Syllabus – HIS 151-003
Western Civilization I
Autumn 2018

Professor: Dr. Samuel Sutherland
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Office: LAN 313
Office Hours: TR 1-3 pm and by appointment
Department: History
Meeting time and place: MW 4:00-5:15 pm, Ferguson 474

A. Course Description
Political, social, economic, and cultural history of the West from prehistoric times to the Reformation.

B. Course Objectives
Program Learning Outcomes: This is a general education core curriculum course and no specific program learning outcomes for this major are addressed in this course.

Student Learning Outcomes: HIS 151 is part of the university’s Core Curriculum and as such strives toward both the general goals of the core and the specific objectives for classes designated for inclusion in the Language, Philosophy, and Culture Foundational Component Area as defined by the Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board. Courses in this Foundational Component Area of the Core focus on the ideas, values, beliefs, and other aspects of culture that express and affect human experience. Courses involve the exploration of ideas that foster aesthetic and intellectual creation in order to understand the human condition across cultures.

In addition to learning the above, students in HIS 151 will demonstrate the more general ability to:
- Think critically, which includes the ability to analyze, evaluate, and synthesize information about this period of history.
- Communicate effectively by developing and expressing ideas through written communication.
- Gain intercultural competence, a knowledge of civic responsibility, and an awareness of past human engagements in regional, national, and global communities.
- Understand the role that personal responsibility has played throughout history and gain the ability to connect choices, actions, and consequences to the making of ethical decisions.

C. Texts and Materials
• 5 full-sized 8-leaf Blue Book exam booklets (due by the second week of the term)

D. Course Requirements
• Attendance: -2% of final grade per unexcused absence beyond 3
• In-Class Participation (5%)
• 3 Map Quizzes (15%) – 5% each
• 5 Unit Exams (80%) – 20% each, lowest dropped

E. Grading Scale
A 90-100%
B 80-89.9%
C 70-79.9%
D 60-69.9%
F 59.9% & below

F. Course Policies
a. **Attendance:** Attendance is required and will be taken daily. Each unexcused absence beyond 3 will result in a 2% deduction from the final grade. At my discretion, an absence may be excused in case of a documented medical emergency or if I am notified of an academically legitimate reason in advance. Non-emergency conflicts and routine illnesses are to be covered by the three non-penalized unexcused absences.

b. **Laptops and Personal Electronic Devices:** It is expected that laptops will be used only for immediately relevant course purposes, and that cell phones and other personal electronic devices will be kept on silent and put away during class. Use of cell phones during class will be counted as an absence for that day.

c. **Academic Integrity:** Academic integrity is a responsibility of all university faculty and students. Faculty members promote academic integrity in multiple ways including instruction on the components of academic honesty, as well as abiding by university policy on penalties for cheating and plagiarism.

**Definition of Academic Dishonesty**
Academic dishonesty includes both cheating and plagiarism. Cheating includes but is not limited to (1) using or attempting to use unauthorized materials to aid in achieving a better grade on a component of a class; (2) the falsification or invention of any information, including citations, on an assigned exercise; and/or (3) helping or attempting to help another in an act of cheating or plagiarism. Plagiarism is presenting the words or ideas of another person as if they were your own. Examples of plagiarism are (1) submitting an assignment as if it were one’s own work when, in fact, it is at least partly the work of another; (2) submitting a work that has been purchased or otherwise
obtained from an Internet source or another source; and (3) incorporating the words or ideas of an author into one's paper without giving the author due credit. Please read the complete policy at [http://www.sfasu.edu/policies/4.1-student-academic-dishonesty.pdf](http://www.sfasu.edu/policies/4.1-student-academic-dishonesty.pdf)

d. **Withheld Grades (Semester Grades Policy, A-54):** Ordinarily, at the discretion of the instructor of record and with the approval of the academic chair/director, a grade of WH will be assigned only if the student cannot complete the course work because of unavoidable circumstances. Students must complete the work within one calendar year from the end of the semester in which they receive a WH, or the grade automatically becomes an F. If students register for the same course in future terms the WH will automatically become an F and will be counted as a repeated course for the purpose of computing the grade point average.

e. **Students with Disabilities:** To obtain disability related accommodations, alternate formats and/or auxiliary aids, students with disabilities must contact the Office of Disability Services (ODS), Human Services Building, and Room 325, 468-3004 / 468-1004 (TDD) as early as possible in the semester. Once verified, ODS will notify the course instructor and outline the accommodation and/or auxiliary aids to be provided. Failure to request services in a timely manner may delay your accommodations. For additional information, go to [http://www.sfasu.edu/disabilityservices/](http://www.sfasu.edu/disabilityservices/)

*I reserve the right to emend this syllabus to enhance student learning*

G. **Course Calendar**

**Unit 1: Origins of Western Civilization**

Week 1 (8/27, 8/29): Neolithic Revolution & Bronze-Age Mesopotamia  
*Making* p. 4-15

Week 2 (9/3, 9/5): Bronze-Age Egypt & Aegean; Iron-Age Near East  
*Making* p. 15-36, 42-50

> Wed 9/5: Map Quiz 1

Exam 1 (Mon 9/10)

**Unit 2: Ancient Greece**

Week 3 (9/12): Archaic Greece  
*Making* p. 50-63

Week 4 (9/17, 9/19): Athens & Sparta; Persian Wars; Athenian Empire  
*Making* p. 64-74, 78-81

Week 5 (9/24, 9/26): Peloponnesian War & Aftermath; Macedon & the Hellenistic World  
*Making* p. 81-108, 114-139

Exam 2 (Mon 10/1)
Unit 3: Rise of Rome
Week 6 (10/3): Early Rome
  *Making* p. 143-156
Week 7 (10/8, 10/10): Rome & the Mediterranean; Fall of the Republic
  *Making* p. 156-178
  >Mon 10/8: Map Quiz 2
Week 8 (10/15): Early & High Roman Empire
  *Making* p. 184-193, 202-216
Exam 3 (Wed 10/17)

Unit 4: Late Antiquity
Week 9 (10/22, 10/24): Christianity & Rome; Imperial Christian & Monasticism
  *Making* p. 193-201, 217-228
Week 10 (10/29, 10/31): Fate of Western Rome; Byzantium & Early Islam
  *Making* p. 229-262, 285-289
Week 11 (4/9): Barbarian Kingdoms; Carolingian Empire
  *Making* p. 262-274, 289-297
Exam 4 (Wed 11/7)

Unit 5: Medieval Europe
Week 12 (11/12, 11/14): Transformation of Europe; Church Reform & Crusades
  *Making* p. 297-309, 321-341
  >Wed 11/14: Map Quiz 3
— Thanksgiving Break—
Week 13 (11/26, 11/28): Religion & Society in the High Middle Ages
  *Making* p. 348-363, 368-386, 390-403
Week 15 (12/3, 12/5): Fourteenth-Century Crisis; End of the Middle Ages
  *Making* p. 410-428, 442-446
Exam 5 (Wed 12/10): 4:00-6:00 pm