

SYLLABUS  
WCV101-01 Western Civilization I

Meeting Time/Location: MWF 10:00 to 10:50 GRAM 212  
Instructor: Mark Moser Office: MHRA 2104  
Office Hours: MWF 9:00 to 9:45 --- MW 12:30 to 1:30 --- (and by appointment)  
Email: [mamoser@uncg.edu](mailto:mamoser@uncg.edu)

Required Texts:

Adams, Winthrop Lindsay. *Alexander the Great: Legacy of a Conqueror*. (New York: Pearson/Longman, 2005). ISBN 9780321086174

Kagan, et al. *The Western Heritage, Volume One: To 1740*. Ninth or Tenth Edition (Upper Saddle River, NJ: Pearson/Prentice Hall, 2007+) ISBN 9780205705153

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

(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 from both primary and secondary sources in order to 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 five (5) 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 5 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. *(A minimum of 2 requested absences for religious observances not counted as part of the above)*

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 this semester without academic penalty is Friday, October 14.

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. Failure to comply with this request will result in forfeiture of this privilege.

Grading:

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

\* I will drop your 3 lowest quiz grades

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

Course Outline:

Week One—(August 22, 24, 26) Course introduction on Monday, August 22 Discussion of the terms “civilization” and “western” on Wednesday, August 24 *Western Heritage* Ch. 1 “The Birth of Civilization” (Overview)  
Begin reading *Alexander the Great*

Week Two—(August 29, 31, September 2) *Western Heritage* Ch. 2 “The Rise of Greek Civilization”  
Continue reading *Alexander the Great* (No class Monday, September 5---Labor Day)

Week Three—(September 7, 9) *Western Heritage* Ch. 3 “Classical and Hellenistic Greece” \*TEST\* on *Alexander the Great* Friday, September 9  
No class Monday, September 5---Labor Day

Week Four—(September 12, 14, 16) *Western Heritage* Ch. 4 “Rome: From Republic to Empire”

Week Five—(September 19, 21, 23) *Western Heritage* Ch. 5 “The Roman Empire”

Week Six—(September 26, 28, 30) *Western Heritage* Ch. 5 “The Roman Empire”  
(continued)

Week Seven—(October 3, 5, 7) *Western Heritage* Ch. 6 “Late Antiquity and the Early Middle Ages”  
\*EXAM ONE\* Monday, October 3 *Western Heritage* Chapters 1-5  
\*Fall Break\*--No class Monday, October 10th

Week Eight—(October 12, 14) *Western Heritage* Ch. 7 “The High Middle Ages”  
Begin reading *Michelangelo and the Pope’s Ceiling*

Week Nine—(October 17, 19, 21) *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 24, 26, 28) *Western Heritage* Ch. 9 “The Late Middle Ages”  
Continue reading *Michelangelo and the Pope’s Ceiling*

Week Eleven—(October 31, November 2, 4) *Western Heritage* Ch. 10 “Renaissance and Discovery”  
\*EXAM TWO\* Monday, October 31 *Western Heritage* Chapters 6-9  
Continue reading *Michelangelo and the Pope’s Ceiling*

Week Twelve—(November 7, 9, 11) *Western Heritage* Ch. 10 “Renaissance and Discovery”  
(continued) \*Test on *Michelangelo and the Pope’s Ceiling* Friday, November 11

Week Thirteen—(November 14, 16, 18, \*21) *Western Heritage* Ch. 11 “The Age of Reformation”

\*Thanksgiving Break\*--No class Wednesday, November 23rd or Friday, November 25th

Week Fourteen—(November 28, 30, December 2) *Western Heritage* Ch. 12 “The Age of Religious Wars”

Week Fifteen—(December 5) Last day of class—review for final exam

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

Wednesday, December 7th 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.*