

Western Civilization 101, Sections 3 and 4

'To be ignorant of what occurred before you were born is to remain always a child.' Cicero.

Instructor: Bruce Peebles
Office: MHRA Building,
2nd Floor, Room #2114

Email: bapeeble@uncg.edu
Office Hours: MTWR 10:00-10:50; 1:00-1:50; or by
appointment.

This syllabus meets the needs of two separate sections of Western Civilization 101:

WCV 101, Section 3 – Tuesday-Thursday, 11:00-12:15 am, MHRA 1214.

WCV 101, Section 4 – Monday-Wednesday, 2:00-3:15 pm, MHRA 1215.

Course Description: Our course will cover the broad historical framework for a culturally defined phenomenon known as 'western civilization.' Our primary tasks will be to collectively determine the cultural components for civilization, to define 'west' in a variety of ways, to trace over time the emergence of these components of civilization, and finally to trace changes in 'civilization's' location in the 'west' over an extended period of time.

Required Textbook: (available at the UNCG Bookstore)

Lynn Hunt, Thomas R. Martin, Barbara H. Rosenwein, and Bonnie G. Smith. *The Making of the West: Peoples and Cultures, a Concise Edition, Volume I: to 1740*. New York: Bedford/St. Martin's, 2010.

Buy it and read it. I will draw out both lecture and examination materials from this text. Additional primary source materials will be provided electronically through Blackboard.

Student Learning Outcomes:

- Students will be able to explain orally, by identification, and in writing conceptual terms and terms that reflect distinctive political, religious, and social traditions of western culture.
- Students will be able to correctly identify relevant geographic, political, and social/cultural information on historical maps.
- Students will improve their abilities to express themselves orally and in writing, in order to communicate clearly the reasoning behind historical debates and classroom discussions.

Course Requirements: To pass this course, a student must complete all four exams. Failure to complete any one or more of these will result in an automatic grade of 'F'.

Communication. I will use the **UNCG email system and Blackboard** as my sole means to contact you outside of regular classroom hours, except for face-to-face appointments. Be sure to check your UNCG email account on a regular basis. If I need to modify some aspect of an upcoming class, I will send this to you by email. If you need to inform me of reasons why you will miss class (illness or some other personal crisis), then I expect you to use the UNCG email system. I may post on Blackboard additional reading materials from time to time. Be sure to download and read these because they will be included in the testable materials for the course.

Classroom Courtesy. As a courtesy to both the instructor and your fellow students, please be on time and turn off all laptops and cell phones before class starts. Students observed texting, using the phone, or using their laptop computers will be asked to shut those devices off and put them away. During class, keep side-chatter to a minimum to avoid disrupting other students. If you arrive late, please be as quiet as possible and take the closest seat.

Grades. Your final grade will be based on your performance on the following events:

Attendance	10%
First exam (26/27 January)	20%
Second exam (16/17 February)	20%
Third exam (23/34 Mar)	25%
Fourth exam (Finals Week)	25%

UNCG Grading Scale. The University undergraduate grading scale cut-off points are as follows:

A+	97	B+	87	C+	77	D+	67	F	59
A	93	B	83	C	73	D	63		
A-	90	B-	80	C-	70	D-	60		

Attendance. Attendance is both a measure of one's self-discipline and a necessary process for acquiring information that furthers understanding of course content. Material from each day will be testable. All unexcused absences will affect your grade. It is your responsibility to sign in each day on the attendance sheets I will provide in lecture. If you cannot make class, contact me as soon as possible by email. Your attendance grade will be based on the following chart:

<u>Absences from Lecture</u>	<u># of Points (out of a maximum of 10)</u>
0	12 (i.e., +2 points)
1	10
2-3	9
4-5	7
6-7	5
8 or more	0

You will note that if you have 100% attendance, you will actually help your final grade. I will use 12 points, rather than 10, when calculating your final grade. I reward compliance and discipline.

Religious Observance. The University allows for a limited number of excused absences each academic year for religious observances required by the faith of the student. Students must notify me of absences for this purpose at least two days in advance of the date of the religious observance. If you provide appropriate notice, you will be granted at least two excused absences under this policy. You will be allowed to make up work and tests missed due to these particular absences, but I will require you to complete the event in advance of the originally scheduled date.

Examinations. There will be four in-class exams. Exam values will as noted below in the **Grades** section. Each exam will address only the material in the readings, presented orally in lecture, and discussed in class during that section of the course. The exams will consist of a range of objective measures and short answer questions based on key terms identified by both students and the instructor. Further information about the exams will be presented in class.

Legal obligations.

1. In case later consultation should prove necessary, students should keep all graded assignments at least until the end of the semester.
2. **As noted above, all course requirements must be completed satisfactorily to receive a passing grade for the class.**

3. **Late Work:** Assignments are due on the date and at the time listed on the syllabus; if a crisis (such as illness, bereavement) arises, **it is your responsibility to contact me**. If you do not contact me, the work (when eventually received) will be penalized. Contact may be made by email, or by a face to face meeting.

4. **Cheating and Plagiarism:** I have provided the following definitions of cheating and plagiarism for your understanding and compliance. They are in accordance with the University's standing policies. If you have any doubts about the meaning, refer to the University Academic Integrity Policy, located online at <http://academicintegritypolicy.uncg.edu>. I have included the following from this source. Please see me if you have any additional questions. I will speak to these ideas at length on the first day of class.

Cheating is the intentional use or attempted use of unauthorized materials, information, or study aids in any academic exercise. Cheating includes but is not limited to unauthorized copying from the work of another student, using notes or other materials not authorized during an examination, giving or receiving information or assistance on work when it is expected that the student will do their own work.

Plagiarism is the attempt or act of representing the words of another as one's own in any academic exercise. Plagiarism may occur on any paper, report, or other work submitted to fulfill course requirements. This includes submitting work done by another, whether a commercial or non-commercial enterprise, including web sites, as one's own work. In particular for written assignments, this includes the failure to cite the words and ideas of others or the submission of words, ideas, and text materials as one's own work when these materials were taken from the work of another.

If I suspect that a violation has occurred, I will investigate the circumstances to verify my suspicions. If it is clear to me that a violation of either of these policies has occurred, I will take action. At a minimum, I will give the graded event (project or exam) a zero. Other options, including at the most severe end of the spectrum a recommendation for expulsion from the university, are available to me. However, I reserve the right to treat each case and each student as individuals, and I will only refer to the Academic Integrity Panel those cases where I feel the student has knowingly and in a calculated manner set out to deceive me and undermine the academic integrity of this university.

5. **The syllabus is a document that reflects the plan for the course.** The instructor reserves the right to alter requirements or to change some aspects of the plan of study for this course based on conditions and situations that cannot be anticipated in advance of the formulation of this syllabus. The timing of assignments and the nature of assignments contained herein do not reflect a binding contract. If I need to make a change, I will provide to you as much forewarning as possible either orally or through email.

Course Schedule by week/day:

The following schedule applies to both Section 3 and Section 4. Each date is doubled to reflect Monday/Tuesday and Wednesday/Thursday. Reading headings are drawn from the chapter assignments in our textbook.

Week 1

10/11 January – Course Introduction; syllabus discussion; what is 'west'? What do we mean by civilization? What constitutes human culture?

12/13 January – Course Overview; **the Emergence of Western Civilization**; text p.3-44.

Week 2

17 January – MLK Holiday – no class.

18 January – Emergence of Western Civilization; text p.3-44.

19/20 January – Golden Age of Greece, c.500-400 BC; text p.47-82.

Week 3

24/25 January – From the Classical to the Hellenistic World, 400-30 BC; p.85-117.

26/27 January – **First Exam.**

Week 4: The Emergence of Roman Power.

31 January/1 February – The Rise of Rome, 753-44 BC; text p.119-153.

2/3 February – The Roman Empire, 44 BC-284 AD, p.155-194.

Week 5

7/8 February – The Transformation of the Roman Empire, 284-600 AD; text p.197-235.

9/10 February – Islam, Byzantium, and the West, 600-750 AD; text p. 237-251

Week 6

14/15 February – Conclusion: an end to the power of the Roman Empire, where does it go?

16/17 February – **Second Exam**

Week 7: Emergence of the Middle Ages.

21/22 February – Western Europe: A Medley of Kingdoms; text p.252-268.

23/24 February –Emperors, Caliphs, and Local Lords, 750-1050; text p.271-308.

Week 8

28 February/1 March – Charlemagne, Louis the Pious, the Vikings and the Magyars.

2/3 March – Flowering of the Middle Ages, 1050-1200; text p.311-351.

4 March – last day to withdraw from the course without penalty.

Week 9

7-11 March - Spring Break

Week 10

14/15 March – Conquest of England; Early Crusades

16/17 March – The Medieval Search for Order, 1200-1340; text p.353-391.

Week 11

21/22 March – Crisis and Renaissance, 1340-1500; text p.393-432.

23/24 March – **Third Exam**

Week 12: Emergence of Early Modern Europe.

28/29 March –Struggles over Beliefs, 1500-1648; text p.435-478.

30/31 March – Wars of Religion; Elizabeth I/Philip II and the Spanish Armada; the Thirty Years' War.

Week 13

4/5 April – State Building and the Search for Order, 1648-1690; text p.481-518

6/7 April – Continued.

Week 14

11/12 April – Atlantic System; text p.523-551.

13/14 April – Atlantic System continued.

Week 15

18/19 April – The Enlightenment and the changing understanding of government; text p.541-552. Primary sources: Social Contract – Hobbes, Locke, and Rousseau.

20/21 April – Enlightenment continued. Final Review.

Week 16

Monday, 25 April – Final Review.

Tuesday, 26 April – No Class.

Wednesday, 27 April – Reading Day – no class.

Final Exam Schedule:

Last exam: WCV 101-03, Thursday, 28 April, at 3:30 pm.

WCV 101-04, Monday, 2 May, at 3:30 pm.