Syllabus – HIS 151-003
Western Civilization I
Spring 2019

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Office: LAN 313
Office Hours: W 12-4 pm, R 2-3 pm, and by appointment
Department: History
Meeting time and place: TR 12:30-1:45 pm, Ferguson 472

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

- In-Class Participation (10%)
  - 2% deduction per unexcused absence beyond 3
- 3 Map Quizzes (15%) – 5% each
- Critical Analysis Essay (15%)
- 5 Unit Exams (60%) – 15% 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: Students are to consult only the assigned textbook, primary sources, and items posted to Brightspace to complete their work; no external resources are permitted. I expect all written work in this course to be the student’s own. In particular, if I detect that a student has plagiarized online sources or another’s work – even if the student has not used any words from that source – he or she will be penalized at a minimum with a zero on the assignment and possibly with an F in the course and a report to the dean and department chair.

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

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/

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

G. Course Calendar

Unit 1: Origins of Western Civilization
Week 1 (1/22, 1/24): Neolithic Revolution & Bronze-Age Mesopotamia
Making p. 4-15
Week 2 (1/29, 1/31): Bronze-Age Egypt & Aegean; Iron-Age Near East
Making p. 15-36, 42-50
>Thurs 1/31: Map Quiz 1
Exam 1 (Tues 2/5)
Unit 2: Ancient Greece
Week 3 (2/7): Archaic Greece
  Making p. 50-63
Week 4 (2/12, 2/14): Athens & Sparta; Persian Wars; Athenian Empire
  Making p. 64-74, 78-81
Week 5 (2/19, 2/21): Peloponnesian War & Aftermath; Macedon & the Hellenistic World
  Making p. 81-108, 114-139
Exam 2 (Tues 2/26)

Unit 3: Rise of Rome
Week 6 (2/28): Early Rome
  Making p. 143-156
Week 7 (3/5, 3/7): Rome & the Mediterranean; Fall of the Republic
  Making p. 156-178
  >Tues 3/5: Map Quiz 2
Week 8 (3/12): Early & High Roman Empire
  Making p. 184-193, 202-216
Exam 3 (Thurs 3/14)

— Spring Break 3/16 - 3/24 —

Unit 4: Late Antiquity
Week 9 (3/26, 3/28): Christianity & Rome; Imperial Christian & Monasticism
  Making p.4 193-201, 217-228
Week 10 (4/2, 4/4): Fate of Western Rome; Byzantium & Early Islam
  Making p. 229-262, 285-289
  >Thurs 4/4: Critical Analysis Essay due
Week 11 (4/9): Barbarian Kingdoms; Carolingian Empire
  Making p. 262-274, 289-297
Exam 4 (Thurs 4/11)

Unit 5: Medieval Europe
Week 12 (4/16): Transformation of Europe
  Making p. 297-309
  — Easter Break 4/18 - 4/21 —
Week 13 (4/23, 4/25): Church Reform & Crusades; High Middle Ages I
  Making p. 321-341, 348-363
  >Tues 4/23: Map Quiz 3
Week 14 (4/30, 5/2): High Middle Ages II; Fourteenth-Century Crisis
  Making p. 368-386, 390-403, 410-428
Week 15 (5/7, 5/9): End of the Middle Ages
  Making p. 442-461
Exam 5 (Thurs 5/16): 10:30 am - 12:30 pm