

Spring 2011

SYLLABUS
WCV101-02 Western Civilization I

Meeting Time/Location: MWF 10:00 to 10:50 BRYN 122

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

Required Texts:

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

Kagan, Ozment, and Turner, *The Western Heritage, Volume One: To 1740*. Tenth Edition (Upper Saddle River, NJ: Pearson/Prentice Hall, 2009).

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

(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:

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. 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 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) absences during the semester with no academic penalty. I make no distinction between excused and unexcused absences—you are either here or you are not.* 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 attendance has been taken, 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 both the class and myself.

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 exams! Any student who misses an exam **must contact me** prior to returning to class to inquire about the possibility of taking a makeup. (Makeup tests 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, March 4.

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, or orchestrate your social life on Facebook. Students caught using their laptops for anything other than taking notes will not be allowed to bring them to class in the future.

Grading:

Exams (2) MC/Essay	40%
Book Tests (2)	30%
Final Exam (Essay)	20%
Quizzes on readings*	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—(January 10, 12, 14) Course introduction on Wednesday, January 10—Discussion of the terms “civilization” and “western.” Wednesday, January 12 and Friday, January 14, *The Western Heritage* Ch. 1 “The Birth of Civilization” Begin reading *Alexander the Great*

Week Two—(January 19, 21) *The Western Heritage* Ch. 2 “The Rise of Greek Civilization” Continue reading *Alexander the Great*

Week Three—(January 24, 26, 28) *The Western Heritage* Ch. 3 “Classical and Hellenistic Greece” *TEST* on *Alexander the Great* Friday, January 28

Week Four—(January 31, February 2, 4) *The Western Heritage* Ch. 4 “Rome: From Republic to Empire”

Week Five—(February 7, 9, 11) *The Western Heritage* Ch. 5 “The Roman Empire”

Week Six—(February 14, 16, 18) *The Western Heritage* Ch. 5 “The Roman Empire” (continued)

Week Seven—(February 21, 23, 25) *The Western Heritage* Ch. 6 “Late Antiquity and the Early Middle Ages” *EXAM ONE* Monday, February 21 on *The Western Heritage* Chapters 1-5

Week Eight—(February 28, March 2, 4) *The Western Heritage* Ch. 7 “The High Middle Ages” Begin reading *Michelangelo and the Pope’s Ceiling*

SPRING BREAK --- No classes March 7, 9, 11

Week Nine—(March 14, 16, 18) *The Western Heritage* Ch. 8 “Medieval Society: Hierarchies, Towns, Universities, and Families” Continue reading *Michelangelo and the Pope’s Ceiling*

Week Ten—(March 21, 23, 25) *The Western Heritage* Ch. 9 “The Late Middle Ages” Continue reading *Michelangelo and the Pope’s Ceiling*

Week Eleven—(March 28, 30, April 1) *The Western Heritage* Ch. 10 “Renaissance and Discovery” *EXAM TWO* Monday, March 28 on *The Western Heritage* Chapters 6-9 Continue reading *Michelangelo and the Pope’s Ceiling*

Week Twelve—(April 4, 6, 8) *The Western Heritage* Ch. 10 “Renaissance and Discovery” (cont’d) *TEST* on *Michelangelo and the Pope’s Ceiling* Friday, April 8

Week Thirteen—(April 11, 13, 15) *The Western Heritage* Ch. 11 “The Age of Reformation”

Week Fourteen—(April 18, 20) *The Western Heritage* Ch. 12 “The Age of Religious Wars”
*No class Friday, April 22---Spring Holiday

Week Fifteen—(April 25, 26*) *The Western Heritage* Ch. 12 “The Age of Religious Wars”
(cont’d) *University follows Friday schedule, last day of class—review for final exam

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

Monday, May 2 from 12:00pm to 3:00pm ----- You will need a small format bluebook.