

## Western Civilization 101-06

**Instructor:** Jeff Kinard

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**Office Hours:** by appointment

**Course description:** This course introduces western civilization from pre-history to the early modern era. Topics include ancient Greece, Rome, and Christian institutions of the Middle Ages and the emergence of national monarchies in Western Europe. Upon completion, students should be able to analyze significant political, socioeconomic, and cultural developments in early western civilization.

**Required Textbooks:** Kagan, Ozment, Turner, The Western Heritage (Ninth Edition), Part I

**Course Requirements:** There will be three tests and a final exam. The final exam will not be cumulative and will only cover the fourth section of the course material. Each test and the exam will cover lecture and discussion, the textbook, and assigned readings. 80% of your grade will be determined by the four exams (20% each) and an additional 20% will be determined by an outside five-page research paper. **The Research paper is due the first class period in April.**

**Grading Scale:** A Ten Point grading scale will be used: 90-100=A; 80-89=B, etc.

**Attendance Policy:** Regular attendance in class is essential to receiving the maximum benefit from this course. Students are expected to attend, be on time, and be prepared for all class sessions. In all cases of absences, the student is expected to make up all missed work and come prepared to the class following the absence. I also factor in your attendance in determining your final grade. More than two unexcused absences will result in the loss of a full letter grade.

**Student Conduct and Honesty:** Students shall conduct themselves according to the University's Honor Code.

**SPECIAL NOTE: ALL BEEPERS, CELL PHONES, ETC. ARE TO BE SHUT OFF BEFORE ENTERING CLASS. I CONSIDER FAILURE TO DO SO AS DISRUPTIVE BEHAVIOR AND WILL TREAT IT AS SUCH.**

## Class Schedule

(test questions)

### January-February

1. How do we know about people who lived before writing was invented? What kind of evidence do we have? How valid is it?
2. Describe, compare, and contrast Paleolithic and Neolithic cultures.
3. What are the characteristics of civilization? Illustrate your generalizations with specific examples from Mesopotamian and Egyptian civilizations.
4. Discuss the cultures and roles of the Minoan and Mycenaean civilizations.
5. Define the concept of a *polis*. Using Athens as your model, illustrate the evolution of democracy including the roles of Cylon, Draco, Solon, Pisistratus, Clisthenes, and Pericles.
6. Why did Sparta develop its unique system of government? What was life like for a Spartan warrior? Spartan women? Helots? Why did the Peloponnesian League develop as it did?
7. Why did the Athenians and Spartans go to war? Discuss the stages of the Peloponnesian War and its eventual outcome.
8. Why did the Greeks and Persians go to war? Trace the progress and outcomes of the conflicts.
9. Trace the success and ultimate failure of Alexander the Great.
10. How did the Hellenistic world differ from the classical Greek world?

### **February-March**

1. Describe the influence of the Etruscan civilization on the early Romans.
2. Identify and describe the political offices of the Roman Republic.
3. Trace the causes, major events, and outcomes of the Punic Wars.
4. Trace the decline and fall of the Roman Republic. Include the roles of the Gracchi, Marius, Sulla, Spartacus, the Punic Wars, the Social War, and the First Triumvirate.
5. Plot the career of Augustus. Be sure to include his role in the founding of the Roman Empire.
6. Trace the rise of early Christianity. How do you account for the new religion's success?
7. Describe the roles of Diocletian and Constantine in the late Roman Empire.
8. Did the Roman Empire fall?
9. How did the Byzantine Empire differ from the Western Empire? How were the two similar?
10. Discuss the rise of Islam.

### **April-May**

1. Discuss the Frankish Merovingian and Carolingian cultures. How did they develop and relate to one another? Include important individuals and events in your answer.
2. Discuss the interrelationships between the Byzantine, Islamic and Western societies in the 9<sup>th</sup> and 10<sup>th</sup> centuries. Include governmental systems, religion, societal values, and attitudes towards one another.
3. Describe the development of the Papacy as a major European political force.
4. What led to the Crusades? Describe (briefly) the events of the First, Second, Third, and Fourth Crusades. Were they eventually successful?
5. Discuss the Norman Conquest. Include the events leading to the Conquest, the Conquest itself, and its outcome.
6. What were the factors that led to the Reformation? What was the Reformation's outcome? Be sure to include important individuals and events.
7. Discuss the Renaissance. How does the painting shown in the slide relate to the Renaissance? (one of two paintings will be shown for this question: Botticelli's *Birth of Venus* or Van Eyck's *Arnolfini Wedding*)