This course examines developments that created and shaped Western civilization between about 2000 B.C. and A.D. 1600. We will treat “civilization” as a complex form of cultural adaptation by peoples and societies. The story of Western civilization is the story of successive adaptations by different peoples and societies. Students will consider the problems faced by successive different peoples and societies and the solutions they evolved, in part by borrowing from the past. Because this process involves successive peoples and societies, it is common to consider Western civilization as a series of stages. One way to define the series in the time period we are considering is chronological: ancient, medieval, and early modern. Another way is by reference to different peoples: Greek, Roman, Germanic. We will actually be using both perspectives.

Students will meet each week in both lecture classes and smaller discussion sections. Students are responsible for completing the assigned readings in the textbook and in the assigned primary sources (on CD or on the web) before each class. Class and discussion section attendance is mandatory. More than two unexcused absences will cause the loss of a full grade. More than three will cause a student to be dropped from the course. There will be four exams in the course, various writing assignments, and occasional quizzes.

All writing assignments are to be turned in at the Discussion Section meeting.

Required text

Frankforter and Spellman, *The West. Culture and Ideals.* Vol. I. (Make sure this comes with the enclosed CD)

Class Schedule (*The West = W*)

8/20 Introduction and Organization W xxix-xxvii, 2, 50, 148, 248
8/22 Discussion Sections

I. The Greek Experience: From Warriors to Citizens
8/24 Warrior aristocrats

8/27 Military and Political Changes W 60-71
8/29 Discussion Sections
8/31 The Persian War

9/3 No Class
9/5 Discussion Section

9/7 Athenian Democracy

W 78-85; Antigone; Pericles’ Funeral Oration (both on CD in The West textbook)

9/10 Problems of Democracy/Responses

W 85-99; Thucydides, Peloponnesian War selection = CD 2.3; Apology of Socrates =

http://eawc.evansville.edu/anthology/apology.htm

Writing Assignment: According to what Socrates says in the Apology, how has Socrates been trying to help his fellow citizens? Why? (Turn in to Discussion Leader)

9/12 Discussion Sections
9/14 Fourth Century B.C.

W 85-99; Republic, Allegory of the Cave = http://www.historyguide.org/ancient/allegory_bb.html

Writing Assignment: Based on what Plato writes in this selection, where does he think true reality lies? How can we perceive it? (Turn in to Discussion Leader)

9/17 Hellenistic Age

W 100-109

9/19 Discussion Sections
9/21 FIRST EXAM

II. The Roman Experience: From Citizens to Subjects

9/24 The Republic: Institutions and Values

W 110-114
9/26 Discussion Sections
9/28 Foreign Affairs

W 114-118
10/1 Problems and Solutions

W 123-132
10/3 Discussion Sections
10/5 Imperial Society

W 132-144
10/8 Roman Religions (including Christianity)

W 152-159
10/10 Discussion Sections
10/12 Late Roman Empire

W 144-147
10/15 No Class
10/17 Discussion Sections
10/19 SECOND EXAM

III. The Medieval Experience: Warriors Become Subjects

10/22 German Background: Franks and Others

W 159-190
10/24 Discussion Sections
10/26 From Kingship to Lordships
Writing Assignment: According to these contracts, what does a vassal typically have to do for his lord? What does the lord do for the vassal? (Turn in to Discussion Leader)

10/29 From Lordships to Kingships
10/31 Discussion Sections
11/2 Papal Monarchy
Writing Assignment: After reading the Papal Texts for 11/2 and 11/4 identify ideas or beliefs that are used as bases for asserting papal supremacy (Turn in to Discussion Leader)

11/5 Medieval World in Maturity
11/7 Discussion Sections
11/9 Medieval Mind
Writing Assignment: In the Ascent of Mt. Ventoux, how does Petrarch reveal his misgivings about the importance of human achievement in this world compared with the pursuit of salvation (Turn in to Discussion Leader)

11/12 Art and Architecture
11/14 Discussion Sections
11/16 THIRD EXAM

IV. Early Modern Experience: From Subjects to Individuals
11/19 The European Middle Class
Writing Assignment: In the Ascent of Mt. Ventoux, how does Petrarch reveal his misgivings about the importance of human achievement in this world compared with the pursuit of salvation (Turn in to Discussion Leader)

11/26 Renaissance
11/28 Discussion Sections
11/30 This World W 265-281, 285-296
12/3 The Church 1300-1500 W 260-265,
12/5 Discussion Sections
12/7 Reformation and Responsibility W 297-311
12/10 Entering the Modern Western World W 311-320
3/15 Discussion Sections
3/17 Religions in the Roman World
3/20 Rise of Christianity W 150-156; Paul, *Letter to the Romans*, Chapters 12-13; *Didache* =
http://www.bibleontheweb.com/Bible.asp (fill in Romans and 12 in search windows)

Writing Assignment: How does the “way” prescribed in the *Didache* reflect the recommendations for a Christian life made by Paul in *Romans*, 12-13? (Turn in to Discussion Leader)

10/14 Discussion Sections
10/17 Christianization of Roman Empire W 156-159
10/19 SECOND EXAM

10/21 Transformation of Roman World W 144-147, 159-173
10/24 Discussion Sections
10/26 Franks to Charlemagne W 175-189, 193-198
10/28 From Lordships to Kingships W 189-193, 203-209; Lord-Vassal Contracts = CD 6.6

Writing Assignment: According to these contracts, what does a vassal typically *have* to do for his lord? What does the lord *do* for the vassal? (Turn in to Discussion Leader)

10/31 Discussion Sections
11/2 Papal Monarchy W 209-213; Monastic and Papal Texts = CD 7.2, 7.3, 7.1

Writing Assignment: After reading the Papal Texts for 11/2 and 11/4 identify ideas or beliefs that are used as bases for asserting papal supremacy (Turn in to Discussion Leader)

11/4 Medieval World View W 237-247, 226-231; Dante, *Commedia* selections =
http://italian.about.com/library/anthology/dante/blinferno001.htm
http://italian.about.com/library/anthology/dante/blpuratorio018.htm
http://italian.about.com/library/anthology/dante/blinferno001.htm
11/7  Discussion Sections
11/9  THIRD EXAM

11/14  Discussion Sections
11/16  From Petrarch to Pico         W 273-285; Petrach, Ascent of Mt. Ventoux; Pico, Oration on The Dignity of Man =
http://www.fordham.edu/halsall/source/petrarch-ventoux.html
http://www.fordham.edu/halsall/med/oration.html
Writing Assignment: In the Ascent of Mt. Ventoux, how does Petrarch reveal his misgivings about the importance of human achievement in this world compared with the pursuit of salvation (Turn in to Discussion Leader)

11/18  The Secular Perspective Machiavelli, The Prince =
http://www.fordham.edu/halsall/basis/machiavelli-prince.html Read Introduction, Dedications, and Chapters 14-19
Writing Assignment: What passages in The Prince, Chapters 14-19 reveal Machiavelli’s view of people in general and the true ways of the world? (Turn in to Discussion Leader)

11/21  Discussion Sections
11/23-25  Thanksgiving Break

11/28  Reformation background and overview    W 260-265
11/30  Luther W 297-301; Address to Christian Nobility of German Nation =
http://history.hanover.edu/texts/luthad.html
Writing Assignment: In what specific ways does Luther challenge the authority of the Church in his Address? (Turn in to Discussion Leader)

12/2  Other Reforms W 301-311
12/5  Discussion Sections
12/??  FOURTH EXAM