

History of Western Civilization 1

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21:510:201
Online
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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 discussion. Students will be expected to read the assigned texts before the class. Each class session will have a discussion component to it, so it is crucial that you are prepared for our online chat forums. Preparation includes reading the assigned readings and listening/watching each module’s lecture.
2. Primary Source Quizzes, weekly online multiple-choice quizzes based on our primary source readings.
3. Take Home Midterm, 5-6 pages (typed and double-spaced), due June 18th.
4. Take Home Final Exam, 5-6 pages (typed and double-spaced), due July 3rd.

Grading:

Online participation: 20%

Weekly Primary Source Quizzes: 40% (10% each) 5 quizzes, lowest grade is dropped

Take-Home Midterm Exam (Based on Modules 1-5): 20%

Take-Home Final Exam (Based on Modules 6-10): 20%

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

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.

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 – June 1st-June 6th

Module 1: Ancient Civilizations and the Greek City States

The Making of the West, 8-26, 4-74

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

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

Module 2: The Golden Age of Greece and the Hellenistic World

The Making of the West, 77-89; 93-99; 104-108; 116-126; 131-139

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

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

Epicurus (*Sources*, 95)

Primary Source Quiz 1 must be completed by midnight Monday June 7th

Week 2 – June 7th-June 13th

Module 3: The Roman Republic, the Roman Empire, and the Birth of Christianity

The Making of the West, 150-171; 175-178; 182-188; 193-201

The Twelve Tables (*Sources*, 101)

Cicero, “Cultivating Justice and Piety” (*Sources*, 114)

Tacitus, *Germania* (*Sources*, 131)

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

Module 4: The Fall of the Western Empire and the Emergence of New Kingdoms

The Making of the West, 202-206; 211-234; 262-276

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

Augustine of Hippo (*Sources*, 143)

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

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

Primary Source Quiz 2 must be completed by midnight Monday June 14th

Week 3 – June 14th-June 20th

Module 5: Byzantium and the Rise of Islam

The Making of the West, 236-241; 249-262; 285-289

Procopius, *Secret History* (*Sources*, 154)

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

Qur'an, Suras 1, 53, 98 (*Sources*, 158)

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

Module 6: Carolingians and their World; The Emergence of Feudalism and Church Reform

The Making of the West, 289-343

General Capitulary for the Missi (*Sources*, 175)

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

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

Primary Source Quiz 3 must be completed by midnight Monday June 21st

TAKE-HOME MIDTERM EXAM IS DUE ON CANVAS BY MIDNIGHT TUESDAY JUNE 22nd

Week 4 – June 21st-June 27th

Module 7: The Twelfth-Century Renaissance and New Religious Orders

The Making of the West, 347-376

Peter Abelard, *Story of my Misfortunes* (Sources, 211)
Chrétien de Troyes, *Lancelot* (Sources, 220)
St. Francis and St. Clare of Assisi, *Selected Writings* (Sources, 226)

Module 8: The Medieval Synthesis and the 13th Century Crisis

The Making of the West, 379-413.
Thomas Aquinas (Sources, 235)
Dante Alighieri, *Divine Comedy* (Sources, 246)
Pope Boniface VIII, *Unam Sanctam*, and King Philip IV, *General Assembly of Paris* (Sources, 250)
The Black Death (Sources, 254)
Primary Source Quiz 4 must be completed by midnight Monday June 28th

Week 5 – June 28th-July 4th

Module 9: The Great Schism and the Renaissance

The Making of the West, 413-437
Geoffrey Chaucer, *The Pardoner's Prologue* (Sources, 262)
Jan Hus, *Letters* (Sources, 266)
Giovanni Rucellai and Leonardo Bruni (Sources, 271)

Module 10: The New World and the Protestant Reformation

The Making of the West, 441-461
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)
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)
Primary Source Quiz 5 must be completed by midnight Monday July 5th

TAKE-HOME FINAL EXAM IS DUE ON CANVAS BY MIDNIGHT THURSDAY JULY 8th.