

History of Western Civilization I

21:510:201

Wednesday/Friday 11:30-12:50 (Hill 115)

Instructor: Deborah Morrison-Santana

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Office Hours: Wednesday & Fridays 11:00-11:30am

Course Description:

This course will examine the main developments in the history of ideas and institutions from earliest times to the 17th century. It will examine the expansion of politics, philosophy, art, and literature of Western culture in addition to the origins of the major religions of the world; consideration of historical material serves as a point of departure for discussion of present-day problems.

Required Readings:

- * There are no required purchases for this course.
- * All required readings are available on Blackboard. Please make sure you have access to the course online as soon as possible.

Greek God/Goddess Assignment –

You must make a PowerPoint presentation to the class on one Greek God or Goddess that should be about 5 minutes in length and should include: who is your god/goddess, what is their story, why they are important, how they affect us today, modern depictions, etc. Your presentation must be accompanied by a 2-3 page paper about your god/goddess as well as a bibliography that you will turn in on the day of your presentation. A full rubric will be handed out at the beginning of the semester.

News Article Paper/Presentation:

There are many critical international issues happening in the world today that are directly related to the topics discussed in this course. For this assignment you must find a contemporary article or essay about a topic that pertains to our course (from a credible source – email me if you are unsure of a source). In addition to presenting your article to the class, you must also write a 3-4 page paper which will include a brief summary of the article and its relation to this course and course readings. A full rubric for the paper and presentation will be handed out at the beginning of the semester.

Midterm/Final Exams: There are no make-ups of either exam.

Grading:

Attendance – 20% (200 points)

Greek God/Goddess Assignment – 10% (100 points)

News Article Paper/Presentation – 15% (150 points)

Midterm Exam – 25% (250 points)

Final Exam – 30% (300 points)

100% - 1000 points

A = 930 – 1000

B+ = 890 – 929

B = 850 - 889

C+ = 800 - 849

C = 760 - 799

D = 700 - 759

F = 699 – Below

COURSE POLICIES:

1. **Attendance** is mandatory for this course and will be taken each class. Missing classes without proper documentation (i.e. a doctor's note) will affect your participation grade. You are only allowed 4 absences (excused or unexcused), and any more will result in a failing grade for the course. If you do miss a class, it is your responsibility to get notes from a fellow student on what you missed (do not email me asking what you missed).
2. **No personal technology devices allowed in class.** This means no cell phones, iPads, laptops, or any other kinds of electronic devices (unless needed for medical reasons, with the proper documentation). If you are caught using your phone or another device, you will lose participation credit for the day (10 points).
3. **Academic Dishonesty:** Taking the words and ideas of another and presenting them as your own without proper use of citation constitutes plagiarism and it is considered grounds for receiving an "F" for the course and suspension/expulsion from the university. All students are required to uphold the honor code.

For more information, please read Rutgers University's Academic Integrity Policy:
<http://academicintegrity.rutgers.edu/>

4. Students should present official medical or legal documentation if they cannot fulfill any part of the course requirements. Exceptions will only be made under extraordinary circumstances such as serious illness and/or legal obligations.
5. **Open Communication:** I am always available to help you succeed in this course. You may see me during my office hours or reach me through email. Please do not hesitate to contact me.

Course Schedule (subject to change):

Date	Topic	Reading Due
W September 2st	Introduction	
F September 4th	The First Civilizations	Code of Hammurabi
W September 9th	Origins of Judaism	Book of Job
F September 11th	Ancient Greece	"Thucydides in the Modern World" (article)
W September 16th	Ancient Greece (continued)	Lysistrata (play)
F September 18th	Greek Gods Presentations	
W September 23rd	Greek Gods Presentations	* Greek God papers due * (no late papers!)
F September 25th	The Roman Republic	Twelve Tables
W September 30th	The Roman Empire	"The Deeds of the Divine Augustus"
F October 2st	Origins of Christianity	The Gospel According to Peter
W October 7th	Christianity (continued)	
F October 9th	The Fall of the Roman Empire	Spielvogel excerpts
W October 14th	Midterm Review	
F October 16th	Midterm Exam	
W October 21st	Late Antiquity & The Emergence of the Medieval World	Spielvogel excerpts
F October 23rd	Origins of Islam (Guest Speaker - Marryum Hafez)	Excerpts from the Quran
W October 28th	Early Middle Ages (750-1000)	Guardian article on Charlemagne; Byzantine Empire Chapter
F October 30th	High Middle Ages (1000-1300)	Magna Carta
W November 4th	The Rise of Kingdoms and the Growth of Church Powers	The Crusades reading
F November 6th	The Late Middle Ages	Black Death reading
W November 11th	Discovery of the New World	Smithsonian article
F November 13th	Renaissance	Excerpts from <i>The Prince</i> by Machiavelli
W November 18th	Reformation	Martin Luther's "95 Theses"
F November 20th	The Ancient World & Today	TBD
W November 25th	***** NO CLASS ***** (Thanksgiving Weekend)	
F November 27th	***** NO CLASS ***** (Thanksgiving Weekend)	
W December 2nd	Newspaper Article Presentations	
F December 4th	Newspaper Article Presentations	
W December 9th	Final Exam Review	
W December 16th 11:45-2:45pm	FINAL EXAM - NO MAKE-UP EXAMS!!	