

HSTR 102 Western Civilization
Spring Semester Final Exam – Take Home Essays
Points Possible: 1200 pts

Take Home Essay Prompts:

- Read the directions for each section. You will write a total of **FOUR ESSAYS**. Each essay needs to be written in a longer essay format (4-5 paragraphs in length).
- Write a detailed essay response for each essay, and defend your THESIS. The quality of your details, depth, and defense of your thesis will determine your final grade.
- Each essay must contain **at least TWO valid source citations** (Hunt, Gross, Downs, Sherman, Bullock, etc.) These sources must be parenthetically cited, or referenced by author's last name. For example: "According to Hunt..." or "quote, quote, quote" (Gross, 115).
- You may use your notes and other sources.
- Be sure to indicate which essay prompt you are responding to at the start of each essay (although this should be clear just by reading your thesis).
- Essays must be submitted to MOODLE by the assigned due date.

Section 1 (Historical Period Comparisons) – Choose only ONE of the following:

1. Compare and contrast the woman's suffrage movements of the late nineteenth century and early twentieth centuries with the European feminist movements of the 1960s and 1970s.
2. Compare and contrast the French Revolution (1789-1799) and Russian Revolution (1917-1924), including the causes, challenges faced by the revolutionaries, and methods of achieving their revolutionary goals. What are the similarities and differences, and to what extent did the Revolutionaries achieve their goals?
3. To what extent did Lenin and Stalin adhere to the ideas of Karl Marx in governing the USSR between 1918 and 1940?
4. Compare and contrast the motivations, goals, methods and conquests of governments during the Age of New Imperialism (1871-1914) and the United States and Soviet Union during the Cold War (1945-1989).
5. Analyze the ways in which totalitarian states created threats to the State and society, and the methods used to facilitate participation in the elimination of those threats.
6. Compare and contrast the characteristics, methods, overall effectiveness, and historical consequences of two absolutist monarchs of the 17th-18th centuries and two totalitarian dictators of the 20th century.

Section 2.1 (WWII Studies) – Choose ONE of the following (and you must provide a detailed analysis of Kristin Hannah's *The Nightingale* as part of your answer. Your response must show that you read the entirety of the book and contain quotes and specific examples as evidence. Your response for this section must be 4-5 paragraphs in length):

7. Compare and contrast the characters of Isabelle and Vianne in *The Nightingale*. How are the sisters similar? How do they differ? What is revealed about each character through her actions in the narrative? What does this reveal about how differently people responded to German occupation and the war?
8. Describe and discuss the lives of women in WWII and under German occupation. What challenges did occupation present? How did people respond to the occupation? What challenges did occupation present?

Section 2.2 (WWII Studies) – Answer ONE of the following (and you must provide a detailed analysis of Kristin Hannah's *The Nightingale* as part of your answer. Your response must show that you read the entirety of the book and contain quotes and specific examples as evidence. Your response for this section must be 4-5 paragraphs in length):

9. Describe the methods of resistance to German occupation. How did characters resist, what methods did they employ, and discuss the successes and failures of this resistance. What impression did the ending make upon you and what did it reveal about women and resistance in WWII?
10. Describe the effects of WWII and the Nazi Occupation of Europe. What did *The Nightingale* reveal about WWII, the effects upon civilian population, the Holocaust, and the effects upon individual lives. What impression did the ending make upon you and what did it reveal about women and resistance in WWII?

Section 3 (Cold War Diplomacy) – Choose only ONE of the following:

11. In 1945 Great Britain and the United States were allied with the Soviet Union. By 1950 the former allies were involved in a confrontation that divided Europe into rival power blocs. Analyze the reasons for this change.
12. Analyze the choices facing the United States and USSR in the post-World War II world. What did each power hope to achieve in their postwar goals, and what were the consequences for those goals?
13. Analyze three reasons for the end of the Soviet domination over Eastern Europe by 1989.