

WCV 101-05
Spring 2003
McIver 228
TR 9:30-10:45

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This course will survey both chronologically and topically the growth of Western Civilization from its beginnings in the Mediterranean world of the Near East, Greece and Rome, through the Middle Ages, to its fruition in Early Modern Europe. Our study will include religion, the arts, politics, economic trends, social arrangements—human activity in all its variety. Our civilization in the twenty-first century has its roots in the past.

Knowing these roots is one way of understanding the present world.

1. Required text: Marvin Perry *et al.*, Western Civilization, Ideas, Politics & Society. Fifth edition, 1996, Vol.I. This is available in paperback at the campus and Addams bookstores. All reading assignments are from this text.
2. Attendance: You are expected to attend class regularly. With 5 unexcused absences, you will be dropped from the class. To be excused, you must contact me within 48 hours. Most acceptable excuse: you are too ill to come to class.
3. Group projects: you will sign up for one of these, to research and report on a topic. Instructions are given with the list of topics.
4. Tests and grades: There will be two one- hour tests, each worth 20%, group projects are 20%, and final exam, which is 40% of your final grade. Study guides will be given to you for the tests and the exam. Note: I am always available for conferences, if my office hours don't suit your schedule. Just ask: we will set up a mutually convenient time.
5. This class follows a lecture format. It is very important to read your assignment before coming to class, and to take notes during class. Your questions are always welcome.

CLASS SCHEDULE

1/14 Introduction
1/16 Ch.1, first civilizations
1/21 Video: *Pyramid*
1/23 Ch.3, Greece: the city-states
1/28 Ch.3, Greece: the Golden Age and its decline
1/30 Ch.4, Greek thought
2/4 Ch.4, Greek culture. Video: Greek art and architecture
2/6 Ch.5, Alexander the Great; the Hellenistic Age
2/11 Ch.6, Early Rome: rise of the Republic
*2/13 Group project reports: (1) mummies, (2) Moses, (3) Alexander the Great, (4) Greek drama
2/18 Ch.6, Republic in crisis; Julius Caesar
2/20 Ch.7, The Roman Empire: the Peace of Rome
2/25 Ch.7, Decline and fall of the Empire; the coming of the barbarians
2/27 TEST

3/4 Video: Roman City

*3/6 Group projects: (5) Roman Army, (6) Gladiators, (7) Islam, (8)Charlemagne

SPRING BREAK

3/18 Chapters 2 and 8: Judaism, Christianity

3/20 Ch.9, Byzantium, Islam

3/25 Ch.9, Charlemagne; feudalism

3/27 Ch.10, the High Middle Ages; rise of states

4/1 TEST

4/3 Ch.10, Crusades, Innocent III

4/8 Ch.11, Medieval thought

4/10 Ch.12, Black Death; 100 Years War

4/15 Group report: (9) Chivalry. Ch.12, The medieval Church in crisis

4/17 Group report: (10)The Crusades. Ch.13, Renaissance Europe

4/22 Group report: (11)Abelard and Heloise. Ch.13, Reformation

4/24 Group reports; (12) Joan of Arc, (13) Witchcraft. Ch.13, Reformation and Counter-reformation

4/29 Ch.15,European Expansion: the New World

5/1 Ch.16 France and England in the 17th century

Exam: Thursday, May 8, 8 am