

Western Civilization 101-07
Ancient Middle East – Scientific Revolution
Spring 2011

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Introduction

This semester we will examine the political, cultural, economic, social, and religious development of western society from the beginnings of civilization in the Ancient Near East through the Scientific Revolution, paying particular attention to the historical processes that have shaped the past and to the way the past continues to shape the present.

Learning Goals of this Course

- Understand the differences and similarities among ancient, medieval, and early modern western cultures
- Understand how these cultures relate to the present
- Write analytical essay exams using primary sources to support your arguments

Text Book (required)

Western Civilization: Ideas, Politics, and Society, Volume I: To 1789 by Perry, et. al; 9th ed.; 2009

primary source reading selections (posted to Blackboard)

Attendance

Two absences allowed. Points will be deducted from the final grade for every absence thereafter.

Religious Observances

The University allows a limited number of excused absences for religious observances. Students must notify the instructor in advance of the date of the religious observance. When appropriate notice is provided by a student, the student must be granted at least two excused absences under this policy and must be allowed to make up or waive work and tests missed due to these particular absences. With to any test or other assignment that a student would miss due to notice of a required religious observance, faculty members may require the student to complete the test or assignment in advance of the originally scheduled date of the test or assignment

Miscellaneous

No web surfing; no cell phones

It is the responsibility of the students to keep up with postings and announcements to Blackboard

Please bring your textbook to class every time and any primary source readings due for that day

I do not provide lecture notes. Please come to my office hours for anything missed

Nametags are a requirement.

Grading

10%	Attendance and participation	Attendance is required and is taken for every class. Class discussion is a critical part of this course. Students are expected to show up to class ready to discuss the readings and to contribute to collective learning. Participation in any class activities and debates counts toward this portion of the grade.
10%	Quizzes	Frequent quizzes, I.D.s and short answer, on the readings (textbook and primary sources) will be administered.
80%	Exams	4 essay exams, evenly spaced over the course of the semester; exams will test students' mastery of significant peoples, places, events, and reading selections from western culture and the historical processes that have shaped that culture.

Course Schedule

Jan 10: Class Introduction	
Jan 12: Mesopotamia	Perry, chapter 1 Mesopotamia; <i>The Enuma Elish</i>
Jan 14: Mesopotamia	<i>Gilgamesh</i> selections
Jan 17: NO CLASS	
Jan 19: Egypt	Perry, chapter 1 Egypt
Jan 21: Egypt	hymns, creation myths, Pyramid Texts selections
Jan 24: Babylonians and Hammurabi	Perry, chapter 1 Empire Builders; <i>Hammurabi's Code</i>
Jan 26: Judaism	Perry, chapter 2; <i>Genesis</i> selections
Jan 28: Judaism	<i>Exodus</i> selections
Jan 31: EXAM ONE	
Feb 2: Archaic Greece	Perry, chapter 3; <i>Odyssey</i> selections

Feb 4: Archaic Greece	<i>Odyssey</i> selections
Feb 7: Classical Greece	Perry, 94-98; Thucydides selections
Feb 9: DEBATE: CITIZEN SOLDIERS	Thucydides selections
Feb 11: Republican Rome	Perry, chapter 6; Polybius's <i>On the Roman Constitution</i>
Feb 14: The Roman Empire: Augustus	Perry, chapter 7; <i>Res Gestae</i> ; Tacitus selections
Feb 18: Early Christians and the Roman State	Perry, chapter 8; selections on early Christians
Feb 21: Constantine	<i>Life of Constantine</i> selections
Feb 23: The Fall of Rome and the Byzantine Empire	Perry, chapter 9 through page 218
Feb 25: VIDEO on the Dark Ages	
Feb 28: VIDEO on the Dark Ages	
Mar 2: EXAM TWO	
Mar 4: Medieval Christianity	Perry, 219-224; <i>The Benedictine Rule</i> ; <i>Augustine on Original Sin</i>
Mar 7-11: NO CLASS SPRING BREAK	
Mar 14: High Middle Ages	Perry, chapter 10
Mar 16: Holy Jerusalem	selections from Crusader accounts
Mar 18: Joan of Arc	Joan of Arc selections
Mar 21: Renaissance	Perry, chapter 13
Mar 23: Renaissance	Cellini's autobiography selections
Mar 25: Machiavelli	<i>The Prince</i> first half
Mar 28: Machiavelli Reformation	<i>The Prince</i> second half
Mar 30: Reformation	Perry, chapter 14; Luther selections
Apr 1: Reformation	Calvin selections
Apr 4: EXAM THREE	

Apr 6: Age of Exploration	Perry, chapter 15
Apr 8: Spanish Explorers	Spanish explorers and missionary accounts
Apr 11: Slavery and the New World DEBATE	Slave trade selections
Apr 13: Scientific Revolution	Perry, chapter 17
Apr 15: Scientific Revolution	Galileo's <i>Letter to the Grand Duchess Christina</i>
Apr 18: DEBATE: INTELLIGENT DESIGN	
Apr 20: wrap up and review	
Apr 22: NO CLASS	
Apr 25: NO CLASS EXAM FOUR DUE	