

WCV 101-05
Fall, 2008
TR 12:30-1:45

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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 Vol.I. You may buy the latest edition at the campus bookstore, or go online to find a less expensive earlier edition. All reading assignments are from this text.
2. Attendance: You are expected to attend class regularly. You may have 4 unexcused absences. If you exceed that amount, you will be dropped from the class. To be excused, you must contact me within 48 hours after your absence, by phone or e-mail. Most acceptable excuse: you are too ill to come to class.
3. Research projects/student presentation. This is a chance for you to become an expert on a topic relevant to this class by researching it, and then to teach the class about it in a short oral presentation. More instructions will be given on the list of topics.
4. Tests and grades: There will be two one- hour tests, each worth 25%, student projects are 25%, and a final exam, which is 25% 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 and comments are always welcome.
6. Lecture outlines and other handouts during the class will also be posted on Blackboard.

CLASS SCHEDULE

8/26: Introduction
8/28-9/2: Chapter 1: The Ancient Near East
9/4-9/11: Chapter 3: The Greek City-State
9/16-9/18: Chapter 4: Greek Thought
9/18-9/20: Chapter 5: The Hellenistic Age
9/23-9/25: Chapter 6: The Roman Republic
9/25: Student presentations on chapters 1,3,4,5.
10/7-10/9: Chapter 7: The Roman Empire
10/14: TEST
10/16-10/23: Chapters 2 & 8: The Hebrews and Christianity

10/21: NO CLASS. Fall break.
10/28: Student presentations: Chapters 6,7,2,8,9,10.
10/28-10/30 Chapter 9: The Heirs of Rome
11/4-11/6: Chapter 10: The High Middle Ages
11/11: Chapter 11: The Flowering of Medieval Culture
11/13 -11/20: Chapter 12: The Late Middle Ages
11/18: TEST
11/25: Chapter 13: The Renaissance
11/27: NO CLASS. Thanksgiving.
12/2 – 12/4: Chapter 14: The Reformation
12/2: Student presentations: Chapters 11,12,13,14.

Exam: 12/11 at 12 noon