

## COURSE SYLLABUS FORM

American University of Beirut  
Faculty of Arts and Sciences  
Department: Civilization Sequence Program

Course Number and Title: CVSP 206, Modern and Contemporary Studies

### 1. Course Learning Outcomes

This is a composite of CVSP 203 and 204. The main components of the Course Learning Outcomes of those courses (see their posted syllabi) will be targeted as in the posted **schedule** for this course (see below).

### 2. Resources Available to Students

The emphasis in all CVSP core courses (201 – 208) is on developing the student's ability to deal with **primary texts** (written by the authors themselves: see schedule below). Thus no particular resources other than the works under study are a set part of the courses. Individual instructors will help guide the student in the judicious use of secondary sources.

### 3. Grading Criteria

- a. Written work: **normally**, two 'midterms' and a Final Exam are graded on a basis of 20% for each of the midterms and 40% for the Final Exam.
- b. Oral presentations, drop quizzes, class attendance and participation **normally** are the basis for the remaining 20% of the Final Grade.
- c. Teacher discretion: individual instructors may choose to vary the above criteria. In every case, they must announce any diversion from the above clearly and in writing to the students at the outset of the semester.

### 4. Schedule (as attachment)

Note: the CVSP reserves the right to alter specific readings for any given semester. This is part of the dynamism of ongoing evaluation and improvement of course offerings. Such changes will always be in line with the general stated course objectives as described in # 1 above.

### 5. Course Policy

Academic integrity and honesty are central components of a student's education. Ethical conduct maintained in an academic context will be taken eventually into a student's professional career. Academic honesty is essential to a community of scholars searching

for and learning to seek the truth. Anything less than total commitment to honesty undermines the efforts of the entire academic community. Both students and faculty are responsible for ensuring the academic integrity of the University. (*AUB Student Handbook*, p. 33)

For definitions of cheating and plagiarism as well as the consequences for such, see the AUB “Student Code of Conduct” as found in the *Student Handbook* (esp. pp. 85-86 and 88) and on the AUB website. <http://pnp.aub.edu.lb/general/conductcode/158010081.html>

At minimum, anyone caught in violation of academic integrity will receive, as per the “Student Code of Conduct,” a failing grade of forty points for the assignment in question. Should the violation deserve greater punishment, it will be referred to the Dean and the Dean’s Administrative Committee.

<b>CIVILIZATION SEQUENCE PROGRAM</b>		
<b>CVSP 206: READING AND LECTURE SCHEDULE</b>		
<b>WEEK</b>	<b>LECTURE</b>	<b>ASSIGNMENT</b>
<b>1</b>	<i>Descartes</i>	Descartes, <i>Discourse on Method and Meditations on First Philosophy</i> , transl. Donald A. Cress (Hackett), Discourses 1, 2, 4 & 5.
<b>2</b>	<i>Bacon</i>	Bacon, <i>New Organon</i> . (Xerox selections)
<b>3</b>	<i>The Enlightenment</i>	xerox selections from Bentham and Kant.
<b>4</b>	<i>Kant</i>	Kant, <i>Grounding for the Metaphysics of Morals</i> (Hackett) pp. 1 – 45 & 49 – 54.
<b>5</b>	<i>Goethe</i>	Goethe, <i>Faust, Part I</i> and Act V of <i>Faust, Part II</i> , transl. David Luke (Oxford World's Classics).
<b>6</b>	<i>Locke</i>	Locke, <i>The Second Treatise on Government</i> , ed. C. B. Macpherson (Hackett). (Separate sheet for selections)
<b>7</b>	<i>Adam Smith; Marxism</i>	Xerox selections from Adam Smith; Marx & Engels, <i>The Communist Manifesto</i> , ed. David McLellan (Oxford World's Classics).
<b>8</b>	<i>Darwin</i>	Darwin, <i>The Origin of Species</i> (Mentor). (Separate sheet for selections)
<b>9</b>	<i>Nietzsche</i>	Nietzsche, <i>Beyond Good and Evil</i> (Penguin), Preface, Part I, Sec. 1-6, 11, 13, 16-17, 19, 23; Part II, Sec. 29, 34-36, 41-44; Part V, Sec. 186-203; Part VII, Sec. 214-239; Part IX, Sec. 257-265.
<b>10</b>	<i>Freud</i>	Freud, <i>Civilization and its Discontents</i> (Norton). (Separate sheet for selections)
<b>11</b>	<i>de Beauvoir</i>	Simone de Beauvoir, <i>The Second Sex</i> . (xerox selections)
<b>12</b>	<i>Beckett</i>	Samuel Beckett, <i>Waiting For Godot</i> (Faber & Faber).
<b>13 &amp; 14</b>	<i>T. Salih</i>	Tayeb Salih, <i>Season of Migration to the North</i> (Heinemann).

Classes meet three times a week: one common lecture and two discussion sessions.