

SYLLABUS
WCV101-02 Western Civilization I

Meeting Time/Location: MWF 10:00 to 10:50 LIBR 032
Instructor: Mark Moser Office: MHRA 2104
Office Hours: MWF 9:00 to 9:45 --- W 3:00 to 5:30 --- (and by appointment)
Email: mamoser@uncg.edu

Required Texts:

Kagan, et al. *The Western Heritage, Volume One: To 1740*. Brief 5th Edition
(Pearson/Prentice Hall, 2007) ISBN 9780132211031

Kelly, John. *The Great Mortality: An Intimate History of the Black Death, the Most
Devastating Plague of all Time* (Harper Perennial, 2006) ISBN 9780060006938

Stone, I. F. *The Trial of Socrates* (Anchor Books, 1989) ISBN 9780385260329

(From time to time there will be additional readings in the form of handouts or materials placed
on e-reserves)

Course Objectives:

Students will be expected to:

- Understand and retain the basic facts and framework of Western Civilization from its
Mesopotamian origins through the end of the Thirty Years' War in 1648.
- Analyze and synthesize relevant information; i.e., interpret historical facts
- Develop a personal and historical sense of time relevant to Western Civilization
- Think critically and make informed judgments!

Procedures/Assignments:

Discussion of your readings will, at times, take up a significant portion of class sessions, but
because this is a survey course the majority of each class period will be devoted to lecture. It
will be necessary for you to have completed your assigned readings prior to coming to class for
two reasons. One, class discussions will be difficult to conduct if you haven't read, and two, the
lectures will be more understandable if you have read the assigned material ahead of time. This
course will not be difficult provided that you remain current with all your reading. However,
students who fall behind typically find it extremely difficult to catch up.

Attendance:

Punctuality and regular attendance are necessary in order for you to do your best in any college class because you are still responsible for all material covered in class whether or not you are there. Each student will be allowed six (6) absences during the semester with no academic penalty. *I make no distinction between excused and unexcused absences—you are either here or you are not.** Each additional absence will result in 5 points being deducted from your final grade average. Habitual tardiness, either alone or in combination with absences, will also adversely affect your final grade. Occasionally I will notify a student whenever he/she has reached 6 absences, but please do not rely on me to keep you informed. It is your responsibility to keep up with your absences. It is also your responsibility to see me after class if you come in after the attendance sheet has been passed around, as failure to do so will result in your being marked absent for that class session.

This class meets three times per week and I expect you to come to class on time and to remain in class for the entire session unless you have a genuine emergency during class, (illness, etc.) or unless you speak to me prior to class and advise me that you need to leave early. I consider this to be common courtesy to everyone in attendance.

All requests to take a missed exam will be considered on an individual basis. Under no circumstances will any student be allowed to makeup more than two tests/exams! Any student who misses a test/exam **must contact me** prior to returning to class to inquire about the possibility of taking a makeup. (A makeup will have to be taken at a time when I am available) No makeup quizzes will be offered.*

I reserve the right to drop any student at any point because of excessive absences. The last day to drop a class without academic penalty is Friday, October 16.

If you wish to bring a laptop to class I respectfully ask that you **only use it to take notes**. Please do not use them during class to check email, surf the web, play games, etc., while in class.

Grading:

Exams (2) M/C and Essay	40%
Book Tests (2)	30%
Final Exam (Essay)	20%
Quizzes*	10%
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Course Total	100%

* I will drop your 2 lowest quiz grades

(This course follows a 10 point scale and I do assign +/- to final grades when warranted.)

Course Outline:

Week One—(August 24, 26, 28) Course introduction on Monday, August 25 Discussion of the terms “civilization” and “western” on Wednesday, August 27 *Western Heritage* Ch. 1 “The Birth of Civilization” (Overview)
Begin reading *The Trial of Socrates*

Week Two—(August 31, September 2, 4) *Western Heritage* Ch. 2 “The Rise of Greek Civilization”
Continue reading *The Trial of Socrates* (No class Monday, September 7---Labor Day)

Week Three—(September 9, 11) *Western Heritage* Ch. 3 “Classical and Hellenistic Greece”
No class Monday, September 7---Labor Day
TEST on *Trial of Socrates* Friday, September 11

Week Four—(September 14, 16, 18) *Western Heritage* Ch. 4 “Rome: From Republic to Empire”

Week Five—(September 21, 23, 25) *Western Heritage* Ch. 5 “The Roman Empire”

Week Six—(September 28, 30, October 2) *Western Heritage* Ch. 5 “The Roman Empire” (cont’d)

Week Seven—(October 5, 7, 9) *Western Heritage* Ch. 6 “Late Antiquity and the Early Middle Ages”
EXAM ONE Monday, October 5 *Western Heritage* Chapters 1-5
Begin reading *Great Mortality*
Fall Break--No class Monday, October 12th

Week Eight—(October 14, 16) *Western Heritage* Ch. 7 “The High Middle Ages”
Continue reading *Great Mortality*

Week Nine—(October 19, 21, 23) *Western Heritage* Ch. 7 “The High Middle Ages”
Western Heritage Ch. 8 “Medieval Society: Hierarchies, Towns, Universities, and Families”
Continue reading *Great Mortality*

Week Ten—(October 26, 28, 30) *Western Heritage* Ch. 9 “The Late Middle Ages”
TEST on *Great Mortality* Monday, October 26

Week Eleven—(November 2, 4, 6) *Western Heritage* Ch. 10 “Renaissance and Discovery”
EXAM TWO Monday, November 2 *Western Heritage* Chapters 6-9

Week Twelve—(November 9, 11, 13) *Western Heritage* Ch. 10 “Renaissance and Discovery” (cont’d)

Week Thirteen—(November 16, 18, 20, *23) *Western Heritage* Ch. 11 “The Age of Reformation”

Thanksgiving Break--No class Wednesday, November 25th or Friday, November 27th

Week Fourteen—(November 30, December 2, 4) *Western Heritage* Ch. 12 “The Age of Religious Wars”

Week Fifteen—(December 7) Last day of class—review for final exam

FINAL EXAM (Based only on material covered after Fall Break)

Wednesday, December 9th from 12:00pm to 3:00pm ----- You will need a blue book.