

WESTERN CIVILIZATION I- HISTORY 101

I. General Information

Instructor: Matthew C. Showers

Class: MW 10:30-11:45

Office: ACD 113A.

Term: Spring 2016

Office Hours: MW 1-:30-2pm

Credit Hours: 3

Phone: (505) 925-8600- front desk

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II. Course Description

History 1101 is a survey course designed to provide the student with an overview of European history beginning with the ancient civilizations in the Near and Middle East and ending with the conclusion of the Protestant Reformation in the 1500s . Successful completion of ENG101 and ISE 100 with a grade of “C” or better prior to enrollment in this course is *strongly recommended* because the course requires reading and writing skills.

III. Materials:

Textbook: (Secondary Source)

Hunt, *The Making of the West* Volume I: Beginning to 1715

IV. Course Objectives:

This course is designed to describe key events and leading concepts in Western Civilization, identify and examine the principal epochs in ancient and medieval European history, to explore the fundamental changes in European life, as well as to analyze the formation of modern Western society and culture in order to give the student a greater understanding of contemporary political issues and, theoretically, enhanced interest in citizenship. Furthermore, a class like this will allow you an opportunity to develop critical thinking skills in evaluating historical events and

V. Course Requirements.

1. Section Quizzes: There will be 5 multiple-choice quizzes to be given after we complete certain sections in class. I will drop the lowest of the 5 and only count the best 4. *Please do not email me asking if we have tests. I will remind you all of forthcoming tests in class and I have included my best possible projection in the schedule.* The material will be based upon readings from the textbook and lectures **(50 points each, 200 possible points).**

- *If you miss a test, you have exactly 1 week to arrange a makeup. Anything more than a week is not an option.*

3. Midterm/Final: I will give you a set of possible questions a few weeks in advance. You will pick four and respond to them in brief essay format. **(200 possible points per assignment)**

- *If you suffer printer issues, you may submit an electronic copy by email to avoid a late penalty, but I will only grade a hard copy that you must bring to me by the following class meeting.*

4. Class Participation: Your class participation will count toward your overall grade. This includes not only attendance, but also a demonstrated engagement of the material; i.e. your participation in class discussions, asking questions regarding lectures and readings during class (or during my office hours). Bear in mind, this is a **significant chunk** of your total grade. See also the Attendance policy listed in the section below. **Tip for success: Make ME remember YOU . . . in a positive way. (200 possible points)**

It is a UNM policy that all courses require final evaluations. This is your chance to provide constructive feedback or take your revenge.

VI. Grading

The grading for this course will follow the grading scale as shown below (no surprise here):

90-100%=A

80-89%=B

70-79%=C

60-69%=D

Below 59%=F

4 of 5 Tests, 50 points each = 200 points

Midterm and Final 200 each = 400

Attendance (and participation) = 300 points

1000 possible points

Late Work: Papers and Midterms will be accepted late with a penalty of one-half a letter-grade for the first class meeting after the deadline, and one letter grade every meeting afterward. No makeups for quizzes/final.



"You got a "C" in History?? How hard could it be?"

VII. Course Expectations

History instructors, myself included, expect that students will develop listening and speaking skills through class participation. Students (you) are expected to attend class regularly and arrive promptly, and to assume responsibility for their (your) assignments. In addition, you are expected to display courteous behavior with respect for me as the instructor and to your fellow students. You are also expected to exercise honesty in your academic and personal interactions.

Attendance: The general attendance policy is as follows: Students enrolled for credit or audits are expected to attend all class sessions. I do reserve the right to drop anyone who violates this rule, though you should not count on me to do so, you are all adults and are responsible for your class grade. *I will excuse two absences because sometimes "life happens", but after that absences will begin to erode your grade.* Therefore if you are experiencing unusual hardship, please communicate this to me right away so I can work with you.

Classroom Etiquette: Basically when you are here, you are here. You must give this class, and your instructor (me) your full attention for the time it is in session (or at least look like it).

Lateness: Entering the classroom late is a distraction to your fellow students and to me as well so please *be on time*. Sometimes lateness cannot be avoided, it even happens to me once in a great while however consistent tardiness is just downright rude and unacceptable. The same goes for **leaving class early** – not for a phone call, not for the restroom, not because you're bored, not for any reason. It is very disruptive. Leaving early may count as an absence. If this is going to be a problem, please talk to me about it immediately because while I am strict on this I am not unreasonable.

Personal Conduct: When in class please observe the rules of common courtesy. This includes class discussions and during lecture, we are all adults and can have a civil and spirited conversation, even when we disagree. We do cover some sensitive topics in this class, but in an educated society we discuss our differences in a productive manner. *I do not tolerate yelling, belligerency, belittling, or disrespect of any kind toward my subject, students, or myself.*

Cell Phones: When you come to class, **turn off your cell-phones**. Furthermore, as a general rule of thumb, **do not bring them out during class**. I understand that in this day and age we all need our phones and once in a while we forget (once in a blue moon even mine goes off in class), but blatant disregard for this standard such as openly texting or surfing the web in class may result in an absence for that day and you may even be asked to leave for the duration of the meeting. You are all adults and can wait an hour to check your phone or Facebook. **If you have an emergency situation for which you need to have your phone handy, please let me know.**

I can't promise every single thing will interest you, but you are all adults and this is a college course. There is no reason we cannot have an interesting and enjoyable time with this subject matter but it requires student participation as much as an instructor's preparation. **Do not do work on homework for another class in my own. UNM does not allow food and drink in the classrooms.**

Cheating and Plagiarism:

Each student is expected to maintain the highest standards of honesty and integrity in academic and professional matters. The University reserves the right to take disciplinary action, up to and including dismissal, against any student who is found guilty of academic dishonesty or otherwise fails to meet the standards. Any student judged to have engaged in academic dishonesty in course work may receive a reduced or failing grade for the work in question and/or for the course. Academic dishonesty includes, but is not limited to, dishonesty in quizzes, tests, or assignments; claiming credit for work not done or done by others; hindering the academic work of other students; misrepresenting academic or professional qualifications within or without the university; and nondisclosure or misrepresentation in filling out applications or other University records. I take this sort of thing extremely seriously. Make an honest effort at the classwork and you should have no reason to cheat. If you are ever unsure about what constitutes as "plagiarism" DO NOT RISK IT come and talk to me first.

VIII. STUDENTS WITH ADDITIONAL NEEDS

Students with documented disabilities can request academic adjustments or accommodations in the classroom through Equal Access Services (EAS). You may contact them by visiting their office in the Advisement and Counseling area of the Student Services Building. You may also contact Jeanne Lujan at (505) 925-8910 or by email at jmlujan@unm.edu. Also, students are encouraged to tell the instructor if they have special needs because of learning or other disabilities

IX. Schedule of Assignments/Readings by Week

| <u>Week Dates</u> | <u>Topic</u> | <u>Textbook Reading Assignment</u> |
|---|--|--|
| <u>Section 1 (Ancient Civilizations)</u> | | |
| 1 1/ 20 | <i>Class Intro</i> | Chapter 1 (pg. 4-13, 26) |
| 2 1/ 25-27 | <i>Pre History/Mesopotamia</i> | Chapter 2 (pg. 39-41) |
| 3 2/1-3 | <i>Egypt</i> | Chapter 1(pg.16-22) |
| 4 2/8-10 | <i>Hebrews & Persia/Test 1</i> | Chapter 2 (pg.41-44) |
| <u>Section 2 (Greek Civilization)</u> | | |
| 5 2/15-17 | <i>Ancient-Classical Greece</i> | Chapter 1 (pg.27-31) |
| 6 2/22-24 | <i>Classical Greece</i> | Chapter 2 (pg.52-68) |
| 7 2/29-3/2 | <i>Classical – Hellenistic Greece</i> | Chapter 3 (pg.76-104) |
| 8 3/7-9 | <i>Hellenistic Greece/Test 2</i> | Chapter 4 (pg.111-115) Chapter 4 (pg. 116-136) |
| = 3/14-16 | Spring Break! WOOHOO! | Drink Responsibly |
| <u>Section 3 (Roman Civilization)</u> | | |
| 9 3/21-23 | <i>Republican Rome</i> | Chapter 5 (pg.140-168,196-202) |
| 10 3/28-30 | <i>The Roman Empire</i> | Chapter 6 (pg. 172-184) |
| | Midterm due Wednesday March 30th | Chapter 7 (pg. 205-210) |
| 11 4/4-6 | <i>The Rise of Christianity</i> | Chapter 6 (pg.190-194) Chapter 7 (pg. 215-223) |
| <u>Section 4 (the Middle Ages)</u> | | |
| 12 4/11-13 | Test 3 - Early Middle Ages | Chapter 7 (pg. 225-240) Chapter 8 (pg.244-268) Chapter 9 (pg. 278-306) |
| 13 4/18-20 | <i>Early to High Middle Ages</i> | Chapter 10 (pg. 319-340) |
| 14 4/25-27 | Test 4/ High-Late Middle Ages | Chapter 11 (pg. 346-378) Chapter 12 (pg. 382 -407) |
| <u>Section 5 (Humanists and Protestants)</u> | | |
| 15 5/2-4 | <i>Late Middle Ages/Renaissance</i> | Chapter 13 |
| 16 | Finals Week Schedule (Optional Test 5, Final due) | Time TBD |

IX. Other Information.

Minor adjustments may be made to the schedule of assignments throughout the course of the semester, but take comfort in the knowledge that if and when such adjustments occur they will be both within reason and with your best interest in mind. Lectures and readings are intended to sync up for each class meeting, but will not necessarily remain perfectly synchronized throughout the course of the entire semester. Understand, of course, that lectures and readings will never contradict one another, and that it is your responsibility to remain up to date on both.



More tips for success:

1. Give it your all earlier on in the semester, if you good scores earlier you can take advantage of the lowest-score-dropped policy on quizzes and the papers when everyone (myself included) is dragging and burned out at the end.
2. ^ In the same spirit: Do your midterm/final essays over the course of the semester rather than all at once. Even a rough draft blurted out in a few minutes shortly after the lecture in which we cover it while it is fresh in your head will save you a LOT of stress later on.
3. Make a friend or contact in class, someone with whom you can compare notes, email about material you missed in class etc. I try to answer all emails and be as available as I can be, but your peers really are your best resource in this situation.

History is . . .

Very few things happen at the right time, and the rest do not happen at all: the conscientious historian will correct these defects. ~Herodotus, *The Histories*

God cannot alter the past, though historians can. ~Samuel Butler, "Prose Observations"

History is herstory, too. ~Author Unknown

We are the prisoners of history. Or are we? ~Robert Penn Warren, *Segregation*

History never looks like history when you are living through it. ~John W. Gardner

History is the sum total of the things that could have been avoided. ~Konrad Adenauer

Each time history repeats itself, the price goes up. ~Author Unknown

History doesn't repeat itself, but it does rhyme. ~John Robert Colombo (attributed to Mark Twain)

If you think you have it tough, read history books. ~Bill Maher

The challenge of history is to recover the past and introduce it to the present. ~David Thelen

Maybe if we tell the truth about the past, we can tell the truth about the present. ~Ken Loach

Who controls the past controls the future: who controls the present controls the past. ~George Orwell

History always has a few tricks up its frayed sleeve. It's been around a long time. ~Terry Pratchett

The true horrors of human history derive not from orcs and Dark Lords, but from ourselves. ~George R.R. Martin

Human history becomes more and more a race between education and catastrophe. ~H.G. Wells

If you don't know history, it's as if you were born yesterday. If you were born yesterday, then any leader can tell you anything. ~Howard Zinn