

History of Western Civilization 1

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Office: Zoom from Brooklyn

Office Hours: Thursdays and Fridays by Appointment

21:510:201:02

Online/Remote Learning

Fall 2020

Course Description:

This course gives students an overview of the major events and developments in European history, from ancient times to roughly 1650. The class offers covers a broad range of topics, divided into three major time frames. We will cover the ancient world from early civilizations, through the ancient Greek world, the Roman Republic, and the Roman Empire until the collapse of the Western Roman Empire. We will look at the creation of early “Europe” in the medieval era and the central place of religion throughout the period, and finally we will conclude the class by analyzing the emergence of a more “modern” mindset with the Renaissance, the Reformation, and the “Scientific Revolution.”

In this class, students will regularly practice their writing skills with three take-home exams and will have many opportunities to express their ideas in class discussions. In both the written assignments and the class discussions, students will develop their analytical skills by identifying the course readings’ main theses, supporting arguments, evidence, assumptions, and rhetorical strategies.

Learning Outcomes:

- Students will learn to:
 - Attain a broader understanding of important historical time periods in the development of the Western world
 - Analyze primary sources, place their authors and content into their historical context.
 - Be able to develop historical arguments synthesizing multiple historical events

Course Requirements:

1. Participation in online class discussion. Students will be expected to read the assigned texts for each week to prepare for the weekly discussion board. The discussion will also help prepare you for the primary source quizzes.
2. Primary Source Quizzes, five online multiple-choice quizzes based on our primary source readings. The lowest quiz score will be dropped from the final grade.
3. Three take-home exams, 4-5 pages each.

Grading:

Online participation: 15%

Primary Source Quizzes: 40% (10% each)

Exam 1: 15%

Exam 2: 15%

Exam 3: 15%

Grade scale is as follows:

- A: 90 points and higher
- B+: 87-89.99
- B: 80-86.99
- C+: 77-79.99
- C: 70-76.99
- D: 60-69.99
- F: 59.99 and lower

Major Assignment Deadlines

| | | |
|-------------------------------|--------|----------------------------|
| Primary Source Quiz 1 | Sunday | September 20 th |
| Take-Home Exam 1 | Sunday | October 4 th |
| Primary Source Quiz 2 | Sunday | October 11 th |
| Primary Source Quiz 3 | Sunday | October 25 th |
| Take-Home Exam 2 | Sunday | November 8 th |
| Primary Source Quiz 4 | Sunday | November 15 th |
| Primary Source Quiz 5 | Sunday | December 6 th |
| Take-Home Exam 3 / Final Exam | Sunday | TBD/Final Exam Schedule |

Required Books:

- Lynn Hunt et al.: *The Making of the West: Peoples and Cultures: Volume 1, to 1750* 5th ed. Katharine J. Lualdi: *Sources of the Making of the West: Volume 1, to 1750* 4th ed.
- The books are available at the University Book Store, and also from online retailers.
- The readings will also be available online through the publisher as a tailored package.

Attendance policy:

As this is an asynchronous online class, no attendance will be taken. However, your weekly online participation is graded throughout the semester, so virtual attendance is expected. If you have any religious holidays that you plan to observe that will in any way affect your capabilities of completing the assignments on time, please get in touch with me early so we can discuss that and make plans to accommodate that.

Late papers and exams:

Exams are due on the dates announced in class or indicated below. Unless discussed with me IN ADVANCE, late assignments will have their grades lowered. Excused lateness for the take-home exams will only be granted for students who can document medical or family emergency. Students who feel a personal emergency is sufficiently grave to warrant an excused absence must speak with me the week BEFORE the exam is due.

Accommodation and Support Statement:

Rutgers University Newark (RU-N) is committed to the creation of an inclusive and safe learning environment for all students. RU-N has identified the following resources to further the mission of access and support:

- **For Individuals with Disabilities:** The Office of Disability Services (ODS) is responsible for the determination of appropriate accommodations for students who encounter barriers due to disability. Once a student has completed the ODS process (registration, initial appointment, and submitted documentation) and reasonable accommodations are determined to be necessary and appropriate, a Letter of Accommodation (LOA) will be provided. The LOA must be given to each course instructor by the student and followed up with a discussion. This should be done as early in the semester as possible as accommodations are not retroactive. More information can be found at ods.rutgers.edu. Contact ODS at (973)353-5375 or via email at ods@newark.rutgers.edu.
- **For Individuals who are Pregnant:** The Office of Title IX and ADA Compliance is available to assist with any concerns or potential accommodations related to pregnancy. Students may contact the Office of Title IX and ADA Compliance at (973) 353-1906 or via email at TitleIX@newark.rutgers.edu.
- **For Absence Verification:** The Office of the Dean of Students can provide assistance for absences related to religious observance, emergency or unavoidable conflict (e.g., illness, personal or family emergency, etc.). Students should refer to [University Policy 10.2.7](#) for information about expectations and responsibilities. The Office of the Dean of Students can be contacted by calling (973) 353-5063 or emailing deanofstudents@newark.rutgers.edu.
- **For Individuals with temporary conditions/injuries:** The Office of the Dean of Students can assist students who are experiencing a temporary condition or injury (e.g., broken or sprained limbs, concussions, or recovery from surgery). Students experiencing a temporary condition or injury should submit a request using the following link: <https://temporaryconditions.rutgers.edu>.
- **For English as a Second Language (ESL):** The Program in American Language Studies (PALS) can support students experiencing difficulty in courses due to English as a Second Language (ESL) and can be reached by emailing PALS@newark.rutgers.edu to discuss potential supports.
- **For Gender or Sex-Based Discrimination or Harassment:** The Office of Title IX and ADA Compliance can assist students who are experiencing any form of gender or sex-based discrimination or harassment, including sexual assault, sexual harassment, relationship violence, or stalking. Students can report an incident to the Office of Title IX and ADA Compliance by calling (973) 353-1906 or emailing TitleIX@newark.rutgers.edu. Incidents may also be reported by using the following link: tinyurl.com/RUNReportingForm. For more information, students should refer to the University's Student Policy Prohibiting Sexual Harassment, Sexual Violence, Relationship Violence, Stalking and Related Misconduct located at <http://compliance.rutgers.edu/title-ix/about-title-ix/title-ix-policies/>.
- **For support related to interpersonal violence:** The Office for Violence Prevention and Victim Assistance can provide any student with confidential support. The office is a **confidential resource** and does *not* have an obligation to report information to the University's Title IX Coordinator. Students can contact the office by calling (973) 353-1918 or emailing

run.vpva@rutgers.edu. There is also a confidential text-based line available to students; students can text (973) 339-0734 for support.

- **For Crisis and Concerns:** The Campus Awareness Response and Education (CARE) Team works with students in crisis to develop a support plan to address personal situations that might impact their academic performance. Students, faculty and staff may contact the CARE Team by using the following link: tinyurl.com/RUNCARE or emailing careteam@rutgers.edu.
- **For Stress, Worry, or Concerns about Well-being:** The Counseling Center has confidential therapists available to support students. Students should reach out to the Counseling Center to schedule an appointment: counseling@newark.rutgers.edu or (973) 353-5805. If you are not quite ready to make an appointment with a therapist but are interested in self-help, check out *TAO at Rutgers-Newark* for an easy, web-based approach to self-care and support: <https://tinyurl.com/RUN-TAO>.
- **For emergencies,** call 911 or contact Rutgers University Police Department (RUPD) by calling (973) 353-5111.

Policy on Academic Integrity (Cheating and Plagiarism):

Rutgers University treats cheating and plagiarism as serious offenses. Cheating is both a moral and an ethical offense. It violates both your own integrity and the ethics of group commitment: when you cut corners and cheat, you undermine those students who took the time to work on the assignment honestly. The standard minimum penalties for students who cheat or plagiarize include failure of the course, disciplinary probation, and a formal warning that further cheating will be grounds for expulsion from the University.

All students are required to sign the Rutgers Honor Code Pledge. **To receive credit, every assignment must have your signature under the following phrase: “On my honor, I have neither received nor given any unauthorized assistance on this assignment.**

Resist the urge to cut and paste, either literally or figuratively by using other people’s ideas. If I find that you have used other people’s ideas (ex: Wikipedia, Amazon reviews, book jacket descriptions, etc.), I will not accept the assignment because I will not be able to consider it your own work. You will get a failing grade (0 points) for that assignment and will not be able to make it up.

For further information, please visit the university page on Academic Integrity:

<http://academicintegrity.rutgers.edu>

Course Website

For this semester we will be using Canvas as our central online course management system. Please go to canvas.rutgers.edu to sign in with your NetID. All updates to the syllabus or schedule will go live on Canvas immediately.

Technology Support/Resources for Students

Technology LaunchPad:

<https://runit.rutgers.edu/technology-launch-pad/>

- The new Technology LaunchPad is your place to find:
 - Student support, tutorials and documentation
 - Resources to help with internet connections both on and from off-campus
 - Computer recommendations, discounted and free software

Contact Info for the OIT - Newark Help Desk:

<https://runit.rutgers.edu/hd/>

The OIT – Newark Help Desk offers IT support assistance to Faculty, Staff, and Students in a wide range of computer-related issues. Support is available via phone, web, email, or in person (not currently accepting walk-ins).

Topics and Schedule of Readings

Week 1: September 1st—September 6th

Introduction

Ancient Civilizations

The Making of the West, 8-26

Week 2: September 7th—September 13th

Greek City States

The Making of the West, 44-74

The Book of Exodus, chapters 19-20 (*Sources*, 39)

Tyrtaeus of Sparta and Solon of Athens (*Sources*, 51)

The Golden Age of Greece

The Making of the West, 77-89; 93-99; 104-108

Thucydides. *The Funeral Oration of Pericles* (*Sources*, 57)

Plato, *The Apology of Socrates* (*Sources*, 62)

Week 3: September 14th—September 20th

The Hellenistic World

The Making of the West, 116-126; 131-139

Epicurus (*Sources*, 95)

The Roman Republic

The Making of the West, 150-171

The Twelve Tables (*Sources*, 101)

Plutarch, *The Gracchian Reforms* (Sources, 114)

Primary Source Quiz 1 must be completed by midnight Sunday September 20th

Week 4: September 21st—September 27th

The Roman Empire and the Birth of Christianity

The Making of the West, 175-178; 182-188; 193-201

Tacitus, *Germania* (Sources, 131)

Paul of Tarsus, *Letter to the Galatians* (Sources, 134)

Official Christianization and the Fall of the Western Empire

The Making of the West, 202-206; 211-234

Arius, Letter to Alexander, Bishop of Alexandria & the Nicene Creed (Sources, 141)

Week 5: September 28th—October 4th

New Kingdoms in Western Europe

The Making of the West, 262-276

Benedict of Nursia, *The Rule of St. Benedict* (Sources, 123)

Pope Gregory the Great, *Letters* (Sources, 172)

EXTENDED OFFICE HOURS

EXAM 1 IS DUE SUNDAY OCTOBER 4TH

Week 6: October 5th—October 11th

Byzantium

The Making of the West, 236-241; 257-262

Procopius, *Secret History* (Sources, 154)

Life of St. Theodore of Sykeon (Sources, 164)

The Rise of Islam

The Making of the West, 249-256; 285-289

Jihad and Jizya, *Islamic Terms of Peace* (Sources, 161)

Primary Source Quiz 2 must be completed by midnight Sunday October 11th

Week 7: October 12th—October 18th

Carolingians and their World, Feudalism

The Making of the West, 289-310, 313-321

General Capitulary for the Missi (Sources, 175)

Life of Lady Balthild, Queen of the Franks (*Sources*, 167)

Church Reform

The Making of the West, 321-331

Sources of the Investiture Conflict (*Sources*, 197)

Week 8: October 19th—October 25th

The Crusades and the Norman Conquest

The Making of the West, 331-343

Calling the First Crusade, *Pope Urban the II's Speech (Sources, 199)*

Ibn al-Athir, *A Complete History (Sources, 179)*

The Anglo Saxon Chronicle and Domesday Book (Sources, 206)

The Twelfth-Century Renaissance

The Making of the West, 347-364

Peter Abelard, *Story of my Misfortunes (Sources, 211)*

Primary Source Quiz 3 must be completed by midnight Sunday October 25th

Week 9: October 26th—November 1st

Heights of Medieval Culture

Chrétien de Troyes, *Lancelot (Sources, 220)*

New Religious Orders

The Making of the West, 364-376.

St. Francis and St. Clare of Assisi, *Selected Writings (Sources, 226)*

Week 10: November 2nd—November 8th

The Rediscovery of Aristotle and the Medieval Synthesis

The Making of the West, 379-390.

Thomas Aquinas (*Sources*, 235)

Dante Alighieri, *Divine Comedy* (*Sources*, 246)

OFFICE HOURS EXTENDED

EXAM 2 IS DUE SUNDAY NOVEMBER 8TH

Week 11: November 9th—November 15th

Medieval World in Crisis and the Black Death

The Making of the West, 390-404; 409-413

The Black Death (*Sources*, 254)

The Hundred Year's War and the Great Schism

The Making of the West, 413-421

Jean Froissart on the *Jacquerie* (*Source*, 238)

Geoffrey Chaucer, *The Pardoner's Prologue* (*Sources*, 262)

Jan Hus, *Letters* (*Sources*, 266)

Primary Source Quiz 4 must be completed by midnight Sunday November 15th

Week 12: November 16th—November 22nd

Renaissance Humanism

The Making of the West, 421-437

Giovanni Rucellai and Leonardo Bruni (*Sources*, 271)

The New World

The Making of the West, 441-446

Bernal Díaz del Castillo, *The True History of the Conquest of New Spain* (*Sources*, 278)

Bartolomé de Las Casas, *In Defense of the Indians* (*Sources*, 284)

Week 13: November 23rd—November 29th

Online film viewing:

Guns, Germs, and Steel: *Conquest*

THANKSGIVING

Week 14: November 30th—December 6th

The Protestant Reformation

The Making of the West, 447-461

Martin Luther, Freedom of a Christian (*Sources*, 287)

John Calvin, *The Necessity of Reforming the Church* (*Sources*, 289)

St. Ignatius of Loyola, *A New Kind of Catholicism* (*Sources*, 291)

Wars of Religion and the Thirty Years War

The Making of the West, 473-487

The Edict of Nantes (*Sources*, 296)

Apology of the Bohemian Estates (*Sources*, 302)

Primary Source Quiz 5 must be completed by midnight Sunday December 6th

Week 15: December 7th—December 10th

The Scientific Revolution and Witchcraft

The Making of the West, 492-502

Final Office Hours:

EXAM 3/FINAL EXAM: Due date TBD