

HISTORY OF WESTERN CIVILIZATION: 101 M & W 12:30-2:00
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Description: History 101 examines some of the major topics and themes that helped shape the development of the Ancient, Medieval and Early Modern eras. Our course will survey some of the political, social and economic origins and developments especially within the European, African, Asiatic and American theaters and interactions which gave rise to the Modern Western World.

Objectives: This course is designed to (1) assist students in improving their skills in reading comprehension, critical thinking, logical reasoning, sharp clarifying, as well as listening, articulating, summarizing and synthesizing; (2) stimulate dialogue and enhance knowledge of bibliographical sources; (3) acquaint students with the tools for analyzing the masses, personalities and events as well as their effect on the functioning of society; (4) help students understand continuity and change in historical development; (5) teach students to articulate the interrelatedness of historical themes to other disciplines especially in the Social Sciences, Humanities, Natural Sciences and Fine Arts; and (6) highlight the significant contributions of the world's cultures and civilizations.

Expectations: All students are expected and **required** to be present and on time at each class session! If a student accumulates more than three (3) unexcused absences the student may lose a grade rank and be advised to consider withdrawing from the course since absences lead to poor or unsatisfactory performance here. Three tardies (if you arrive after attendance is taken or the beginning of the class presentation) may be equivalent to one absence. All assignments are to be submitted on time in order to receive full credit.

Grading: Examinations 2-3 and 1 Book Review = 1/3 A = 90-100%

Research Paper B = 80-89

Comprehensive Final Examination C = 70-79

D = 60-69

F = Below 60

Extra Credit assignments, only designated by me, may be offered to the entire class or to Honors Program students.

TEXTS: Our main text will be Western Civilization Volume I by Jackson J. Spielvogel .

Book Review: You are required to complete a critical review of a scholarly book on a topic within the course outline. An instructional guide will be provided during the first few weeks of the semester. The review is **due** on:

Term Paper: All students are required to complete a 7-10 page research paper on any historical topic within the course parameters which must be typed, double spaced and cited properly (Turabian Format). At least 3 scholarly sources are to be used, including relevant books and journal articles. The term paper will be **due in class** on:

Windham Syllabus 101 Continued: Our Course Outline

I Theoretical & Actual Origins, or at least, Early Beginnings:

- A. Solar-Planetary Formation & Evolutionary Theory
- B. Africa: Origins of Humanity, Culture and Civilization
- C. Ethiopia & Origins of Nile Valley Civilization
- D. Discussing Human Development, the Diaspora & Modern Racist Falsification

II. Nile Valley Civilizations: Pre-Pharonic to The Roman Empire

- A. Pre-Dynastic African Cultural Development
- B. Political Power: Nationalism & Imperialism
- C. Socio-Economic Life Styles & Systems
- D. Continental & Global Penetration of Nubian & Egyptian Culture

III. Mesopotamia & "The Fertile Crescent"

- A. Southern & Northern Influences In The Fertile Crescent
- B. Chronology Of Distinct Sedentary & Semitic Civilizations

- C. Religion & Imperialism In Ancient History

IV. "It's Greek To Me"

- A. Minoan & Mycenaean Civilizations, Transplantation & Originality
- B. The Rise of the Polis & City-State
- C. Imperialism & The Classical Antiquity
- D. The Hellenistic World & Greek Expansionism

V. The Rise & Fall Of Rome

- A. Etruscans, Wolves & Early Foundations
- B. The Roman Republican Experiment & Model
- C. From a City of Brick to one of Marble to Tourist Ruins
- D. Christianity & The Religious Factor In Roman History

VI. The Medieval Era: 500 – 1200

- A. Population & Environment
- B. The Carolignian Empire
- C. Scandinavian Arrivals & Invasions
- D. Byzantine & Slavic Civilizations

VII. The Rise Of Islam

- A. From Fragmented Societies to Global Imperialism
- B. Expansion, Unification & Decentralization in Africa
- C. The Crusades: Violent Clashes & Cultural Exchanges

VIII. The High Middle Ages: 1200-1500

- A. Feudalism & Manorialism
- B. The Roman Catholic Church & Papal Authority
- C. The Rise of New Political & Religious Orders

IX. Foreign Exposure, Class Conflict & Reform

- A. The Renaissance
- B. Capitalism, Urbanization & The New World Order
- C. The Protestant Reformation

X. Nationalism

- A. Unification, Nationalism & Expansion
- B. Science, Discovery, Modernization & Profit
- C. Connecting Ancient & Medieval History To Our Times