Hist 2311.001
Western Civilization I: The Making of Europe from Antiquity to 1700
Fall 2017
MW 5:30-6:45 pm
OCNR 118

Course Description:
This course is a survey of the cultures and civilizations of the Ancient Mediterranean world and the political, social, economic, military, cultural, and intellectual influences shaping the emergence and development of Europe from Antiquity to 1700.

Student Learning Outcomes
- Acquire the basic skills of professional historians, namely:
- Read and analyze original sources (documents from the past)
- Learn to develop historical interpretations (in class & in writing)
- Reflect on issues of continuity & change (as guides to understanding events & phenomena in the past)
- Write critically and historically in a wide range of assignments.

Course Materials:
The following is the required textbook. Students may rent the text, buy it, or find it at a local library. The edition listed below is preferred. If you access an older edition make sure that you’re on the same page as the reading schedule (literally). If you choose to share texts with a classmate, make sure each student has equal access to the materials. Students not sure about their ability to access the required texts should see Professor Johnson about strategies for moving forward successfully.


In addition, there are a number of documents placed online on the course’s Blackboard page. These are also *required* readings. Students should also come to class with a
writing utensil and paper for note taking every class period. The professor will not provide these.

Readings must be done ahead of the class session for which they are assigned. So, readings from Perspectives from the Past assigned for September 6 must be completed before the start of class that period.

Assignments and Grading:
There are four components to your overall, final grade:
1. Participation: 20%
2. Short In-Cass Exams: 40% (four total, each worth 10%)
3. Midterm Essay: 20%
4. Final Essay: 20%

Participation: Regular and thoughtful contributions to classroom discussion (when appropriate), attentiveness, active note taking, arriving on time, and minimizing distractions (for yourself and others) all constitute your participation. While attendance is a minimum, note that simply attending class does not count as participation. If students are unsure how to best participate in the class, they should meet with the Professor to discuss successful strategies.

In-Class Group and Individual Writing Assignments: Short group and writing assignments will be administered in class throughout the semester. When collected, these assignments will be factored into the class participation grade. Missed assignments cannot be made up.

Quizzes: The Instructor reserves the right to administer pop quizzes on the day’s assigned reading. If missed, these quizzes cannot be made up. Quiz scores will be factored into the overall class participation grade.

Exams: Exams are closed-book, closed-note exercises. Exams will consist of short answer and essay questions. If a student is absent on the day of an exam, the student must provide documentation for the absence for the opportunity to take a makeup exam. No multiple choice questions will appear on these exams. The exams will not be cumulative.

Essays: Essays will be completed outside of class using in-class readings, lectures, and class discussions. No outside research will be permitted. Evidence of plagiarism or other forms of academic dishonesty will result in an automatic failure. Essay expectations and standards will be covered in class. Students should consult Professor Johnson with any questions or concerns regarding these standards.

Extensions: Extensions on essays will only be considered 2 or more days in advance of the essay deadline, excepting emergency situations. The granting of an extension is at the sole discretion of Professor Johnson.
Deadlines: Late essays will be marked down by one full letter grade for every day late. Essays not turned in after five days beyond the deadline will not be considered for a grade.

Attendance:
Regular attendance is required for this course. Students may miss one class period without any excuse provided or documentation. Each subsequent absence will negatively affect the student’s participation grade. Excessive absences may result in a failing participation grade.

Academic Advising:
The College of Liberal Arts requires that students meet with an Academic Advisor as soon as they are ready to declare a major. Degree plans are prepared in the CLA Academic Advising Center. The University uses an online Degree Audit system. Any amendment must be approved by the Department Chair and the Office of the Dean. All courses and requirements specified in the final degree plan audit must be completed before a degree will be granted. The CLA Academic Advising Office is located in Driftwood #203. For more information please call 361-825-3466 or log onto http://www.tamucc.edu/advising/.

Disability Services and Veterans Services:
The Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) is a federal anti-discrimination statute that provides comprehensive civil rights protection for persons with disabilities. Among other things, this legislation requires that all students with disabilities be guaranteed a learning environment that provides for reasonable accommodation of their disabilities. If you believe you have a disability requiring an accommodation, please call or visit Disability Services at (361) 825-5816 in Corpus Christi Hall, Room #116. If you are a returning veteran and are experiencing cognitive and/or physical access issues in the classroom or on campus, please contact the Disability Services office for assistance at (361) 825-5816.

Grade Appeals:
As stated in University Procedure 13.02.99.C2.01, Student Grade Appeal Procedures, a student who believes that he or she has not been held to appropriate academic standards as outlined in the class syllabus, equitable evaluation procedures, or appropriate grading, may appeal the final grade given in the course. The burden of proof is upon the student to demonstrate the appropriateness of the appeal. A student with a complaint about a grade is encouraged to first discuss the matter with the instructor. For complete details, including the responsibilities of the parties involved in the process and the number of days allowed for completing the steps in the process, see University Procedure 13.02.99.C2.01, Student Grade Appeal Procedures (available at http://academicaffairs.tamucc.edu/rules_procedures/).
For complete details on the process of submitting a formal grade appeal, please visit the College of Liberal Arts website, http://cla.tamucc.edu/about/student-resources.html. For assistance and/or guidance in the grade appeal process, students may contact the Associate Dean’s Office.

**Use of Electronic Materials:**
In general, the use of printed material is preferred, as well as the use of tablets without keyboards. Other electronic devices will be permitted as long as they do not adversely affect the classroom atmosphere. If the use of electronic devices becomes a problem, the professor reserves the right to ask the student to leave the classroom.

**Firearms and Campus Carry:**
Texas law does not forbid persons 21 years of age and older from bringing firearms into spaces not specifically designated as gun-free spaces. However, while in class, your attention and the attention of others around you should be focused on the course material. All behavior that distracts from successful classroom learning may result in a student being asked to leave for the class period.

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**Course and Reading Schedule**

*Readings Marked with an Asterisk (*) are on Blackboard. All other readings available in the assigned textbooks.*

*Page numbers (pp.) refer to pages in Perspectives from the Past (sixth edition)*

**Course Introduction**

Aug 28 — Syllabus, Assignments, Expectations

Aug 30 — Approaching and Reading Primary Sources

Sept 4 — Labor Day — No Class

**The Ancient World: Greece, Rome, Late Antiquity**

Sept 6 — Greek Societies
Read: pp. 76-82, 96-102, 135-140.

Sept 11 — The Greeks and their Others
Read: pp. 140-142, 149-156

Sept 13 — Rise of Roman Society
Read: pp. 158-162, 167-171

Sept 18 — Challenges to Rome from within and without
Read: pp. 173-182, 184-189

Sept 20 — Late Antiquity 1
Read: pp. 197-215

Sept 25 — Late Antiquity 2
Exam 1 in class

Medieval Europe

Sept 27 — Introduction to the Medieval World(s)

Oct 2 — Politics and Economy
Read: pp. 235-239, 248-256, 295-300, 308-316,

Oct 4 — Culture and Identity 1
Read: pp. 228-235, 239-248

Oct 9 — Culture and Identity 2
Read: pp. 266-283

Oct 11 — Plague, Disease, Dying
Read: pp. 336-346

Oct 16 — Medieval Mentalités: The Great Chain of Being and Divine Right
Exam 2 in class

The Renaissance World

Oct 18 — Humanism and the Golden Age
Read: pp. 400-403, 410-412

Oct 23 — Politics and Society
Read: pp. 366-370, 374-380
Essay 1 Due

Oct 25 — Exploration and Western Expansion
Read: pp. 392-400, 478-482

Oct 30 — Religious Reform 1: Protestantism
Read: pp. 427-432, 437-444

Nov 1 — Religious Reform 2: Catholic Reform
Read: pp. 444-460

Nov 6 — Religious Reform 3: Cycles of Religious Violence
Read: pp. 432-437, 463-474

Nov 8 — Renaissance Case Study: The Cheese and the Worms
Read: Introduction, The Cheese and the Worms

Nov 13 — Cheese and the Worms
Read: You should have finished The Cheese and the Worms by this point

Nov 15 — Cheese and the Worms

Nov 20 — Cheese and the Worms
Exam 3 in Class

Nov 22: Reading Day — No Class

Early Modernity

Nov 27 — Scientific Revolutions
Read: Letters from Galileo and Sarrochi*; Bacon, selections from Novum Organum*

Nov 29 — Absolutist Consolidation
Read: pp. 493-499

Dec 4 — Republican Resistance
Read: pp. 499-503, 512-523

Dec 6 — Last Class
Exam 4 in Class

December 11
Final Essay Due by 11:59 pm (CST)