

SYLLABUS

WCV101-08 Western Civilization I

Meeting Time/Location: W 6:00 to 8:50 HHRA 2209

Instructor: Mark Moser

Office: HHRA 2104

Office Hours Spring 2007: MWF 10:00 to 10:50 or W 4:00 to 5:00 (and by appointment)

Email: mamoser@uncg.edu

Required Texts:

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

Kagan, Donald, Steven Ozment and Frank M. Turner. *The Western Heritage, Volume I: To 1740*, Ninth Edition. (Upper Saddle River, NJ: Prentice Hall, 2007).

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

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:

This course will require you to do a significant amount of reading, however it is very manageable provided that you follow my recommendations and don't allow yourselves to fall behind. Class discussion of your readings will, at times, take up a significant portion of certain 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 readings in *The Western Heritage* prior to coming to class for several reasons. One, class discussions will be difficult to conduct if you haven't read, two, the lectures will be more understandable if you have read the assigned material ahead of time, and three, you will be given a quiz each class session on that particular week's material. This course will not be difficult provided that you remain current with all your reading. Students who fall behind in their reading typically find it extremely difficult to catch up.

Note: Please turn off cell phones or set them to vibrate mode *BEFORE* class begins.

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 two (2) absences during the semester with no academic penalty. A third absence will result in 10 points being deducted from your final grade average. A fourth absence will result in an additional 15 points being deducted from your final grade average. No student incurring a fifth absence can receive a passing grade for the course. Any student who wishes to receive a grade of “W” must drop the class on or before Wednesday, March 14. 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 2 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 attendance has been taken, as failure to do so will result in your being marked absent for that class session.

This class meets only once 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 both the class and myself. Leaving class early, such as at break, will count against your attendance record. If you know now that you will have difficulty in getting to class on time or that your particular circumstances will cause you to miss more than the allotted number of classes, I strongly suggest that you drop this course at once.

All requests to take a missed exam will be considered on an individual basis. Any student who misses a test must contact me prior to returning to class to inquire about the possibility of taking a makeup exam. (Makeup exams may prove to be more difficult) Since I will be dropping your two lowest quiz scores, no makeups will be given on the weekly quizzes.

I reserve the right to drop any student—at any time during the semester—because of excessive lateness to class and/or absences.

Grading:

Weekly Quizzes	30%
Book Tests (2)	25%
Mid-Term	20%
Final Exam	25%
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Course Total	100%

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

Course Outline:

Week One—(January 10) Course introduction, procedures, etc. Discussion of the concept of “Western Civilization”

Begin reading *Alexander the Great* (by next week pp. 1-46)

Week Two—(January 17) Overview of early civilizations

Continue reading *Alexander the Great* (by next week pp. 47-97)

Week Three—(January 24) *The Western Heritage* Chapter 2 “The Rise of Greek Civilization”

Continue reading *Alexander the Great* (by next week pp. 99-154)

Quiz on Chapter 2

Week Four—(January 31) *The Western Heritage* Chapter 3 “Classical and Hellenistic Greece”

*Test on *Alexander the Great* Wednesday, January 31, followed by discussion of the book.

Quiz on Chapter 3

Week Five—(February 7) *The Western Heritage* Chapter 4 Rome: From Republic to Empire”

Quiz on Chapter 4

Week Six—(February 14) *The Western Heritage* Chapter 5 “The Roman Empire”

Quiz on Chapter 5

Week Seven—(February 21) *The Western Heritage* Chapter 6 “Late Antiquity and the Early Middle Ages”

Quiz on Chapter 6

Week Eight—(February 28) *Mid-Term Exam (You will need a Bluebook)

*Spring Break-----No class Wednesday, March 7

Week Nine—(March 14) *The Western Heritage* Chapter 7 “The High Middle Ages”

Quiz on Chapter 7

Week Ten—(March 21) *The Western Heritage* Chapter 8 “Medieval Society: Hierarchies, Towns, Universities, and Families”

Quiz on Chapter 8

Begin reading *Michelangelo and the Pope’s Ceiling* (by next week chapters 1-10)

Week Eleven—(March 28) *The Western Heritage* Chapter 9 “The Late Middle Ages”

Continue reading *Michelangelo and the Pope’s Ceiling* (by next week chapters 11-21)

Quiz on Chapter 9

Week Twelve—(April 4) *The Western Heritage* Chapter 10 “Renaissance and Discovery”

Continue reading *Michelangelo and the Pope’s Ceiling* (by next week chapters 21-epilogue)

Quiz on Chapter 10

Week Thirteen—(April 11) *The Western Heritage* Chapter 10 “Renaissance and Discovery”
(Continued)

*Test on *Michelangelo and the Pope’s Ceiling* Wednesday, April 11, followed by discussion of the book.

Quiz on Chapter 10

Week Fourteen—(April 18) *The Western Heritage* Chapter 11 “The Age of Reformation”

Quiz on Chapter 11

Week Fifteen—(April 25)) *The Western Heritage* Chapter 12 “The Age of Religious Wars”

Quiz on Chapter 12

*FINAL EXAM (Take-home essay, based only on material covered after Spring Break)
These will be due in my office by 6:00pm Wednesday, May 2. All final exams received after 6:00pm on this date—regardless of reason—will be penalized 20 points per day.

IMPORTANT DATES TO REMEMBER:

Wednesday, January 31
Wednesday, February 28
Wednesday, March 7
Wednesday, March 14
Wednesday, April 11
Wednesday, May 2

Test on *Alexander the Great*
Mid-Term Exam
Spring Break—No Class
Last day to withdraw w/o academic penalty
Test on *Michelangelo and the Pope’s Ceiling*
FINAL EXAM (Take-home essay due by 6:00pm)