HIST 101
History of Western Civilization
Fall, 2012

Course Description

The story of western civilization is a tale of the very birth of civilization, the creation of artistic, legal, religious, and scientific traditions, and the rise and fall of great empires. In this introductory course, we will explore the origins of the “west” by examining the continuity and change that marked the development of the institutions associated with the ancient, classical, and medieval western world. Among the themes we will explore in this course are urbanization, the role of religion, and the relationship between the individual and the “state”.

Students successfully completing this course will receive four (4) credits toward the sixteen (16) credits required to satisfy the Social Science block for either a BA or BS degree. History majors will also receive credit toward their major requirement.

Required Reading

The following titles are available for purchase at the UO Bookstore.

Coursepack (Readings indicated by an Asterisk (*))


Grading

Attendance and Participation in Weekly Discussion Section: 10%
Two Primary Source Analysis Papers: 20%
1st Midterm Examination: 20%
2nd Midterm Examination: 20%
Final Examination: 30%

Please note: All elements are required in order to receive a passing grade.
Course Policies

Attendance

Lecture Attendance, while not mandatory, is strongly encouraged. You are responsible for all information given as part of any lecture or reading assignment in this course. The Midterm and Final exams will both contain questions requiring a thorough understanding of material presented in lecture. It will be difficult to do well in the course if you do not attend and take good notes.

Discussion Section Attendance is Mandatory. Your Section Instructor will take roll and evaluate your participation on a weekly basis. There may also be a weekly quiz or in-class writing during your section meetings. Any such activities will factor into the grade you receive each week. Section Instructors will allow makeup assignments only for verifiable illness or emergencies.

Your instructors will accept no late papers or assignments. You must be present in Section from beginning to end of class in order to receive credit for your attendance and participation, as well as for any assignments or quizzes given or due during the meeting.

You must notify me or your Instructor of any scheduling problems with either of the Midterms or the Final examination by the end of the first week of classes. I will consider these matters on a case by case basis, but you must realize that you may be unable to continue in the course if you cannot sit for the exams as scheduled.

General Student Conduct

- Please turn off all cell phone ringers before class begins.
- Please refrain from reading materials unrelated to our course during class.
- Please do not engage in conversations during lecture; remember that others may be trying to concentrate as they listen and take notes. If you have a question, please ask.
- The lecture hall is an expensive and uncomfortable bedroom. If you are too tired to stay awake during class, please go find somewhere else to sleep.
- If you know you will be leaving class early, please sit near an exit to avoid disturbing the lecturer or other students.
- You may use laptops or tablets only for taking notes, as activities unrelated to the course are distracting to others and will not be tolerated. If I feel that a student is misusing the privilege of using these devices during lecture, I may revoke their privilege to use such devices.

I reserve the right to ban the use of electronic devices at any time for all students.
# Schedule of Lectures

## Week One: Civilization in the Ancient Near East

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Day</th>
<th>Topic</th>
<th>Reading</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Monday, Sept. 24</td>
<td>Introduction to the Course</td>
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<tr>
<td>Wednesday, Sept. 26</td>
<td>The Roots of Urban Civilization</td>
<td><em>Read: TWW 4-9</em></td>
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<tr>
<td>Friday, September 28</td>
<td>Gods, Nature, and Humans</td>
<td><em>Read: TWW 10 – 12, 23 – 24, 26 – 30; The Epic of Gilgamesh (extract)</em>; Genesis (extracts)*</td>
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## Week Two: The Ascension of Greek Civilization

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Day</th>
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<th>Reading</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Monday, October 1</td>
<td>Writing and Metallurgy</td>
<td><em>Read: TWW 12 – 23</em></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wednesday, October 3</td>
<td>The Homeric Age</td>
<td><em>Read: TWW 42 – 52; The Iliad, Chapters 1 &amp; 9</em></td>
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<tr>
<td>Friday, October 5</td>
<td>The Polis</td>
<td><em>Read: TWW, 51 – 54; Selections on Greek Law</em></td>
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***Your First Source Paper is Due Today in Lecture***

## Week Three: Classical Greece

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Day</th>
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<th>Reading</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Monday, October 8</td>
<td>The Rise of Athens</td>
<td><em>Read: TWW, 54 – 64</em></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wednesday, October 10</td>
<td>The Intellectual Revolution</td>
<td><em>Read: Herodotus, On the Nile; Thucydides, On the Writing of History</em></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Friday, October 12</td>
<td>The Golden Age</td>
<td><em>Read: TWW, 68 -71; Funeral Oration of Pericles</em></td>
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Week Four: The Legacy of Greece

Monday, October 15
The Peloponnesian War

Read: TWW, 65 – 68, 71; Thucydides, Plague at Athens, Civil War at Corcyra*

Wednesday, October 17
The Age of Alexander

Read: TWW, 78 - 84

Friday, October 19
First Midterm Examination (ANE and Greece)

Week Five: The Old Republic

Monday, October 22
“A Mongrel Race”: the Rise of Rome

Read: TWW, 106 – 116; Livy, Romulus and Remus*

Wednesday, October 24
Roman Institutions

Read: TWW, 116 – 131; Documents on the Republic*

Friday, October 26
The Age of Caesar

Read: TWW, 129 – 133; Res Gestae Divi Augusti*

Week Six: Birth of the Empire

Monday, October 29
A New Order

Read: TWW, 138 – 142; Virgil, Aeneid, Chaps. 1 and 4*

Wednesday, October 31
Life in the Empire

Read: TWW, 142 - 152

Friday, November 2
Romanization

Read: Tacitus, Treaty at Trier*

***Your Second Source Paper is Due Today in Lecture***
Week Seven: Autumn of the Empire

Monday, November 5  Christianity and the Roman Way

*Read: TWW, 157 – 165; Inscription honoring Augustus*; Book of Luke (excerpts)*; Eleusinian Mysteries*

Wednesday, November 7  The Crisis of the Late Empire

*Read: TWW, 152 – 157, 165 - 169*

Friday, November 9  **Second Midterm Examination**

Week Eight: From Barbarians to Emperors: the Rise of Medieval Europe

Monday, November 12  Barbarians at the Gates

*Read: TWW, 176 -184; Attila at Chalôns*; Gildas, The Ruin of Britain*; Lombard Law of Rothairi* Succession of Legitimate and Natural Sons*

Wednesday, November 14  The “Dark Ages”: Life in Early Medieval Europe

*Read: TWW, 184 – 189; Salian Laws (excerpts)*; Letter from Pope Gelasius I to the Byzantine Emperor Anastasius*; Ordeals*

Friday, November 16  The Age of Charlemagne

*Read: TWW, 220 – 234; Einhard, The Life of Charlemagne* *

Week Nine: The High Middle Ages

Monday, November 19  Of Kings, Popes, and Everybody Else

Documents on the Investiture Controversy*

Wednesday, November 21  The Rise of Towns and Cities

*Read: TWW, 244 – 250*

Friday, November 23  **Thanksgiving Holiday (No Class)**
Week Ten: The Age of Chivalry

Monday, November 26  
The Twelfth-Century Renaissance  
*Read: TWW, 250 – 258; *Fair at Thessalonica*; *Caravan Goods*  

Wednesday, November 28  
The Crusades  
*Read: TWW, 269 -274; Fulcher of Chartres *Siege of Jerusalem*;  
Ibn al-Athir, *Saladin takes Jerusalem*  

Friday, November 30  
The Calamitous Fourteenth Century  
*Read: TWW,281-305  

Final Examination Review Session: To Be Announced

Final Examination: December 7, 10:15 AM  
Willamette 100