

History 100: Western Civilization to the Middle Ages

Glendale Community College Spring2009

TTH 1000-1115 LSA143

Instructor: Charles Dell

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Description and Objectives:

This course investigates and analyzes the history of Western Civilization from the emergence of civilization through the fall of the Roman Empire. Specifically this course examines major events in European society, politics, military actions and foreign relations. It is important to recognize that “major events” is a subjective term. There is no standard definition that makes an event major or worth studying. Consequently history is a vibrant, dynamic discipline that allows its participants to analyze events and draw their own conclusions. This course is designed to not only provide you with information and facts, but to furnish you with the tools necessary to think critically towards your own conclusions. Because it is impossible to cover all pertinent events in sixteen weeks, it is necessary to focus on themes and events that highlight those themes.

Locate and explore the cradle of Western Civilization in the Near East. (I)

Analyze such mainstays of civilization as the development of urban society and the law in Mesopotamia and bureaucracy in Egypt. (I)

Describe the Homeric society as it influences character patterns of modern society. (II)

Trace the origins of our political institutions in the development of the polis in Athens and the communal society in Sparta. (II)

Compare and contrast Roman social and political evolution with that in the United States. (III)

Describe the origins and influences of the Judeo-Christian traditions vis a vis the Pax Romana. (III)

Describe historical theories regarding the decline of the Roman Empire. (III)

Describe the rise of Christianity as the successor of the Roman state. (III)

Describe the origins of Islam and its conflict with Christianity. (III)

Explain the influence of the Germanic tribes and their impact on Western Civilization. (IV)

Explain the evolution and contributions of medieval society. (IV)

Text

Jackson J. Spielvogel, *Western Civilization: A Brief History Edition, Fourth Edition*

Supplemental readings may be handed out throughout the semester.

Student Responsibility:

Every student is expected to attend every class prepared to learn and ready to participate. This course is primarily structured on lectures and class discussions. Although I do not test directly from the textbook, it is important to read the text prior to attending class in order to be prepared to participate. Likewise, attendance is required in order to fully experience the course and to have access to required materials and information. Consequently, failure to prepare, attend, or participate will make it nearly impossible to receive a passing grade.

Please turn the volume off on all cell phones and any other electronic/digital devices.

Grading

Grades are based off the following assignments:

6 quizzes (lowest dropped) 50 pts

Book Critique 100 pts

Mid-term 100 pts

Final Exam 150 pts

TOTAL 400 pts

Grades will be distributed as follows based on a percentage of the total possible points

A 90-100%

B 80-89%

C 70-79%

D 60-69%

F below 60%

Book Critique (4 typed pages, double-spaced, 1" margins, 12 point Times New Roman font)

You are required to read a non-fiction book on any topic of your choosing that relates to the history of Western Civilization from the emergence of humans through the beginning of the Middle Ages. You will then write a four-page critique of the book, noting its strengths and weaknesses. The purpose of the book critique is to allow you to explore an area of interest in detail and to develop your critical reading and writing skills. It is important to remember that you are not writing a summary of the text but a critical review. Following are a list of questions you should keep in mind while writing your review. What was the author's thesis (main point)? Is the thesis valid? Does the author support the thesis? Does the author's research seem complete? If not, what are some areas the author ignores? What are the author's primary sources? Is the book well written? Was it enjoyable to read? Most of all, I do not want you to simply summarize the book. Remember to read the book critically noting the text's strengths and weaknesses. Don't wait for the last second, late assignments will be docked points. I expect college level work. The book critique is due Monday

Quizzes and Exams

Quizzes can only be taken the day they are scheduled (no make-up). All quizzes will be given promptly at the beginning of class. You will be given 15 minutes for quizzes. Do not be late for class, you will not be given extra time to complete the quizzes.

The mid-term exam can only be made up the week following when the exam is scheduled. SEE ME to schedule a make-up exam. It is your responsibility to contact me if you need to schedule a make-up exam.

Attendance:

Attendance is required to fully experience this course. Although you will not receive points for attending, exams and quizzes will concentrate on lectures and class discussions. Consequently, it is imperative that you attend every class. If, for whatever reason, you need to drop this course it is up to you to initiate proper withdrawal procedures. Never simply walk away from a class. I reserve the right to drop any student if you miss more than three classes, however, do not automatically assume I have done so. Communicating your desire to stay enrolled in the course or to be withdrawn is YOUR responsibility

Academic Misconduct

Academic misconduct will not be tolerated. I will enforce what I deem are the appropriate sanctions from those listed below for any student who engages in academic misconduct.

1. Academic Misconduct - includes misconduct associated with the classroom, laboratory or clinical learning process. Some examples of academic misconduct are cheating, plagiarism, and excessive absences.

2. Cheating - includes, but is not limited to, (a) use of any unauthorized assistance in taking quizzes, tests, assessment tests or examinations; (b) dependence upon the aid of sources beyond those authorized by the faculty member in writing papers, preparing reports, solving problems, or carrying out other assignments; or (c) the acquisition, without permission, of tests or other academic material belonging to a member of the college faculty or staff.

3. Plagiarism - includes, but is not limited to, the use of paraphrase or direct quotation of the published or unpublished work of another person without full and clear acknowledgment. It also includes the unacknowledged use of materials prepared by another person or agency engaged in the selling of term papers or other academic materials. **Information gathered from the Internet and not properly identified is also considered plagiarism.**

B. Sanctions

Any student found by a faculty member to have committed academic misconduct maybe subject to the following sanctions: (Note: sanctions 1, 2, 3, and 4 may be imposed by a faculty member. The faculty member may recommend to the department chairperson and the appropriate vice president of academic affairs or designee that sanctions 5, 6, or 7 be imposed. Only the appropriate vice president of academic affairs or designee will impose college suspension or expulsion.

1. Warning - A notice in writing to the student that the student has violated the academic code.

2. Grade Adjustment - Lowering of a score on a test or assignment.

3. Discretionary Sanctions - Additional academic assignments determined by the faculty member.

4. Course Failure - Failure of a student from a course where academic misconduct occurs.

5. Disciplinary Probation - Disciplinary probation is for a designated period of time and includes the probability of more severe sanctions if the student commits additional acts of academic misconduct.

6. College Suspension - Separation of the student from the college for a definite period of time, after which the student is eligible to return. Conditions for readmission may be specified. (A suspension from one Maricopa Community College will apply to all other colleges/centers in the District.)

7. College Expulsion - Permanent separation of the student from the college. (Expulsion from one Maricopa Community College will apply to all colleges/centers in the District.)

Extra Credit:

You will be given the opportunity to complete an extra credit assignment. Details will be provided in class at a later date.

Disability Services

If you have a disability that may have some impact on your work in this class and for which you may require accommodations you need to notify the Disability Services and Resources office, located in TDS 100. Their phone number is 623-845-3080.

Course Outline

This is a tentative class schedule. It represents the intended order of presentation. It is subject to change without warning. ALL QUIZ AND EXAM DATES ARE FINAL.

Quizzes and exams are based upon what is covered in class, not what is on this schedule.

Week One Chapter 1

Introduction

Discussion of History/Historians

Western Civilization?

The First Humans

Week Two Chapter 1

The emergence of civilizations

Mesopotamia

Week Three Chapter 1

QUIZ 1

Ancient Egypt

Ancient Egypt

Week Four Chapter 2

Ancient Egypt

The Ancient Near East

The Ancient Near East

Persia

Week Five Chapter 3

QUIZ 2

The Minoans and Early Greece

Dark Ages Greece

Athens

Week Six Chapter 3

Athens

The Greco – Persian Wars

Fri. Oct. 3 **QUIZ 3**

Athens after the War

Week Seven Chapter 3

QUIZ 3

Sparta

The Peloponnesian Wars

Classical Greece

Week Eight Chapter 3 - 4

Classical Greece

Alexander the Great

The Hellenistic World

Mid –Term Exam

Week Nine

Spring Break NO CLASS

Week Ten Chapter 5

Early Rome

The Roman Republic

QUIZ 4

The Punic Wars

Week Eleven Chapter 6

Caesar, Augustus, and the creation of the Empire

The Roman Empire

Week Twelve Chapter 6

BOOK CRITIQUE DUE

The Roman Empire

The Rise of Christianity

QUIZ 5

Week Thirteen Chapter 6

The Rise of Christianity

The Late Roman Empire

The Gothic invasion

Week Fourteen Chapter 7

Collapse of the Roman Empire

Week Fifteen Chapter 7

QUIZ 6

Byzantium

The Dark Ages

Week Sixteen Chapter 7

The Dark Ages

Wrap up / Review

Week Seventeen

Final Exam: Date to be announced

Course content may vary from this outline to meet the needs of this particular group.