

Dr. Jon Cowans  
Class meets: MW 6-9:45, Smith 245  
Office Hours: Mon & Wed. 5:15-5:45

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**WESTERN CIVILIZATION I**  
21:510:201 Sec. B6 Summer 2015 (index #01660)

This course will examine the history of Western Civilization from ancient times to roughly 1700. The main requirements are to attend class regularly and to do every reading by the day we discuss it.

**READINGS**

**Course reader**, available **only** at Porta Print, 33 Halsey St., 973 622-1828

Note: The reader is **not** at the campus bookstore or at New Jersey Books: *only* Porta Print

**GRADING**

**TESTS:** There will be a midterm on Mon. June 15 and a **COMPREHENSIVE** final exam on Wed July 1. The format for these tests will be a series of short essays (1/2 to 1 page). You should **read the exam instructions** (in the reader) very carefully before each exam.

**LECTURE QUESTIONS:** At the end of each lecture, you must hand in one or two brief questions or comments on the material covered in the lecture. Grades are based on the number of days when you attend class and hand in a card; each unexcused absence will lower this score by five points. **In order to receive credit, your card must contain a question or comment on the material for that session.**

For an absence to be excused, you must provide written evidence of a valid reason for your absence, and no excuses will be accepted after the final exam.

Your overall course grade will fall by a half-letter (e.g., from B to C+) for each unexcused absence starting with the fourth one. **Each evening is TWO sessions; any student who misses six or more sessions through any combination of excused and unexcused absences will not earn credit in this course; such students should withdraw from the class.**

**CLASS PARTICIPATION:** Everyone is **required** to participate regularly in class discussions, either by asking questions or by making relevant comments. Grading is based primarily on how often you participate, but also on your level of comprehension of the day's readings and ability to analyze the course material. You will get separate scores for the two halves of the semester, and your final score will be an average of the two. Use of electronic devices (**texting**, etc.) in class is **absolutely prohibited** and will lower your grade. No laptop computers are allowed in this class.

**READING QUIZZES:** Several times during the semester, you will be quizzed on the readings assigned for that day. These quizzes will be **unannounced**. The lowest grade on the quizzes will not count.

Lecture questions .....	5%
Class participation .....	10%
Reading quizzes .....	20%
Midterm .....	25%
Final exam .....	<u>40%</u>
	100%

**Wed. May 27: The Hebrews**

Genesis (R-1)

Exodus (R-2)

Joshua (R-3)

The Old Testament (R-4)

**Mon. June 1: Greece**

Will Durant, "The Gods of Greece" (R-5)

Greek Myths (R-6)

Homer, "The Iliad" (R-7)

and "The Iliad, part 2" (R-8)

Will Durant, "The Olympic Games" (R-9)

Xenophon, "On Management of the Home" (R-10)

**Wed. June 3: Greece**

Critias, "The Origins of Religion" (R-11)

Hippocrates, "The Sacred Disease" (R-12)

Sophocles, "On Humans" (R-13)

Thucydides, "On the Writing of History" (R-14)

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"A Summary of Athenian Democracy" (R-15)

Pericles, "The Funeral Speech" (R-16)

"Athenian Views of Democracy" (R-17)

**Mon. June 8: Plato; Rome**

Plato, "The Republic" (R-18)

Plato, "The Republic, part 2" (R-19)

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"The Twelve Tables" (R-20)

H.I. Marrou, "Roman Education" (R-21)

Dionysius, "On Patronage" (R-22)

**Wed. June 10: Rome**

Cicero, "On the Command of Cnaeus Pompeius" (R-23)

Q.L. Vespillo, "Funeral Eulogy" (R-24)

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Polybius, "The Roman Army" (R-25)

Will Durant, "Roman Transport, Engineering, and Trade" (R-26)

David Braund, "Patronage in Roman Imperialism" (R-27)

A.N. Sherwin-White, "Roman Imperialism" (R-28)

**Mon. June 15: Midterm; Christianity**

Midterm

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Isaiah (R-29)

Will Durant, "Religions of the Ancient Mediterranean" (R-30)

The Gospel According to Matthew (R-31)

The Epistles (R-32)

Revelation (R-33)

**Wed. June 17: Christianity; Middle Ages**

Will Durant, "Constantine and Christianity" (R-34)

The Theodosian Code (R-35)

The Venerable Bede, "History of the English Church and People" (R-36)

"Letter from Four Indian Governors" (R-37)

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St. Augustine, "Confessions" (R-38)

Tertullian, "What Has Jerusalem to do with Athens?" (R-39)

Lothario dei Segni, "On the Misery of the Human Condition" (R-40)

Sprenger & Kramer, "The Hammer of Witches" (R-41)

**Mon. June 22: Middle Ages**

Morris Bishop, "Feudalism" (R-42)

Feudal Documents (R-43)

"The Customs of the Manor of Dernale" (R-44)

Christine de Pizan, "A Noblewoman's Duties" (R-45)

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Pope Gregory VII, "Papal Authority" (R-46)

Will Durant, "The Inquisition" (R-47)

Robert the Monk, "An Account of Pope Urban's Sermon at Clermont" (R-48)

Humbert of Romans, "Answers to Critics of Crusading" (R-49)

**Wed. June 24: Late Middle Ages; Renaissance**

Adelard of Bath, "Natural Questions" (R-50)

John of Salisbury, "The Well-Ordered Commonwealth" (R-51)

"The Advent of Table Manners" (R-52)

Cercamon, "Troubadour Love Song" (R-53)

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Petrarch, "Reflections on the Times" (R-54)

Leonardo Bruni, "On Learning and Literature" (R-55)

Pico della Mirandola, "On the Dignity of Man" (R-56)

Leonardo da Vinci, "On the Arts" (R-57)

Castiglione, "The Courtier" (R-58)

**Mon. June 29: Reformation & Counterreformation; Scientific Revolution**

Martin Luther, "Writings" (R-63)

Ulrich von Hutten, "Letter to the Elector of Saxony" (R-64)

Political cartoons (R-65)

Pope Adrian VI, "Instruction to the Papal Legate" (R-66)

Ignatius of Loyola, "Letters" (R-67)

Will Durant, "The Wars of Religion" (R-68)

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Nicolaus Copernicus, "On the Revolutions of the Heavenly Spheres" (R-69)

Cardinal Bellarmine, "On the Copernican Theory" (R-70)

Will Durant, "Galileo's Trial" (R-71)

**Wed. July 1: Final Exam**