

Syllabus

Course: WCV101-08 Western Civilization I
Meeting Time & Location: Tuesday 6:00-8:50PM McIver 232
Instructor: Mark Moser Office: McIver 223
email: mamoser@uncg.edu
Office Hours for Fall 2004: Tuesday 3:00 to 4:00 and Thursday 8:30 to 9:15

Text:

The Western Heritage, Volume One: To 1740. (Brief Fourth Edition) Donald Kagan, Steven Ozment, Frank M. Turner (Prentice Hall, 2004).

Course Objectives:

This survey course is designed to help students gain a better understanding of western civilization from antiquity through the end of the seventeenth century. Special emphasis will be placed on the development of western culture and how and why western civilization developed and spread in the manner it did. Because this is a very broad course we will examine many topics which directly shaped western history, including: art, global exploration, the development of written languages, the impact of military conflicts, philosophical thought, the impact of religion upon western society, scientific discoveries, territorial struggles, and numerous attempts of societies at extending their cultural and political hegemony. Upon successful completion of this course students should be able to identify leading individuals, understand key events in their proper historical context, as well as interpret the significant political, socioeconomic, and cultural developments associated with western civilization which occurred prior to the modern era.

Grading:

You will have thirteen (13) multiple-choice quizzes (approximately one each week), a Mid-Term exam and a Final exam in this course. Quizzes will always begin as soon as I have taken attendance so make every effort to be on time! Each week's ten quiz questions will come directly from the material in the assigned chapter for that week so it is imperative that you read before coming to class. No makeup quizzes will be given and all missed quizzes will count as a "0." However, I will drop your three lowest quiz grades with only the ten highest counting in determining your final grade. The Mid-Term will include everything we have covered up to that point in the semester. Your final exam, which I will discuss in more detail later, will be in essay format but will not be cumulative--it will only include material covered after the Mid-Term.

Average of Ten Best Quizzes	60%
Mid-Term Exam	15%
Final Exam	25%
Total	100%

Note: This course follows a 10 point grading scale.

Attendance:

Punctuality and regular attendance are necessary in order for students to do their best in any college level class because you are still responsible for all material covered in class whether or not you are there. You will be allowed **two (2) absences*** during the semester with no academic penalty. A third absence will result in the lowering of your final grade by one whole letter grade (*OUCH!*) Once a student misses 4 classes he/she will be dropped! Any student who initiates a drop on or before the last day to drop without academic penalty--Friday, October 8--will receive a grade of "W." Any student who drops after the last day to drop without academic penalty will receive a grade of "WF." Habitual tardiness may also affect your final grade as well because two (2) tardies will count as one absence. It is your responsibility as college students to keep up with your absences and tardies. Occasionally I will notify a student whenever his/her absences or tardies place them in danger of failing, but PLEASE DO NOT RELY ON ME TO KEEP YOU INFORMED!!! It is also your responsibility to see me immediately after class if you come in after attendance has been taken.

Quizzes will be given each day indicated at the beginning of class immediately after I have taken attendance so it is important to be on time for each class. Any student who enters class after the quizzes have been turned in will not be allowed to take that particular quiz. No makeups will be given on quizzes since I will drop your 3 lowest quiz grades (see grading on page one). I will, on a case-by-case basis, consider requests for makeup of the Mid-Term exam provided that a student can demonstrate just cause for their absence on that particular night. Absolutely NO Mid-Term exam makeups will be given after Thursday, October 14! (Be aware that certain portions of a makeup Mid-Term exam in this course will be more difficult than those originally scheduled.)

* Also please be aware that I do not make any distinction between "excused" and unexcused" absences. You are either here.....or you aren't.

Procedures:

Because of the breadth and scope of this course--and the amount of material we must cover--I will be doing a fair amount of lecturing. However, we will occasionally do some group discussion activities while in class and frequently engage in what I hope will be active class discussion sessions that I often initiate by calling on people to respond to questions about the weekly material. How can you effectively participate in such a discussion? Simple. **HAVE YOUR READING DONE BEFORE COMING TO CLASS!!!** My lectures primarily organize themselves around key points from the assigned chapters, but may also include relevant information not included or emphasized in your text. It will be to your advantage to have completed each week's reading in advance for the following reasons: 1) it will make the lectures easier to follow because you will be familiar with the subject matter and 2) from time to time throughout the semester, as indicated above, you may be asked to work together in small groups to discuss specific aspects of the assigned readings. It is your responsibility to keep up with the readings, attend class, and, whenever appropriate, to contribute to the class in a meaningful manner. Please bring your textbook with you to each class session! All materials covered in the course--the text, lectures, handouts, etc.--are fair game for test questions.

Weekly Course Outline:

Week One (August 17) Course introduction and overview of syllabus. Lecture on early civilizations with an emphasis on the ancient Egyptians.

Week Two (August 24)

Reading: *The Western Heritage*, Chapter 2 “The Rise of Greek Civilization”
Quiz 1

Week Three (August 31)

Reading: *The Western Heritage*, Chapter 3 “Classical and Hellenistic Greece”
Quiz 2

Week Four (September 7)

Reading: *The Western Heritage*, Chapter 4 “Rome: From Republic to Empire”
Quiz 3

Week Five (September 14)

Reading: *The Western Heritage*, Chapter 5 “The Roman Empire”
Quiz 4

Week Six (September 21)

Reading: *The Western Heritage*, Chapter 6* “The Early Middle Ages....”
Quiz 5

Week Seven (September 28)

Reading: *The Western Heritage*, Chapter 7* “The High Middle Ages....”
Quiz 6

Week Eight (October 5)

MID-TERM EXAM (Please bring a “Blue Book” to class)

* No Class Tuesday, October 12 ----- FALL BREAK

Week Nine (October 19)

Reading: *The Western Heritage*, Chapter 8 “Medieval Society....”
Quiz 7

Week Ten (October 26)

Reading: *The Western Heritage*, Chapter 9 “The Late Middle Ages....”
Quiz 8

Week Eleven (November 2)

Reading: *The Western Heritage*, Chapter 10 “Renaissance and Discovery”
 Quiz 9

Week Twelve (Nov 9)

Reading: *The Western Heritage*, Chapter 11 “The Age of Reformation”
 Quiz 10

Week Thirteen (Nov 16)

Reading: *The Western Heritage*, Chapter 12 “The Age of Religious Wars”
 Quiz 11

Week Fourteen (Nov 23)

Reading: *The Western Heritage*, Chapter 13 “Paths to Constitutionalism and Absolutism”
 Quiz 12

Week Fifteen (November 30)

Reading: *The Western Heritage*, Chapter 13 (continued) and review session for final
 Quiz 13

FINAL EXAM --- Tuesday, December 14 6:00 - 8:50PM (Please bring a “Blue Book” to class)

Important Dates to Remember:

Tuesday, October 5	MID-TERM EXAM
Friday, October 8	Last day to drop courses without academic penalty
Tuesday, October 12	No class ----- Fall Break
Tuesday, December 14	FINAL EXAM (6:00 - 8:50PM)