

Instructor: Anne Barton
Office: 22 McIver (until 1/22);
25 Foust (beg. 1/23)
Office Phone: 334-4361 (CASA)
Office Hours: TR 3:30-5:00
E-mail: acbarton@uncg.edu

Western Civilization 101 Spring 2002

Welcome to Western Civ! This semester we will focus on using critical thinking skills to analyze and evaluate primary source documents (those written during the period under discussion). Each week we will analyze a set of documents concerning a specific historical question. In order to make good oral and written evaluations of the sources, you must always consider the biases, both positive and negative, of the author and the nature of the source. All historical sources are not created equal; you'll need to make informed judgments about each of them. Since this is a history course, the topics of our discussions will be roughly chronological (beginning with Mesopotamian culture and ending with the Protestant Reformation), but we will be more concerned with analytical methods than with strict chronology. In other words, you will spend more time in this class reading and analyzing primary source materials than you will spend memorizing names and dates.

Requirements

Discussion: The essence of our class will be a weekly discussion of the primary sources. In order to earn more than a "C" as a discussion grade, you must participate regularly. And remember, participation includes asking informed questions, not just giving answers.

Assignments: There will be periodic short writing assignments, a midterm, a paper, and a take-home final. The final will be due at **3:30 on Tuesday, May 14**. Failure to complete any of these components will result in an "F" for the course.

Honor Code

Any violation of the honor code (such as plagiarism or cheating) will automatically result in a failure for the course and possible academic discipline, i.e. suspension or expulsion.

Required Books

Wiesner, Merry, Julius Ruff, and William Wheeler. *Discovering the Western Past. A Look at the Evidence. Volume I: To 1789*. Houghton Mifflin (New York: 2000). 4th edition. ISBN 0-395-97613-8.

Spielvogel, Jackson J. *Western Civilization. Volume I to 1715*. Wadsworth Thomson Learning (1999). 4th edition. ISBN 0-534-56836-X.

Grade Breakdown

Discussion & Short Writing Assignments	15%
Midterm	25%
Paper	30%
Final	30%

Lecture Topics and Reading Assignments

Tuesday, January 15 – Introduction; Textbook – Spielvogel, Chapter 1, pp. 4-29

Thursday, January 17 – Discussion – Wiesner, Chapter 1 - “The Need for Water in Ancient Societies” pp. 1-19

Tuesday, January 22 – The Mesopotamians and the Hebrews; Textbook – Spielvogel, Chapter 2, pp. 32-53

Thursday, January 24 – Discussion - “Mesopotamian and Hebrew Law” – handout

Tuesday, January 29 – Ancient Greece; Textbook – Spielvogel, Chapter 3, pp. 55-89

Thursday, January 31 – Discussion - Wiesner, Chapter 2 - “The Ideal and the Reality of Classical Athens” pp. 20-42

Tuesday, February 5 – Ancient Rome; Textbook – Spielvogel, Chapter 5, pp. 114-145

Thursday, February 7 – Discussion - Wiesner, Chapter 3 - “The Achievements of Augustus” pp. 43-65

Tuesday, February 12 – Roman Empire; Textbook – Spielvogel, Chapter 6, pp. 147-170

Thursday, February 14 – Discussion - Wiesner, Chapter 4 - “Philosophy and Faith: The Problem of Ancient Suicide” pp. 66-97

Tuesday, February 19 – Early Christianity; Textbook – Spielvogel, Chapter 6, pp. 170-176

Thursday, February 21 – Discussion - “Women in Early Christianity” – handout

Tuesday, February 26 – Midterm Review

Thursday, February 28 – Midterm

Tuesday, March 5 – The End of Ancient Rome and the Beginning of Medieval Europe; Textbook – Spielvogel, Chapter 7, pp. 178-207

Thursday, March 7 – Discussion - Wiesner, Chapter 5 - “Slave Law in Roman and Germanic Society” pp. 98-124

Tuesday, March 12 and Thursday, March 14 – Spring Break – no class

Tuesday, March 19 – The Development of the Medieval State – France & England; Textbook – Spielvogel, Chapter 8, pp. 209-235

Thursday, March 21 – Discussion - Wiesner, Chapter 6 - “The Development of the Medieval State” pp. 125-149

Tuesday, March 26 – Medieval Art and Thought; Textbook – Spielvogel, Chapter 10, pp. 266-294

Thursday, March 28 – Discussion - Wiesner, Chapter 7 - “Life at a Medieval University” pp. 150-175

Tuesday, April 2 - Medieval Guilds and Economic Expansion; Textbook – Spielvogel, Chapter 9, pp. 237-264

Thursday, April 4 – Discussion - Wiesner, Chapter 8 - “Capitalism and Conflict in the Medieval Cloth Trade” pp. 176-198

Tuesday, April 9 – Medieval Christianity; Textbook – Spielvogel, Chapter 11, pp. 296-324

Thursday, April 11 – Discussion - Wiesner, Chapter 9 - “Lay Piety and Heresy in the Late Middle Ages” pp. 199-224

Tuesday, April 16 – The Italian Renaissance; Textbook – Spielvogel, Chapter 12, pp. 326-360

Thursday, April 18 – Discussion - Wiesner, Chapter 10 – “The Renaissance Man and Woman” pp. 225-247

Tuesday, April 23 – The Idea of the “Other”;

Thursday, April 25 – Discussion - Wiesner, Chapter 11 - “Pagans, Muslims, and Christians in the Mental World of Columbus” pp. 248-284

Tuesday, April 30 – The Protestant Reformation; Textbook – Spielvogel, Chapter 13, pp. 262-390

Thursday, May 2 – Discussion - Wiesner, Chapter 12 – “The Spread of the Reformation” pp. 285-308

Tuesday, May 14 – Take-home final due at **3:30 p.m.**