

WCV 101-09
Western Civilization, Part I, Fall 2001, UNCG

INSTRUCTOR: Bob Gaines; office phone - 334-5251; e-mail - rfgaines@uncg.edu
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OFFICE/HOURS: Documents Dept., Jackson Library, UNCG (9-5, Mon-Fri)

MEETING TIME/PLACE: 7:00 - 9:50 p.m., THURSDAY evenings, McIver 228

TEXT: Western Civilization (4th ed.) by Jackson Spielvogel

ATTENDANCE: ROLL IS TAKEN at the beginning of each and every class meeting. A MAXIMUM of TWO (2) cuts is allowed. The 3rd absence will result in your being DROPPED from the class, so be careful about your absences. The roll will NOT be altered after 7:20 p.m. If you cannot be on time for most classes, you must take a different course. If you are consistently late, you will be dropped! The class will be given a 10 minute BREAK at approximately 8:20 p.m. It is expected that students will RETURN to class after the break!

QUIZZES: A "POP" QUIZ MAY BE GIVEN AT THE BEGINNING OF ANY REGULAR CLASS MEETING, covering the chapter(s) assigned for that evening. LATE ARRIVALS WILL NOT BE ALLOWED TO TAKE A POP QUIZ! One "pop" quiz grade (the lowest or any single quiz missed) will be dropped at the end of the course, when averaging grades. Any quiz missed over the one which will be dropped will automatically turn into a ZERO! "Pop" quizzes may NOT be made up under any circumstances. The average of all the "pop" quizzes (except that single grade dropped) will count as 25% of your final grade. "Pop" quizzes will be short answer/multiple choice in nature.

MAJOR EXAMS: There will be THREE (3) MAJOR EXAMS, each covering approximately 4-5 chapters in the text. Each of these major exams will count as 25% of your final grade, for a total of 75% of your final grade coming from the major exams. Any major exam missed may only be made up with "appropriate" excuse, and any and all exams missed must be made up within one week of the original exam date or it will automatically turn into a zero.

It is the student's responsibility to meet with the instructor and schedule any necessary make-up exam. Make-up exams will be slightly different, probably longer, probably more difficult, and will NOT benefit from any "curve" applied to the regular exam. MAKE-UP EXAMS SHOULD BE AVOIDED AT ALL COST! Major exams will be partly essay and partly short answer. Make-up exams will be ALL essay! Most essay questions will be taken from the "Focus Questions" at the beginning of each chapter in the text.

GENERAL INFORMATION: Material for both "pop" quizzes and major exams will come primarily from your text, BUT the essay questions on major exams will probably include information presented ONLY in class lectures and discussions, so careful note-taking is recommended. When you read your text, you are responsible for EVERYTHING in the text, including the inset documents, introductions to chapters or sections, illustrations and maps. Class participation will have some impact upon your final grade, especially in border-line situations. All of the major exams will require the writing of at least a few long, detailed essays using information obtained from your text and from class notes, so reading comprehension and writing ability are absolute requirements of this class. If your reading and writing skills are shaky, I would recommend that you take your required English and writing courses BEFORE attempting this course.

METHODOLOGY: This course employs lecture, discussion, and some audiovisual materials.

BEHAVIOR: You are all, or should be, adults. I should not have to remind you that during class, I AM THE ONLY ONE WHO SHOULD BE TALKING, unless I ask for response or you have a question! ALL cell phones and pagers should be turned OFF during class.

DROPING THE COURSE: Any student who decides to drop the course must comply with institutional procedures in order to avoid academic penalty.

GRADING SCALE: A traditional ten (10) point grading scale will be used:

90-100 = A

70-79 = C

80-89 = B

60-69 = D

Below 60 = F

EXPECTED OUTCOMES

In This Course You Will:

1. Learn the basic factual structure of the period from prehistory through the Renaissance and Reformation in Western Civilization, Part I, or from the Reformation to the modern, contemporary era in Western Civilization, Part II, as the prerequisite for achieving the other goals in the course.
2. Develop the ability to "think" historically by presenting cogent, factual, well-structured analyses of selected issues and ideas appropriate to this course.

3. Be able to evaluate different analyses and interpretations concerning the meaning or significance of past events, explain how these analyses are different, and defend your choice of the explanation that seems most plausible to you.
4. Be able to show the relationship between different eras and present times. It is important for you to understand Who you are, and Why we are what we are, in terms of our culture and society.
5. Be able to explain the relationship between the "high culture" (art, literature, music) of a historical period and the political, economic and social history of that period.
6. Early Western Civilization is often said to be a three-legged stool. If you are a product of Western Civilization and culture, then you are also a product of ancient Greco-Roman civilization, Germanic tribal tradition, and the Christian Church, even if you are of another faith or no faith. Later Western culture was impacted by Islam and Africa and Asia in a variety of ways. Students in this course must develop an understanding of what this means to their lives and to the world we live in today.

Quality of Instruction Statement:

UNCG faculty members are committed to providing quality instruction. If there is a concern about the instruction provided, treatment of an individual or group of students, or professional conduct of instructors, consult with that faculty member FIRST, then with the department chair or division chair, and/or read the description of GRIEVANCE PROCEDURES FOR STUDENTS which can be found in the UNCG Student Handbook And Policy Manual.

SCHEDULE OF READING ASSIGNMENTS AND EXAMS:

8/23 – Introduction
 8/30 – ch 1 & 2
 9/6 – ch 3
 9/13 – ch 4
 9/20 – ch FIRST MAJOR EXAM, ch 1 - 4
 9/27 – ch 5
 10/4 – ch. 6
 10/11 – ch 7
 10/18 – ch 8
 10/25 – SECOND MAJOR EXAM, ch 5 - 8
 11/1 – ch 9
 11/8 – ch 10
 11/15 – ch 11
 11/22 – Thanksgiving Holiday – No Class!
 11/29 – ch 12
 12/6 – ch 13
 12/13 – LAST MAJOR EXAM, ch 9 - 13

Disabilities:

If you have a disability that may affect your academic performance AND are seeking accommodations, it is YOUR responsibility to inform the Disability Services Office, 101 Park Gym, as soon as possible. It is important to request accommodations early enough to give Disability Services adequate time to consider your request and recommend reasonable accommodations. Instructors will provide necessary accommodations based on the recommendations of Disability Services only.

Dates to remember:

Friday, 8/24, is the last day to change course schedules without written permission
 Monday, 8/27, last day to drop for full refund
 Friday, 10/12, last day to drop courses without academic penalty