

WCV 101-08  
Western Civilization  
Fall 2001

Classroom: Graham 212  
Time: MWF 12:00-12:50  
Instructor: Mark Moser  
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## Syllabus

### Text:

The Western Heritage: Vol. I, To 1715. Seventh Edition. Donald Kagan, Steven Ozment, Frank M. Turner (Prentice Hall, 2001).

### Course Objectives:

This course is designed to help students gain a better understanding of key historical periods and events from antiquity through the first half of the seventeenth century. Special emphasis will be placed on the development of western culture and how and why civilization developed and spread in the manner it did. Because this is a broad survey course we will examine many topics which both directly and indirectly shaped our western heritage, including: politics, religion, art, language, territorial struggles, military conflict, scientific discoveries, philosophical and moral thought, and global exploration. Upon completion of this course, students should be able to identify key figures and analyze significant political, socioeconomic, and cultural developments that took place prior to the modern era.

### Grading:

You will have six multiple-choice quizzes throughout the semester, each covering approximately the same amount of material (normally 2 chapters). Questions will come from information covered in the readings, lectures, and videos. Your final exam, which will consist of multiple-choice as well as short answer and essay questions, will be cumulative in that it will only cover material discussed / read after fall break (chapters 7 through 14).

Each of the six quizzes will be worth 50 points and the final exam will be worth 150 points. I will drop your lowest quiz grade, leaving a total of 400 possible points for the course.

### Attendance:

Punctuality and regular attendance are necessary in order for students to do their best in any college level class. You will be allowed three (3) excused absences during the semester with no academic penalty. However, each absence beyond three will result in the lowering of your final grade by 2 points--habitual absenteeism will be dealt with by dropping student(s) from the class. Regular attendance is also very important because No makeup quizzes will be given !!! (If you miss a quiz, that will be the grade dropped)

### Procedures:

The lectures primarily organize themselves around the assigned chapters. It will be to your advantage to have completed each week's reading in advance. It is your responsibility to keep up with the readings, attend class and, whenever appropriate, to contribute to the class in a meaningful manner. All materials from the course--the text, films, lectures, discussions--are fair game for quiz/exam questions. Names and concepts written on the board during lectures

will be a helpful guide as you study. I also strongly encourage you to read over and attempt to answer the questions at the end of each chapter. This should help to reinforce the material you have read.

Course Outline:

Week One (August 20, 22, 24)

No reading for this week / Topics: Pre-history, Mesopotamia, Egyptian civilization

Week Two (August 27, 29, 31)

Reading: Chapter 2 "The Rise of Greek Civilization"

Labor Day (No Class Monday, September 3)

Week Three (September 5, 7)

\*Quiz #1 Wednesday, September 5\*

Reading: Chapter 3 "Classical and Hellenistic Greece"

Week Four (September 10, 12, 14)

Reading: Chapter 4 "Rome: From Republic to Empire"

Week Five (September 17, 19, 21)

\*Quiz #2 Monday, September 17\*

Reading: Chapter 5 "The Roman Empire"

Week Six (September 24, 26, 28)

Reading: Chapter 5 "The Roman Empire"

Week Seven (October 1, 3, 5)

Reading: Chapter 6 "The Early Middle Ages, 476-1000"

Fall Break (No Class Monday, October 8)

Week Eight (October 10, 12)

\*Quiz #3 Wednesday, October 10\*

Reading: Chapter 7 "The High Middle Ages, 1000-1300: The Ascendancy of the Church and the Rise of States"

Week Nine (October 15, 17, 19)

Reading: Chapter 8 "The High Middle Ages, 1000-1300: People, Towns, and Universities"

Week Ten (October 22, 24, 26)

\*Quiz #4 Monday, October 22\*

Reading: Chapter 9 "The Late Middle Ages, 1300-1527: Social and Political Breakdown"

Week Eleven (October 29, 31, November 2)

Reading: Chapter 10 "Renaissance and Discovery"

Week Twelve (November 5, 7, 9)

\*Quiz #5 Monday, November 5\*

Reading: Chapter 11 "The Age of Reformation"

Week Thirteen (November 12, 14, 16, 19)

Reading: Chapter 12 "The Age of Religious Wars"

Thanksgiving Holiday (No Class November 21 or 23)

Week Fourteen (November 26, 28, 30)

\*Quiz #6 Monday, November 26\* Reading: Chapter 13 "Paths to Constitutionalism and Absolutism"

Week Fifteen (December 3, 5, 7)

Reading: Chapter 14 "New Directions of Thought and Culture in the Sixteenth and Seventeenth Centuries"

December 10 - - Last Day of Class \* Review \*

Final Exam\*\*\* Friday, December 14 ..... 12:00 - 3:00 pm

(My office is located in McIver 223 and my office hours for fall semester 2001 are Monday and Wednesday 11:00 to 11:50am and by appointment)