

SYLLABUS
WCV101-09 Western Civilization I

Meeting Time/Location: MWF 10:00 to 10:50 GRAM 313

Instructor: Mark Moser

Office: MHRA 2104

Office Hours: MW 12:00 to 1:00 --- W 4:00 to 5:00 --- F 9:00 to 9:45 --- (and by appointment)

Email: mamoser@uncg.edu

Required Texts:

Adams, Winthrop Lindsay, *Alexander the Great: Legacy of a Conqueror*. (New York: Pearson/Longman, 2005).

Beatty, John L., et al., *Heritage of Western Civilization, Volume I* Ninth Edition. (Upper Saddle River, NJ: Pearson Education, 2004).

Frankforter, A. Daniel and William M. Spellman, *The West: Culture and Ideas, Volume I to 1660*. (Upper Saddle River, NJ: Pearson Education, 2004)

King, Ross. *Michelangelo and the Pope's Ceiling*. (New York: Penguin Books, 2003).

Course Objectives:

Students will be expected to:

- Understand and retain the basic facts and framework of Western Civilization from its Mesopotamian origins through the end of the Thirty Years' War in 1648.
- Analyze and synthesize relevant information; i.e., interpret historical facts
- Develop a personal and historical sense of time relevant to Western Civilization
- Think critically and make informed judgments!

Procedures/Assignments:

This course will require you to do a significant amount of reading, however it is very manageable provided that you follow my recommendations and don't allow yourselves to fall behind. Discussion of your readings will, at times, take up a significant portion of certain class sessions, but because this is a survey course the majority of each class period will be devoted to lecture. It will be necessary for you to have completed your assigned readings prior to coming to class for two reasons. One, class discussions will be difficult to conduct if you haven't read, and two, the lectures will be more understandable if you have read the assigned material ahead of time. This course will not be difficult provided that you remain current with all your reading. However, students who fall behind typically find it extremely difficult to catch up.

Note: Please turn off cell phones or set them to vibrate mode *BEFORE* class begins.

Attendance:

Punctuality and regular attendance are necessary in order for you to do your best in any college class because you are still responsible for all material covered in class whether or not you are there. Each student will be allowed six (6) absences during the semester with no academic penalty. I make no distinction between excused and unexcused absences—you are either here or you are not.* Each additional absence will result in 10 points being deducted from your final grade average. Any student who wishes to receive a grade of “W” must drop the class on or before Wednesday, October 17. Habitual tardiness, either alone or in combination with absences, will also adversely affect your final grade. Occasionally I will notify a student whenever he/she has reached 6 absences, but please do not rely on me to keep you informed. It is your responsibility to keep up with your absences. It is also your responsibility to see me after class if you come in after the attendance sheet has been passed around, as failure to do so will result in your being marked absent for that class session.

This class meets three times per week and I expect you to come to class on time and to remain in class for the entire session unless you have a genuine emergency during class, (illness, etc.) or unless you speak to me prior to class and advise me that you need to leave early. I consider this to be common courtesy to both the class and myself.

All requests to take a missed exam or book test will be considered on an individual basis. Under no circumstances will any student be allowed to makeup more than two tests/exams! Any student who misses a test/exam **must contact me** prior to returning to class to inquire about the possibility of taking a makeup. (Makeup tests will have to be taken at a time when I am available and often prove to be more difficult) No makeup quizzes will be offered.*

I also reserve the right to drop any student at any time during the semester because of excessive absences.

Note: Laptops are required for incoming freshmen beginning this semester. You do not need one for this class, but if you wish to use it for taking notes that will be fine. While you are in my class please do not use them for ANYTHING else. I will warn a student once for such an infraction—a second offence will result in your being dropped from the class.

Grading:

Exams (2) M/C and Essay	40%
Book Tests (2) M/C	30%
Quizzes on readings* M/C	10%
Final Exam Essay	20%
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Course Total	100%

* I will drop your 2 lowest quiz grades

(This course follows a 10 point scale and I do assign +/- to final grades when warranted.)

Course Outline:

Week One—(August 20, 22, 24) Course introduction on Monday, August 20 Overview of early civilizations on Wednesday, August 22 *The West* Ch. 1 “The Birth of Civilization” and *Heritage* pp. 7-14

Week Two—(August 27, 29, 31) *The West* Ch. 2 “The Rise of Empires and the Beginning of the Iron Age” and *Heritage* pp. 15-20, 27-39
Also, begin reading *Alexander the Great* (before next week pp. 1-46)

Week Three—(September 5, 7) No class Monday, September 3, Labor Day *The West* Ch. 3 “Aegean Civilizations” *Heritage* pp. 44-72
Continue reading *Alexander the Great* (before next week pp. 47-98)

Week Four—(September 10, 12, 14) *The West* Ch. 3 “Aegean Civilizations” continued
Continue reading *Alexander the Great* (before next week pp. 99-154)

Week Five—(September 17, 19, 21) *The West* Ch. 4 “The Hellenic Era” *Heritage* pp. 73-87, 92-107, 120-140
*Quiz on *Alexander the Great* Friday, September 21, followed by a discussion of the book.

Week Six—(September 24, 26, 28) *The West* Chapter 5 “The Hellenistic Era and the Rise of Rome” *Heritage* pp. 144-172
EXAM ONE Monday, September 24

Week Seven—(October 1, 3, 5) *The West* Ch. 5 “The Hellenistic Era and the Rise of Rome” continued *The West* Ch. 6 “Rome’s Empire and the Unification of the Western World” *Heritage* pp. 191-198

Week Eight—(October 8, 10, 12) *The West* Ch. 6 “Rome’s Empire and the Unification of the Western World” continued *Heritage* pp. 173-190

Week Nine—(October 17, 19) *The West* Ch. 7 “The West’s Medieval Civilizations”
*Fall Break-----No class Monday, October 15

Week Ten—(October 22, 24, 26) *The West* Ch. 8 “The Emergence of Europe” *Heritage* pp. 207-217

Week Eleven—(October 29, 31, November 2) *The West* Ch. 9 “Europe Turns Outward” *Heritage* pp. 218-229, 237-242
Begin reading *Michelangelo and the Pope’s Ceiling* (before next week chapters 1-10)

Week Twelve—(November 5, 7, 9) *The West* Ch. 10 “Europe’s High Middle Ages” *Heritage* pp. 230-236, 251-261
EXAM TWO Monday, November 5
Continue reading *Michelangelo and the Pope’s Ceiling* (before next week chapters 11-20)

Week Thirteen—(November 12, 14, 16, 19*) *The West* Ch. 10 “Europe’s High Middle Ages” (continued) and *The West* Ch. 11 “Challenges to the Medieval Order” *Heritage* pp. 242-244, 291-298

Continue reading *Michelangelo and the Pope’s Ceiling* (before next week chapters 21-epilogue)
No class Wednesday, November 21---Thanksgiving Holiday

Week Fourteen—(November 26, 28, 30) *The West* Ch. 12 “Renaissance and Exploration” *Heritage* pp. 305-312, 327-343, 319-326

*Quiz on *Michelangelo and the Pope’s Ceiling* Monday, November 26, followed by a discussion of the book.

Week Fifteen—(December 3, 5, 7) *The West* Ch. 13 “Reformation, Religious Wars, and National Conflict” *Heritage* pp. 361-396

Week Sixteen—(December 10) Last day of class—Review for Final Exam

*FINAL EXAM (Based only on material covered after Fall Break)

Wednesday, December 12 from 12:00pm to 3:00pm ----- You will need a blue book.