

Western Civilization 1 (1003)  
Fall 2009

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Overview of Core Courses in History:

History is the study of the past. As an academic discipline, History embraces every aspect of the human experience, including warfare, political institutions, the economy, religious practice, technology, and artistic endeavor. History asks students to analyze empire and revolution, genocide and humanism, enslavement and liberation, sexuality and gender and to do so from the perspective of both social scientific and humanistic inquiry. There is no field more diverse than History and none more individualistic. History can be as long ago as the excavated texts and artifacts of ancient China or as recent as mass-produced newspapers from the twentieth-century American West.

Objectives of Core Courses in History:

By the end of the semester, you will have an understanding of the following issues:

- The role played by diversity in shaping human experience
- The operation of large-scale forces responsible for causing change over time, such as politics, economics, technology, and religion
- The challenges mounted by an increasing reliance on technology
- The changes caused by the increasing interconnectedness of today's world

*Course Requirements:* There are three examinations: Oct 1, Nov 5, and Dec 11 (Friday) at 3:00. Each exam represents one-third of the grade in the course. The *only* day for make-up exams is Dec 8, the last day of the term; there are no exceptions to this. According to University regulations, no extra-curricular events, such as athletic competitions, are an excuse for missing the final scheduled exam.

The syllabus, lecture outlines, and study guides are online: go to History Department, click on Finlay and then on the name of the course.

Students are expected to attend the lectures; it is not possible to obtain a good grade without attending class, taking comprehensive notes, and habitual study of the text. No recording of lectures is allowed. As a courtesy to everyone, please turn off cell-phones when in class. In case of bad weather, if the Razorback bus system is not operating, classes are cancelled; also check 575-7000 to determine if the University is closed due to bad weather.

Text: Sherman & Salisbury, *The West in the World, Volume I: To 1715*

1) Aug 25 Aug 27	Introduction The Neolithic Revolution, c. 4000	<i>Assignments</i> chap. 1
2) Sept 1 Sept 3	The World We Have Lost Religion in the Ancient World	chap. 2
3) Sept 8 Sept 10	Empire in the Ancient World Assyria and the Kingdom of Judah, 701	
4) Sept 15 Sept 17	The Greeks: From the Dark Ages to the Polis, 1100-600 BC The Greeks: Warfare and the Polis, 600-300	chap. 3
5) Sept 22 Sept 24	The City-State and Persia, 500-400 Alexander the Great and Persia, 335-146	chap. 4
6) Sept 29 Oct 1	Hannibal and the Rise of Rome, 300-146 HOUR EXAM	chap. 5
7) Oct 6 Oct 8	The Roman Empire: War and Civic Militarism, 100 BC-300 AD The Gladiator in Ancient Rome	
8) Oct 13 Oct 15	The Rise of Christianity, AD 30-300 Constantine and the Christian Empire, 300-600	chap. 6
9) Oct 20 Oct 22	The Rise of Islam, 600-1200 Ecological Foundations of Medieval Europe, 600-1000	chap. 7
10) Oct 27 Oct 29	Technological Foundations of Medieval Europe, 600-1600 Cultural Foundations of Medieval Europe, 600-1600	chap. 8
11) Nov 3 Nov 5	Political Foundations of Medieval Europe, 600-1600 HOUR EXAM	
12) Nov 10 Nov 12	The Expansion of Christendom, 600-1500 The Knight on Horseback: Warfare in Medieval Europe, 600-1600	chap. 9
13) Nov 17 Nov 19	The Mongols and Europe, 1200-1600 The Renewal of Western Civilization: Renaissance and Reformation, 1400-1600	chaps. 10-11
14) Nov 24 Nov 26	Columbus and the Age of Discovery Thanksgiving	chap. 12
15) Dec 1 Dec 3	The Age of Discovery, 1600-1800 Conclusion: Review lecture	chap. 13
16) Dec 8 Dec 11	Make-up exams only; no lecture FINAL EXAM: 3:00, SEAU	