

WCV 101-04
Spring, 2006
Eberhart 250
TR 9:30-10:45

Laurinda de Beck
Office: McIver 334 F
Hours: MWF 9-10 & 11-12
E-mail: rindakings@aol.com
Office: 256-0472

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. This is available in paperback at the campus and Addams bookstores. All reading assignments are from this text.
2. Attendance: You are expected to attend class regularly. With 5 unexcused absences, you will be dropped from the class. To be excused, you must contact me within 48 hours after your absence, by phone or e-mail. Most acceptable excuse: you are too ill to come to class.
3. Research projects/student presentation: you will sign up for one of these, to research and report on a topic. Instructions are given with 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, with some discussion sessions. It is very important to read your assignment before coming to class, and to take notes during class. Your questions are always welcome.

CLASS SCHEDULE

1/10: Introduction

1/12: Chapter 1, First Civilizations.

1/17-1/19: Chapter 3, The Greek City State.

1/24-1/26: Chapter 4, Greek thought.

1/31: Reports from the chapters on First civilizations, Greek city states, and Greek thought. Video:Greek art.

2/2: Chapter 5, The Hellenistic Age.

2/7-2/9: Chapter 6, The Roman Republic.

2/14-2/16: Chapter 7, The Roman Empire.

2/21: TEST.

2/23: Reports from the chapters on the Hellenistic Age, Roman Republic, and the Roman Empire.

2/28: Chapters 2 and 8, Judaism and Christianity.

2/28: Reports on Judaism and Christianity.

3/2 and 3/14: Chapter 9, The Heirs of Rome.

3/4-3/11: **SPRING BREAK.**

3/16-3/21: Chapter 10, The High Middle Ages.

3/23-3/28: Chapter 11, The Flowering of Medieval Culture.

3/30: TEST.

4/4: Reports on Byzantium, High Middle Ages, and Medieval Thought.

4/6-4/11: Chapter 12, The Late Middle Ages.

4/13: Chapter 13, The Renaissance.

4/18: Reports on the Late Middle Ages, the Renaissance, Reformation, and witches.

Video: Renaissance art.

4/20: Chapter 14, The Reformation.

4/25-4-27: European Expansion.

5/4: Exam, 12 noon.

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