

CUYAMACA COLLEGE
COURSE OUTLINE OF RECORD

HISTORY 105 – EARLY WESTERN CIVILIZATION

3 hours lecture, 3 units

Catalog Description

Survey of Mediterranean and European cultures, thought, and institutions from ancient times to 1650. Includes Greece, Rome, Medieval Europe, the Renaissance, and the Reformation.

Prerequisite

None

Course Content

- 1) Course Introduction: What is Western Civilization and Where is the West? The scope and definition of western culture and civilization.
- 2) Civilizations of the Near East and Their Contributions to Western Civilization. Multicultural foundations of the ancient world.
 - a. Paleolithic and Neolithic societies in the ancient Near East
 - b. Development of civilization in Mesopotamia and Egypt
 - c. The Hebrews and early Judaism
 - d. The Variety of Cultures in the Ancient Mediterranean
- 3) The Greeks
 - a. The Greek City States (including Sparta and Athens)
 - b. Greek Wars with Persia and Greek Colonies
 - c. Greek Religion and Mythology
 - d. Greek Cultural Achievements (including philosophy, theatre, etc.)
- 4) The Hellenistic Age
 - a. Alexander the Great and the Greek Conquests
 - b. Cultural and Economic Exchange in the Hellenistic World
 - c. Philosophy in the Hellenistic Age
- 5) The Romans: Republic and Empire
 - a. The Birth of Rome and Institutions of the Roman Republic
 - b. The Expansion of Rome and the Decline of the Republic (including the Punic Wars)
 - c. From Republic to Empire: Civil Wars and the Rise of Augustus
 - d. The *Pax Romana*
 - e. Roman Cultural and Social History (including family and gender relations, slavery, sport, and religion)
- 6) The Development of Christianity in its Jewish and Roman Contexts
 - a. Roman Polytheistic Religion
 - b. The Jewish Background
 - c. The Life and Death of Jesus of Nazareth and the Early Jesus Movement
 - d. From the Jesus Movement to Christianity (including the institutionalization of the Church)
 - e. Constantine's Conversion and its Significance
- 7) The Byzantine Empire: Eastern Rome
 - a. The Byzantine Imperial System
 - b. The Orthodox Church in the Byzantine Empire (including the Iconoclast Controversy)
 - c. Conflict with the Roman Catholic West and the Islamic East
 - d. Byzantine Cultural Achievements in Art and Architecture

- 8) Islamic Civilization and the West
 - a. The Birth of Islam: Muhammad and his Teachings
 - b. Islam as a Religious and Political Movement
 - c. Sunni and Shiite Islam
 - d. Islamic Empires and their Relationship with the West (including the Crusades)
- 9) Early Medieval Europe
 - a. The Decline of the Roman State
 - b. The Rise of the Roman Church (the papacy, monasticism, etc.)
 - c. The Germanic Tribes and their Culture
 - d. The Carolingians, Charlemagne, and the Birth of the Holy Roman Empire
 - e. The Viking Age
- 10) The High Middle Ages
 - a. The Manor System
 - b. Feudalism
 - c. Medieval Towns and Cities (including trade and the guild system)
 - d. The Rise of National Monarchies and Medieval Warfare
 - e. The Church in the High Middle Ages (including Architecture and Church-State Conflicts)
 - f. The Crusades and Their Impact on the West and the East
 - g. Tension between secular and spiritual authorities.
- 11) The Late Middle Ages
 - a. Epidemic Diseases and Their Social and Economic Impact
 - b. The 100 Years War
 - c. Crisis in the Roman Catholic Church
- 12) The Italian Renaissance
 - a. Why Italy?
 - b. Art, Architecture, and Printing in the Italian Renaissance
 - c. Political and Historical Thought in the Italian Renaissance
 - d. The Church and the Renaissance
- 13) The Northern Renaissance and the Reformation
 - a. Political Thought and Art in Central and Northern Europe
 - b. Church Corruption
 - c. The Protestant Reformation (including Luther, Calvin, and the birth of the Anglican Church)
 - d. The Catholic Reformation or the Counter Reformation (including Church Reform, the Jesuits, etc.)
- 14) The Expansion of Europe
 - a. Conquest of the Americas and the Impact of the Columbian Exchange on Europe
 - b. The Wars of Religion (including the 30 Years War)

Course Objectives

Students will be able to:

- 1) Identify and recall major themes, events and figures in Early Western Civilization. Analyze changes in political, social, and economic organization in the western world and explain their historical significance.
- 2) Compare early Western societies in historical context (including state formation, social hierarchies, gender relationships). Analyze the concept of the West.
- 3) Catalog and interpret the role of religion, philosophy and ideology in defining Early Western Civilization.
- 4) Identify the relationship between physical geography and climate on the development of Early Western Civilization.
- 5) Recognize political geography and changes in political geography.
- 6) Recognize major historical theories relevant to Early Western Civilization.
- 7) Evaluate and interpret the impact of cross-cultural contact, trade and economics on the development of Early Western Civilization.

- 8) Analyze works of literature in the context of Early Western Civilization. Explain the historical significance of art and architecture.
- 9) Discriminate between primary and secondary source and use both types of sources to compose arguments.
- 10) Cite sources appropriately in written work using the Chicago Manual of Style (Turabian) or Modern Language Association formats.
- 11) Explain the historical significance of major discoveries, inventions, and scientific achievements.

Method of Evaluation

A grading system will be established by the instructor and implemented uniformly. Grades will be based on demonstrated proficiency in subject matter determined by multiple measurements for evaluation, one of which must be essay exams, skills demonstration or, where appropriate, the symbol system.

- 1) Quizzes and/or exams that measure the student's ability to identify and recall major themes, events and figures in Early Western Civilization.
- 2) Quizzes and/or exams that measure and verify the student's ability to identify the relationship between physical geography and climate on the development of Early Western Civilization and recognize changes in political geography.
- 3) Write a timed in-class essay that evaluates and verifies the student's ability to formulate an argument based on historical theories, organize information chronologically and thematically, and recall major themes, events and figures in Early Western Civilization.
- 4) Write analytical papers that assess the student's ability to recognize themes, organize information, and interpret the significance of literature in Early Western Civilization.
- 5) Compile sources and write a research paper that demonstrates the student's ability to discriminate between primary and secondary sources, evaluate the relative quality of sources, organize information, and formulate an informed point of view and argument.

Special Materials Required of Student

Computer access (available on campus)

Minimum Instructional Facilities

- 1) Smart classroom with writing board, overhead projector/screen
- 2) Library with adequate collections in Early Western Civilization

Method of Instruction

- 1) Lecture
- 2) Multimedia presentations
- 3) Group projects, discussion

Out-of-Class Assignments

- 1) Reading, reading response questions, reading journals
- 2) Map exercises
- 3) Field exercises including museum and library research and historic sites

Texts and References

- 1) Required (representative examples):
 - a. Joshua Cole and Carol Symes, *Western Civilizations: Their History and Their Culture. Volume One*. 20th edition. Norton. 2020.
 - b. Spielvogel, Jackson. *Western Civilization, Volume I*. 10th edition. Cengage. 2018.
 - c. Hunt, et al. *The Making of the West*. 6th edition. Bedford/St. Martin's, 2019.
- 2) Supplemental (representative examples):
 - a. Perry, Marvin, et al. *Sources of the Western Tradition, Volume I*. 10th edition. Cengage. 2018.
 - b. Brophy, et al, eds. *Perspectives from the Past: Primary Sources in Western Civilization*. 7th edition. Norton. 2020.

- c. Aristophanes, *Lysistrata*. Signet, 2001.
- d. Caesar, Julius. *The Conquest of Gaul*. Penguin, 1983.
- e. Saint Augustine of Hippo. *The City of God*. Modern Library, 2000.
- f. Castiglione, Baldesar. *The Book of the Courtier*. Norton, 2002.
- g. Andrew Pettegree, *Brand Luther*. Penguin. 2015.
- h. Wells, Peter. *The Battle that Stopped Rome*. Norton, 2004.
- i. Bennett, Judith and Ruth Mazo Karras, *The Oxford Handbook of Women and Gender in Medieval Europe*, Oxford, 2016.
- j. Schiff, Stacy. *Cleopatra: A Life*, Little, Brown, 2010.

Student Learning Outcomes

Upon successful completion of this course, students will be able to:

- 1) Analyze, evaluate, and interpret primary and secondary sources.
- 2) Analyze and apply historical patterns and current events to students' own lives and experiences.
- 3) Analyze how power operates in society, through the categories of race, class, gender, ethnicity, and sexuality.
- 4) Develop and support an argument or thesis statement with historical evidence.
- 5) Evaluate the impact of geographical and climatic factors on historical development and changes in political geography over time.