignment is not turned in after two weeks or at the start of a new unit, the assignment will receive a mark of zero."
- Student Lates & Absences
 - Students who are late for class are asked to come in quietly without causing a disruption.
 - Students who make a habit out of being late may not be allowed into the room if class has already begun.
 - If you are absent, YOU are responsible for finding out what you missed and making up all missed work.
 - If you have an excused absence for the day of a test, please make arrangements to write it the day you return to school. If you skip a test, quiz, or presentation you will receive a zero.
- Technology in the Classroom:
 - Technology will be used periodically in the classroom. Students are encouraged to bring their school laptop with them to school every day. Improper use may result in a loss of certain privileges.
- Academic Dishonesty
 - Academic dishonesty, including, but not limited to inappropriate collaboration, plagiarism, and cheating is a severe offence and will be dealt with according to the policy outlined in the school handbook.
- Extra help Arrangements can be made for in person extra help before or after school or during lunch hour. Students can also ask for clarification or feedback via email, MS Teams chat or discussion post, or schedule a Teams meeting.

SUMMATIVE ASSESSMENT

Final Project – 30%
Assignments – 30%
Course work (discussions, etc.) – 10%
Unit Tests/Major Assignments – 30%
TOTAL – 100%

BEHAVIOUR ASSESSMENT

- Personal Management Skills: Responsibility, organization, and accountability.
- Active Participation in Learning: Engagement, curiosity, feedback use.
- Social Responsibility: Citizenship, cooperation, and positive community.

A LETTER TO PARENTS – Grade 12 Western Civilization

Students are encouraged to speak to me directly with any questions or concerns. Parents are also welcome to call or email if they have concerns or would like updates on student progress. Communication will also occur via email or Teams if concerns arise before report cards. I look forward to a great semester!

~ Miss. Dunning

Student's name _____

Parent / Guardian's name(s) _____

Parent / Guardian's signature(s) _____

Date _____

Parent / Guardian Email Address _____

Parent / Guardian Day-time Phone _____

Any initial comments or concerns _____