

**SYLLABUS**  
**WCV101-01 Western Civilization I**

Meeting Time/Location: MWF 10:00 to 10:50 GRAM 313  
Instructor: Mark Moser Office: MHRA 2104  
Office Hours: MWF 9:00 to 9:30 --- MW 12:30 to 1:30 --- (and by appointment)  
Email: [mamoser@uncg.edu](mailto:mamoser@uncg.edu)

Required Texts:

Kagan, et al. *The Western Heritage, Volume One: To 1740*. Ninth or Tenth Edition  
(Pearson/Prentice Hall, 2007+) ISBN 9780132197199\* (Ninth)

King, Ross. *Michelangelo and the Pope's Ceiling*. (Penguin Books, 2003).  
ISBN 9780142003695

Stone, I. F. *The Trial of Socrates* (Anchor Books, 1989) ISBN 9780385260329

(From time to time there may be additional readings in the form of handouts or materials placed on e-reserves)

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:

Discussion of your readings may, at times, take up a significant portion of 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.

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) excused absences during the semester with no academic penalty. Each additional absence will result in 5 points being deducted from your final grade average. 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 everyone in attendance.

All requests to take a missed exam 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. (A makeup will have to be taken at a time when I am available) No makeup quizzes will be offered.\*

I reserve the right to drop any student at any point because of excessive absences. The last day to drop a class without academic penalty is Friday, October 15.

If you wish to bring a laptop to class I respectfully ask that you **only use it to take notes**. Please do not use them during class to check email, surf the web, play games, etc., while in class.

Grading:

Exams (2) M/C and Essay	40%
Book Tests (2)	30%
Final Exam (Essay)	20%
Quizzes*	10%
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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 23, 25, 27) Course introduction on Monday, August 23 Discussion of the terms “civilization” and “western” on Wednesday, August 25 *Western Heritage* Ch. 1 “The Birth of Civilization” (Overview)  
Begin reading *The Trial of Socrates*

Week Two—(August 30, September 1, 3) *Western Heritage* Ch. 2 “The Rise of Greek Civilization”  
Continue reading *The Trial of Socrates* (No class Monday, September 7---Labor Day)

Week Three—(September 8, 10) *Western Heritage* Ch. 3 “Classical and Hellenistic Greece”  
No class Monday, September 6---Labor Day  
\*TEST\* on *Trial of Socrates* Friday, September 10

Week Four—(September 13, 15, 17) *Western Heritage* Ch. 4 “Rome: From Republic to Empire”

Week Five—(September 20, 22, 24) *Western Heritage* Ch. 5 “The Roman Empire”

Week Six—(September 27, 29, October 1) *Western Heritage* Ch. 5 “The Roman Empire”  
(continued)

Week Seven—(October 4, 6, 8) *Western Heritage* Ch. 6 “Late Antiquity and the Early Middle Ages”  
\*EXAM ONE\* Monday, October 4 *Western Heritage* Chapters 1-5  
\*Fall Break\*--No class Monday, October 11th

Week Eight—(October 13, 15) *Western Heritage* Ch. 7 “The High Middle Ages”  
Begin reading *Michelangelo and the Pope’s Ceiling*

Week Nine—(October 18, 20, 22) *Western Heritage* Ch. 7 “The High Middle Ages”  
*Western Heritage* Ch. 8 “Medieval Society: Hierarchies, Towns, Universities, and Families”  
Continue reading *Michelangelo and the Pope’s Ceiling*

Week Ten—(October 25, 27, 29) *Western Heritage* Ch. 9 “The Late Middle Ages”  
Continue reading *Michelangelo and the Pope’s Ceiling*

Week Eleven—(November 1, 3, 5) *Western Heritage* Ch. 10 “Renaissance and Discovery”  
\*EXAM TWO\* Monday, November 1 *Western Heritage* Chapters 6-9  
Continue reading *Michelangelo and the Pope’s Ceiling*

Week Twelve—(November 8, 10, 12) *Western Heritage* Ch. 10 “Renaissance and Discovery”  
(continued) \*Test on *Michelangelo and the Pope’s Ceiling* Friday, November 12

Week Thirteen—(November 15, 17, 19, \*22) *Western Heritage* Ch. 11 “The Age of Reformation”

\*Thanksgiving Break\*--No class Wednesday, November 24th or Friday, November 26th

Week Fourteen—(November 29, December 1, 3) *Western Heritage* Ch. 12 “The Age of Religious Wars”

Week Fifteen—(December 6) Last day of class—review for final exam

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

Wednesday, December 8th from 12:00pm to 3:00pm ----- You will need a blue book.

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Academic Integrity Policy:

*On all quizzes, exams, and papers you will be expected to abide by the UNCG Academic Integrity Policy, which may be reviewed at <http://studentconduct.uncg.edu/policy/academicintegrity>. Please review this important document with an attention to detail, and feel free to ask questions if there is any part of the policy which you do not understand.*

*\*If you have a documented disability and wish to discuss academic accommodations, please contact me as soon as possible.*