

Western Civilization to 1500
WCV 101 - 11
M W 2:00 – 3:15pm
Stone Hall – Room

Instructor: Justin Horton

Fall 2008

Office: MHRA 2102

Hours: M W 12:45-1:50 and by appointment

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Required Texts:

Spielvogel, Jackson, *Western Civilization: A Brief History*, Volume I: To 1715, 7th edition (Wadsworth, 2009).

Marvin Perry, et al. eds. *Sources of the Western Tradition: From Ancient Times to the Enlightenment*, 7th edition. (Houghton Mifflin, 2008).

Course Description: This course is designed to offer a general understanding of major events and concepts that have shaped Western Civilization up to 1500. This will be accomplished through proper examination of economic, political, and societal changes. Since proper historical examination goes well beyond dates and figures, we will examine the concepts, cultures, and traditions through critical inquiry.

Course Objectives: The course will consist of weekly lectures, which, at times, will be accompanied by respective video clips and Power Point presentations. Participation in class is strongly encouraged. Students will gain insight on and will be able to explain development of culture and civilization.

Class Courtesy: Please be aware that you are one student in a class of many, so be respectful to your fellow classmates. Do not get up and leave class at your leisure, make up your mind prior to class whether you want to be here or not. Just because you “paid” for this course does not give you the right to interrupt the flow of the lectures. When you come to class please turn off your cell phones; however, if you have a specific situation which requires that you be reachable (i.e. a sick child) please see me before class begins. Two cell phone interruptions will result in a failing grade for the next assignment.

Attendance: A strong academic standing in class is reflective of a good attendance record, so make every effort to be at each class for the full time. Your record during the semester will be taken into account when determining your final grade. If you have extenuating circumstances, please let me know.

Assignments: The class will have 3 exams and 2 primary source analysis assignments. Each exam is 25% of your final grade and the 2 analyses combined will constitute the other 25%. Assignments not completed on time will result in a zero for that assignment.

The **exams** will contain multiple choice and identification terms. You will have the duration of the class period to complete the exam. The final will not be comprehensive.

The **primary source analyses** will be due on September 24th and November 12th at the beginning of class. complete the Primary Source Analysis Worksheet; which I will supply for you.

Grading: As stated before each assignment is 25% of your grade, and each assignment will be worth 100 points. The grade scale is stepped in 10 point increments.

Course Schedule: Note that this schedule is subject to change at the instructor's discretion.

8/25 – Brief Overview of the Class

8/27 – Mesopotamian Cultures:

- Spielvogel, pgs. 7-12; 30; 42-54
- Perry, pgs. 4-7; 17-23

9/1 – **Labor Day – No Class**

9/3 – Mesopotamian Cultures cont.:

- Spielvogel, pgs. 7-12; 30; 42-54

9/8 – 9/10 – Egyptian Civilization:

- Spielvogel, pgs. 13-26; 35-41
- Perry, pgs. 11-13; 29-35

9/15 – 9/17 – The Greeks:

- Spielvogel, pgs. 55- 85
- Perry, pgs. 46-47; 51-54; 79-85

9/22 – 9/24 – Hellenistic World:

- Spielvogel, pgs. 89-111
- Perry, pgs. 93-95

(First Primary Source Analysis Due – 9/24)

9/29 – Greek/Hellenistic World, cont.

10/1- **First Exam**

10/6 –10/8 – Rome: Republic and Empire:

- Spielvogel, pgs. 113-170
- Perry, pgs. 105-110; 119-121

10/13 –10/15 – Fall of Rome:

- Spielvogel, pgs. 180-184
- Perry, pgs. 147-148; 153-160

10/20 – **No Class: Fall Break**

10/22 - The Rise of Christianity:

- Spielvogel, pgs. 170-177; 192 – 200
- Perry, pgs. 163-164; 187

10/27 – 10/29 – Rise and Expansion of Islam:

- Spielvogel, pgs. 206-211; 237-241
- Perry, pgs. 197; 203

11/3 – ***Second Exam***

11/5 – The Early Middle Ages:

- Spielvogel, pgs. 213-237
- Perry, pgs. 210-214

11/10 – 11/12 –The High and Late Middle Ages:

- Spielvogel, pgs. 244-270; 303-33
- Perry, pgs. 227-232

(Second Primary Source Analysis Due – 11/12)

11/17 – 11/19 – The Renaissance:

- Spielvogel, pgs. 337-368
- Perry, pgs. 295-299

11/24 – The Reformation:

- Spielvogel, pgs. 337-368
- Perry, pgs. 312-316; 322-323

11/26 – **No Class: Thanksgiving Break**

12/1 – 12/3 – The Reformation, cont. and Expansionism:

- Spielvogel, pgs. 410-441; 484-508

12/8 – Expansionism, cont. - **Last day of Classes**

Final Exam - TBA

*****If there is any student in this class who has need for test-taking or note-taking accommodation please discuss this with me*****