

WCV 101
Fall, 2009

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Hours: MWF 10-11
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This course will survey both chronologically and topically the growth of Western Civilization from its beginnings in the Mediterranean world of the Near East, Greece and Rome, through the Middle Ages, to its fruition in Early Modern Europe. Our study will include religion, the arts, politics, economic trends, social arrangements—human activity in all its variety. Our civilization in the twenty-first century has its roots in the past. Knowing these roots is one way of understanding the present world.

1. Required text: Marvin Perry *et al.*, Western Civilization, Ideas, Politics & Society Vol.I. You may buy the latest edition at the campus bookstore, or go online to find a less expensive earlier edition. All reading assignments are from this text.
2. Attendance: You are expected to attend class regularly and to be on time. You may have 4 unexcused absences. If you exceed that amount, you will be dropped from the class. To be excused, you must e-mail me within 48 hours after your absence. Most acceptable excuse: you are too ill to come to class.
3. Research projects/student presentation. This is a chance for you to become an expert on a topic relevant to this class by researching it, and then to teach the class about it in a short oral presentation. More instructions will be given on the list of topics.
4. Tests and grades: There will be two one- hour tests, each worth 25%, student projects are 25%, and a final exam, which is 25% of your final grade. Study guides will be given to you for the tests and the exam. Note: I am always available for conferences. If my office hours don't suit your schedule, just ask: we will set up a mutually convenient time.
5. This class follows a lecture format. It is very important to read your assignment before coming to class, and to take notes during class. Your questions and comments are always welcome.
6. Lecture outlines and other handouts during the class will also be posted on Blackboard.

CLASS SCHEDULE

8/24: Introduction
8/26-8/28: Chapter 1: The Ancient Near East
8/31: Video on ancient Egypt
9/2-9/9: Chapter 3: The Greek City-State
9/7: NO CLASS. Labor day.
9/11-9/14: Chapter 4: Greek Thought
9/16: Video on Greek art and architecture
9/18-9/21: Chapter 5: The Hellenistic Age
9/23: Student presentations on chapters 1,3,4,5.
9/25-9/30: Chapter 6: The Roman Republic.

10/2-10/7: Chapter 7: The Roman Empire
10/9: TEST
10/12: NO CLASS. Fall break.
10/14-10/20: Chapters 2 & 8: The Hebrews and Christianity
10/19-10/21: Student presentations: Chapters 6,7,2,8,9,10.
10/23-10/28: Chapter 9: The Heirs of Rome
10/30-11/6: Chapter 10: The High Middle Ages
11/9-11-13: Chapter 11: The Flowering of Medieval Culture
11/16: TEST
11/18-11/20: Chapter 12: The Late Middle Ages
11/23: Student presentations: Chapters 11, 12, 13, 14.
11/25-11/26: NO CLASS. Thanksgiving.
11/30-12/2: Chapter 13: The Renaissance
12/4-12/7: Chapter 14: The Reformation

Exam: 12/14 at 8 a.m.