

History 103 – The History of Western Civilization I: To 1600

Fall 2009

T/Th, 9:30-10:45, Capers 403 (HIST 103.12)

T/Th, 1:00-2:15, Capers 403 (HIST 103.13)

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Office Hours: T/Th, 10:45-12:00, or
by appointment

This course provides an introduction to two-thousand years of Western European civilization, from the Greek city-states of the fifth century B.C. to the Protestant Reformation. We will integrate broad historical narratives with primary sources that demonstrate how ordinary people lived, worked, fought, and recorded their legacy. Major themes include the development of political and legal institutions, the evolution of art and literature, conflicts and compromises between ancient peoples, the rise of the state, the origins of Christianity and Islam, and relations between men and women.

OBJECTIVES:

Any history course should go beyond the mere cataloguing of facts, names, and dates. It is much better to *learn* and *practice* history than it is to memorize trivial bits of information. Therefore we will use many different methods to involve ourselves in the learning process. Students in this course will:

- Familiarize themselves with key issues and trends in the development of Western civilization from the Greeks to the Reformation.
- Analyze primary-source documents and artifacts; find patterns and relationships; ask probing questions; and form their own interpretations based on solid evidence.
- Demonstrate their understanding of the historical narrative through writing assignments, exams, and quizzes.

REQUIRED BOOKS:

1) Lynn Hunt, et al, *The Making of the West: Peoples and Cultures, Volume I to 1740*, 3rd ed. (Bedford/St. Martin's, 2008) [**We will refer to this book as *Hunt*.**]

2) Marvin Perry, et al, *Sources of the Western Tradition: Volume I, From Ancient Times to the Enlightenment*, 7th ed. (Houghton Mifflin, 2008) [**We will refer to this book as *Perry*.**]

3) Plutarch, *On Sparta*, revised ed. (Penguin Books, 2005)

4) Ernle Bradford, *The Sword and the Scimitar: The Saga of the Crusades* (Pen & Sword, 2004)

COURSE REQUIREMENTS:

1. Quizzes

There will be five quizzes. Make-up quizzes are not allowed.

2. Exams (Two Midterms and One Final)

Most of the material for these exams will come from classroom lectures and discussions. If you need to take a make-up exam, you must contact me **BEFORE** the exam to schedule a date.

3. Paper

You will be asked to write a 6-8 page paper. Further details will be distributed during the semester. All papers are due at the beginning of class. Ten points will be deducted for each late day. I will not accept e-mail submissions or papers that are more than five days late.

4. **Attendance, Participation, and Document discussions**

You have already learned that the Citadel has a strict attendance policy. In addition to your regular attendance, I expect you to come to class prepared to participate. Sleeping or “zoning out” will **NOT** be tolerated. You must have a pen and notebook with you at all times. When I have assigned readings from the Perry book, bring this book to class and be prepared to discuss the documents and answer the Review Questions at the end of each document. Be sure to read all of the introductory material as well. On discussion days, all primary documents and/or book material MUST be read before class.

Final grades will be determined in the following manner:

Quizzes	10%
Exam 1	15%
Exam 2	20%
Final Exam	25%
Paper	20%
Participation	10%

90-100 = A, 80-89 = B, 70-79 = C, 60-69 = D, 0-59 = F

****E-mail policy:** You may e-mail me at any time if you have a question. However, I prefer face-to-face contact, which is more beneficial for both the student and the teacher. If you need to speak with me, I suggest that you see me after class or visit my office during normal office hours.

COURSE SCHEDULE

8/27 – First class session: What do we mean by “Western Civilization?” Personal & impersonal factors in history.

9/1 – Introduction to the Greeks

READ: Hunt, pp. 42-67

[Last day of drop/add]

9/3 – Classical Greece, Athens, the Peloponnesian War

READ: Hunt, Ch. 3-4

****QUIZ 1: MAP OF EUROPE**

9/8 – Decline of the Greek *polis*, Conquests of Alexander the Great

Reading primary sources

***DISCUSSION**

READ: Perry, Ch. 3 (Homer, Sappho, Thucydides (all), Herodotus, Aristophanes, Plato’s “Apology,” and Plutarch)

9/10 – Who Were the Spartans?

***DISCUSSION**

READ: Plutarch, *On Sparta*. Read the book in this order: maps, glossary (I'll note the important terms), "Spartan Society" (pp. 191-211), "Sayings" (pp. 135-188), "Lives" (pp. 3-80)

QUIZ 2: PLUTARCH'S ON SPARTA

9/15 – Republican Rome

READ: Hunt, Ch. 5

9/17 – The Roman Empire

Latin terms

READ: Hunt, Ch. 6

9/22 – The Roman Empire (continued)

***DISCUSSION**

READ: Perry, Ch. 4-5 (Third Punic War, Slaves: Torment and Revolt, Justifying Caesar's Assassination, Moral Deterioration, The Divine Augustus, The Art of Love, The Satires, Aristides/Tacitus)

9/24 – Realities of Roman Life, or, "What Have the Romans Done for Us?" Sex, violence, slavery, and graffiti.

****QUIZ 3: LATIN TERMS**

9/29 – Religion as a Driving Force in History: Constantine and Early Christianity

***DISCUSSION**

READ: Perry, Ch. 6 (The Persecutions, The Benedictine Rule, Acquisitiveness, Sexuality and Family Life), Ch. 7 (#5); Hunt, Ch. 7

10/1 – The "Fall" of the Roman Empire in the West

Brief exam review

10/6 – ****FIRST EXAM**

10/8 – Rome's Successors I: The Eastern Empire, Byzantium

READ: Hunt, Ch. 8, 9 (first half)

10/13 – Rome's Successors II: The Rise of Islam

***DISCUSSION**

READ: Hunt, Ch. 9 (second half); Perry, Ch. 7 (#2-4)

10/15 – The Vikings

Writing Tips

[Midterm grades due]

10/20 – The Crusades

***DISCUSSION**

READ: Bradford, *The Sword and the Scimitar*, pp. 9-99

(Also Recommended: Perry, Ch. 8 (#2, 3, 7); Hunt, 311-319, 349-355)

****QUIZ 4: BRADFORD**

[Last day to withdraw with a grade of "W"]

10/22 – The Crusades (continued)

READ: Bradford, pp. 100-188

10/27 – Anglo-Saxon England and The Norman Conquest
READ: Perry, Ch. 7 (#7-9), Hunt, 319-324

10/29 – The Rise of States: England and France
Brief exam review
READ: Hunt, pp. 336-346

11/3 – ****SECOND EXAM**

11/5 – Medieval Architecture
READ: Hunt, pp. 328-336

11/10 – The Black Death and the 14th Century Crisis
***DISCUSSION (a brief one)**
READ: Hunt, pp. 380-382, Ch. 13 (first half); Perry, Ch. 8 (#12-13)

11/12 – Joan of Arc and the Hundred Years' War
In class: Film excerpt

11/17 – The Renaissance
READ: Hunt, Ch. 13 (second half)

11/19 – The Renaissance (continued)
***DISCUSSION**
READ: Perry, Ch. 9
****QUIZ 5: PERRY DOCUMENTS**

11/21-11/29 -- Thanksgiving Break: NO CLASS!

12/1 – The Reformation and Wars of Religion
READ: Hunt, Ch. 14

12/3 – The Six Wives of Henry VIII
READ: Hunt, Ch. 15; Perry, Ch. 10
****PAPERS DUE**

12/8 – Last Class! Review for final exam.
FINAL EXAM: Time and date TBA